

December 1, 2017

Via ECFS

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-A325 Washington, DC 20554

RE: Section 63.71 Application of ABA Net, LLC

Enclosed is a Section 63.71 discontinuance application for ABA Net, LLC, (FRN: 0014-7424-15) ("ABA Net"). The application seeks Commission approval for ABA Net's planned discontinuance of all long distance services on December 31, 2017, as offered in the states of Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Illinois, Maryland, New York and Ohio. A separate notice of this discontinuance is being filed with the International Bureau pursuant to Section 63.19 of the Commission's rules.

ABA Net currently is authorized to provide only resold long distance services in the states affected and will be closing down its operation as of December 31, 2017.

In the event there are questions concerning this matter, please contact Joyce Gailey at 727-822-8310, email <u>jgailey@kgpartners.net</u> or me at (301) 603-9016, or via email at emina.causevic@abanet.us.

Sincerely.

Emina Causevic

Enclosure

cc: Joyce Gailey (by email)

2400 Research Blvd, Suite 210, Rockville, MD 20850 Tel. (1) 301 603-0200, Fax. (1) 301 603-9017 www.abanet.us

Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, DC

In the Matter of)		
Section 63.71 Application of)		
)	WC Docket No.	
ABA Net, LLC)		
)		
For Authority Pursuant to Section 214 of)		
the Communications Act of 1934, as amended,)		
to Discontinue the Provision of long distance)		
services in states of Florida, Georgia, Iowa,)		
Illinois, Maryland, New York and Ohio)		
)		

SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION

ABA Net, LLC (FRN: 0014-7424-15) ("Applicant"), hereby seeks authorization pursuant to Section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214(a), and Section 63.71 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue its provision of long distance services, including but not limited to 1+, MTS and Toll Free services, as currently offered to residential customers in the states of Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Illinois, Maryland, New York and Ohio. The proposed discontinuance will not result in material harm to affected customers as they easily can obtain alternative long distance services from other wireline interexchange carriers as well as other interconnected voice over Internet Protocol providers.

Applicant provides the following information pursuant to § 63.71 of the Commission's Rules:

- Name and Address of the Carrier: ABA Net, LLC, 2400 Research Blvd., Suite 210, Rockville, MD 20850.
- Date of Planned Service Discontinuance: Applicant plans to discontinue the affected services on or around December 31, 2017, or as soon as necessary regulatory approvals

are obtained. Applicant is closing down its operation in these states and exiting the telecommunications' market as of January 1, 2018 and will no longer have an underlying provider for this service. Therefore, it is critical that this Application be approved to allow Applicant to discontinue long distance services as of December 31, 2017.

- 3. Points of Geographic Areas of Services Affected: Applicant is discontinuing all long distance services offered to customers in the states of Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Illinois, Maryland, New York and Ohio. The discontinuance will affect approximately 7549 customers in those states. Applicant is separately filing a notification with respect to its discontinuance of international long distance services with the International Bureau pursuant to § 63.19 of the Commission's rules.
- 4. <u>Description of Services Affected:</u> Applicant intends to discontinue all residential long distance services, including but not limited to 1+, MTS and Toll Free services. Applicant is authorized to provide only resold long distance services and provides no other telecommunications services to residential customers in the states.
- 5. Brief Description of Dates and Methods of Notice to All Affected Customers: Applicant provided written customer notice of the planned discontinuance in accordance with the requirements of § 63.71(a) of the Commission's Rules. The notice was sent to all customers via email on November 3, 2017. A copy of the notice is attached to this application. In addition, Applicant updated its Facebook page and organized a temporary call center to reach out and inform its customers of the service discontinuance, which was in place between the dates of November 3, 2017 and November 24, 2017. A copy of this Application has also been sent to the relevant state

regulatory agencies, governors' offices and the Department of Defense, as required under § 63.71, concurrent with the filing, as set forth in the attached certificate of service.

Whether the Carrier is Considered Dominant or Non-dominant with Respect to the
 Service to be Discontinued. Applicant is considered to be Non-dominant with respect
 to the services to be discontinued.

 Other Information: Please direct questions regarding this application to Joyce Gailey at 727-822-8310 or email at jgailey@kgpartners.net or to the undersigned.

Conclusion: The public convenience and necessity will not be adversely affected by the discontinuance of the services described herein. Advance notice has been provided to all affected customers, giving them ample time to arrange substitute services, which are readily available from many other providers. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commission approve this § 63.71 application.

Respectfully submitted,

ABA Net, LLC

2400 Research Blvd., Suite 210

Rockville, MD 20850

(301) 603-9016

emina.causevic@abanet.us

Attachment

CUSTOMER NOTICE VIA EMAIL ON NOVEMBER 3, 2017

The notice was simultaneously posted on the ABA Net, LLC Facebook page

Dear valued customer,

We regret to inform you that ABA Net LLC will be discontinuing all residential long distance Services under its brand. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

Good news: we have found you a replacement, a quality provider of international and domestic long distance, to provide special rates and assistance to our customers. They have great promotional and regular rates to Bosnia, Macedonia and many other countries. You can sign up and start talking right away!

To enroll or ask questions, call 301-603-9016 and we will sign you up!

ABA Net LLC is pleased to have had the opportunity to serve you, and remains committed to making your long distance service transition as smooth as possible.

Sincerely yours, ABA Net LLC

The Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") permits customers to object to discontinuance of their service by a telecommunications provider. As provided in the FCC's rule 47 CFR 63.71: "The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 15 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. You may file your comments electronically through the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System using the docket number established in the Commission's public notice for this proceeding, or you may address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the §63. 71 Application of AN PI Business LLC. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance upon you, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service."

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Emina Causevic, do hereby certify that on this 1st day of December, 2017, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Section 63.71 Application of ABA Net, LLC to be sent via first class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, to the following:

Secretary of Defense
Attn: Special Assistant for Telecommunications
Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Georgia Public Service Commission 244 Washington Street, S.W. Atlanta, GA 30334

Iowa Utilities Board 1375 E. Court Avenue, RM 69 Des Moines, IA 50319-0069

Illinois Commerce Commission 527 E. Capitol Avenue Springfield, IL 62701

Maryland Public Service Commission 6 St. Paul Street William Donald Schaefer Tower Baltimore, MD 21202

New York Public Service Commission Agency Building 3 Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12223-1350 Governor Rick Scott Office of the Governor State Capitol 400 S. Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Governor Nathan Deal Office of the Governor State Capitol 206 Washington Street 111 State Capitol Atlanta, GA 30334

Governor Terry Branstad Office of the Governor State Capitol 1007 East Grand Avenue Des Moines, IA 50319

Governor Kim Reynolds Office of the Governor State Capitol 207 State House Springfield, IL 62706

Governor Larry Hogan Office of the Governor State Capitol 100 State Circle Annapolis, MD 21401

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo Office of the Governor NYS State Capitol Building Albany, NY 12224 Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 E. Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215-3793 Governor John R. Kasich Office of the Governor State Capitol Riffe Center, 30th Floor 77 South High Street Columbus, OH 43215-6117

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