



Public Service Commission
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COMMISSION
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DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2002

TO: DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF THE COMMISSION CLERK & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (BAYÓ)

FROM: DIVISION OF COMPETITIVE MARKETS & ENFORCEMENT (ISLER) *PJK*
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL (TEITZMAN; DODSON) *at* *YAD* *JIC*

RE: DOCKET NO. 020764-TC - CANCELLATION BY FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF PATS CERTIFICATE NO. 2704 ISSUED TO PHONE PLUS, INC. FOR VIOLATION OF RULE 25-4.0161, F.A.C., REGULATORY ASSESSMENT FEES; TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES.

DOCKET NO. 020800-TC - CANCELLATION BY FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF PATS CERTIFICATE NO. 7368 ISSUED TO DALLAS & CHARLENE MERRITT D/B/A A & O COMMUNICATIONS FOR VIOLATION OF RULE 25-4.0161, F.A.C., REGULATORY ASSESSMENT FEES; TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES.

AGENDA: 12/17/02 - REGULAR AGENDA - INTERESTED PERSONS MAY PARTICIPATE

CRITICAL DATES: NONE

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: NONE

FILE NAME AND LOCATION: S:\PSC\CMP\WP\020764.RCM

CASE BACKGROUND

The companies listed on Attachment A were mailed the 2001 Regulatory Assessment Fee (RAF) Notice and payment was due by January 30, 2002. On February 21, 2002, the Office of the General Counsel mailed a delinquent notice via certified mail for the 2001 RAF.

Before the dockets were opened, staff wrote each of the companies listed on Attachment A and explained that the 2001 RAF, plus penalty and interest charges, had not been paid. Staff

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advised that a docket would be established if payment was not received within 15 working days. No response was received, therefore, these dockets were established.

The companies listed on Attachment A subsequently paid the past due amount, including statutory penalty and interest charges, paid the 2002 RAF, and requested voluntary cancellation of their respective certificates.

The Commission is vested with jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 364.336, 364.285, and 364.3375, Florida Statutes. Accordingly, staff believes the following recommendations are appropriate.

DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

ISSUE 1: Should the Commission grant the companies listed on Attachment A a voluntary cancellation of their respective certificates to resolve the apparent violation of Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, Regulatory Assessment Fees; Telecommunications Companies, incorporated by Rule 25-24.505, Florida Administrative Code?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes. The Commission should grant each company a voluntary cancellation of its telecommunications certificate with an effective date as listed on Attachment A. If a company's certificate is cancelled in accordance with the Commission's Order from this recommendation, that company as listed on Attachment A should be required to immediately cease and desist providing pay telephone services in Florida. (Isler; Teitzman; Dodson)

STAFF ANALYSIS: Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, incorporated by Rule 25-24.505, Florida Administrative Code, which implements Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, requires the payment of Regulatory Assessment Fees by January 30 of the subsequent year for telecommunications companies, and provides for penalties and interest as outlined in Section 350.113, Florida Statutes, for any delinquent amounts.

Rule 25-24.514(2)(a), and (b), Florida Administrative Code, 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.

The Division of the Commission Clerk & Administrative Services notified staff that the companies had not submitted the 2001 Regulatory Assessment Fees, along with statutory penalty and interest charges. Therefore, the companies had failed to comply with Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, Regulatory

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Assessment Fees; Telecommunications Companies, incorporated by Rule 25-24.505, Florida Administrative Code.

After the dockets were established, the companies, as listed on Attachment A, paid the past due amount, paid the 2002 Regulatory Assessment Fee, and requested voluntary cancellation of their respective certificates in compliance with Rule 25-24.514(2)(a) and (b), Florida Administrative Code, since the companies listed on Attachment A were no longer providing pay telephone service. Pursuant to Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, cancellation of an entity's certificate does not relieve the obligation to pay Regulatory Assessment Fees, including statutory penalty and interest charges, if the certificate was active during any portion of the calendar year, including the year of cancellation.

Accordingly, staff believes the Commission should grant each company a voluntary cancellation of its telecommunications certificate with an effective date as listed on Attachment A. If a company's certificate is cancelled in accordance with the Commission's Order from this recommendation, that company as listed on Attachment A should be required to immediately cease and desist providing pay telephone services in Florida.

ISSUE 2: Should these dockets be closed?

RECOMMENDATION: If the Commission approves staff's recommendation on Issue 1, these dockets should be closed upon cancellation of the certificates as no other issues need to be addressed by the Commission. (Teitzman; Dodson)

STAFF ANALYSIS: If the Commission approves staff's recommendation on Issue 1, these dockets should be closed upon cancellation of the certificates as no other issues need to be addressed by the Commission.

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<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>PROVIDER LAST REPORTED REVENUES & PERIOD COVERED</u>	<u>CERT. NO.</u>	<u>Effective Date of Cancellation</u>
020764-TC	Phone Plus, Inc. \$0 Revenues for Period Ended 12/31/01 and 12/31/02	2704	11/21/02
020800-TC	Dallas & Charlene Merritt d/b/a A & O Communications \$0 Revenues for Period Ended 12/31/01 and 12/31/02	7368	11/08/02

NOTE: There are no outstanding consumer complaints against the companies listed above.