

"In additional area code is needed because of the Keys growing population and the increased use of multiple phones, especially wireless. Residents will keep their existing number, especially important to businesses and their customers."

- PSC Chairman Art Graham

In preparation for the new area code, 786, or S-U-N, that will debut in the Keys June 1, 2015, Florida Public Service Commissioner (PSC) Ronald A. Brisé filmed a 30-second public service announcement (PSA) that will appear in Monroe County in the upcoming months. The PSA, which you can view on the <u>PSC website</u>, will help residents and businesses prepare for 10-digit-dialing that begins on April 18, 2015 and update their printed materials or reprogram affected electronic systems.

As part of the overlay implementation plan approved by the PSC in July, the new 786 area code will extend the supply of telephone numbers in the Keys, since available 305 area code numbers are expected to run out next spring. The 786 area code will cover the same geographic boundaries covered by the Keys current 305 area code. Existing telephone customers will keep their numbers, but as of April 18, 2015, everyone will have to dial the area code plus the seven-digit phone number to make local calls (10-digit dialing).

Phone numbers in Florida and throughout the United States are governed by the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA). NANPA originally estimated that the Keys 305 area code would be exhausted in the third quarter of 2001. Due to the PSC's pro-active number conservation measures, the exhaust date was consistently extended, delaying the need for another Keys area code for 14 years. In May, NANPA sent the PSC a revised exhaust date of second quarter 2015 for the 305/786 numbering plan.

To prepare for 10-digit dialing, the PSC is urging Keys residents to revise printed materials, update directory listings, and reprogram systems and equipment to include area codes. For more information about the area code changes, residents can contact their local telephone carrier or call the PSC's toll-free line at 1-800-342-3552.

Click on the links below for more information on the PSC area code implementation plan.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

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