

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Cancellation by Florida
Public Service Commission of Pay
Telephone Certificate No. 7181
issued to George J. Semple d/b/a
TelCommunications for violation
of Rules 25-4.0161, F.A.C.,
Regulatory Assessment Fees;
Telecommunications Companies,
and 25-24.520, F.A.C., Reporting
Requirements.

DOCKET NO. 010588-TC
ORDER NO. PSC-01-1757-PAA-TC
ISSUED: August 29, 2001

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of
this matter:

E. LEON JACOBS, JR., Chairman
J. TERRY DEASON
LILA A. JABER
BRAULIO L. BAEZ
MICHAEL A. PALECKI

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION
ORDER CANCELING PAY TELEPHONE CERTIFICATE INVOLUNTARILY

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE is hereby given by the Florida Public Service
Commission that the action discussed herein is preliminary in
nature and will become final unless a person whose interests are
substantially affected files a petition for a formal proceeding,
pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code.

George J. Semple d/b/a TelCommunications (TelCommunications)
currently holds Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
No. 7181, issued by the Commission on October 15, 1999, authorizing
the provision of pay telephone service. TelCommunications has not
paid the Regulatory Assessment Fees (RAFs) required by Section
364.336, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-4.0161, Florida
Administrative Code, for the year 2000. Also, accrued statutory
penalties and interest charges for the year 2000 have not been
paid.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

10738 AUG 29 01

FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

Pursuant to Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, certificate holders must pay a minimum annual RAF of \$50 if the certificate was active during any portion of the calendar year. Pursuant to Rule 25-4.0161 (2), Florida Administrative Code, the form and applicable fees are due to the Florida Public Service Commission by January 30 of the subsequent year. All entities that apply for certification receive a copy of our rules governing pay telephone service.

Pursuant to Section 350.113(4), Florida Statutes, the RAFs forms, for the period of January 1 through December 31, are mailed to the entities at least 45 days prior to the date that payment of the fee is due. TelCommunications was scheduled to remit its RAFs by January 30, 2001.

On May 16, 2001, the Commission received correspondence from Mr. Semple requesting cancellation of his certificate because the "business venture was never begun." On May 23, 2001, staff received e-mail from George J. Semple Jr. Mr. Semple stated he held the Power of Attorney for his father. He stated that he called the Commission twice and left detailed messages and requesting a return call. He did not provide the telephone numbers or dates he called. He asked that information on how to resolve this docket be sent to him via e-mail. Staff responded via e-mail on June 1 and explained that in order for staff to recommend a voluntary cancellation, the past due amount needed to be paid, along with the company's intent and date to pay the 2001 RAF. As of July 26, 2001, the Commission has not received payment or the information required by Rule 25-24.514, Florida Administrative Code.

TelCommunications has not complied with Rule 25-24.514(2), Florida Administrative Code, which states:

(2) If a certificated company desires to cancel its certificate, it shall request cancellation from the Commission in writing and shall provide the following with its request:

(a) Statement of intent and date to pay Regulatory Assessment Fee.

(b) Statement of why the certificate is proposed to be cancelled.

Accordingly, since the company's certificate remains active until it requests a voluntary cancellation pursuant to Rule 25-24.514(2), Florida Administrative Code, or we involuntarily cancel the certificate, TelCommunications is responsible for the RAFs. As of the date of the vote, TelCommunications continues to be in violation of our rules for nonpayment of RAFs for 2000.

For the reasons described above, pursuant to Rule 25-24.514(1)(b) and (c), Florida Administrative Code, we deny TelCommunications's request for voluntary cancellation of pay telephone Certificate No. 7181 for failure to comply with the provisions of Rule 25-24.514(2), Florida Administrative Code. However, we find it appropriate to involuntarily cancel TelCommunications's certificate, effective May 16, 2001, for failure to pay RAFs pursuant to Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code.

Since TelCommunications is no longer in business, there would be no purpose in requiring TelCommunications to pay a fine. By involuntarily canceling TelCommunications's certificate, however, we would be able to track this company should it apply for another certificate with us in the future. The cancellation of the certificate and the closing of the Docket in no way diminishes TelCommunications's obligation to pay applicable delinquent RAFs, statutory penalties, and interest charges. The collection of the past due fees shall be referred to the Office of the Comptroller for further collection efforts. The Commission is vested jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 364.336 and 364.285, Florida Statutes.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that we hereby deny George J. Semple d/b/a TelCommunications's request for voluntary cancellation of pay telephone Certificate No. 7181. It is further

ORDERED that pursuant to Rule 25-24.514(1)(b) and (c), Florida Administrative Code, we hereby cancel George J. Semple d/b/a

ORDER NO. PSC-01-1757-PAA-TC
DOCKETS NOS. 010588-TC
PAGE 4

TelCommunications's pay telephone Certificate No. 7181, effective May 16, 2001, for failure to comply with Rule 25-24.514(2) Florida Administrative Code; Section 364.336, Florida Statutes; and Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code. It is further

ORDERED that George J. Semple d/b/a TelCommunications remains obligated for all due and owing Regulatory Assessment Fees for the years 2000 and 2001, as well as accrued statutory penalties and interest charges. The collection of the past due fees shall be referred to the Office of the Comptroller for further collection efforts. It is further

ORDERED that the provisions of this Order, issued as proposed agency action, shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order unless an appropriate petition, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code, is received by the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on the date set forth in the "Notice of Further Proceedings" attached hereto. It is further

ORDERED that in the event this Order becomes final, this docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 29th Day of August, 2001.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of the Commission Clerk
and Administrative Services

By: Kay Flynn
Kay Flynn, Chief
Bureau of Records and Hearing
Services

(S E A L)

JAE

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing that is available under Section 120.57, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

The action proposed herein is preliminary in nature. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on September 19, 2001.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.