JACK SHREVE PUBLIC COUNSEL

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

c/o The Florida Legislature 111 West Madison Street Room 812 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400 904-488-9330

July 1, 1993

Steve Tribble, Director Division of Records and Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 101 East Gaines Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 920260-TL

Dear Mr. Tribble:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket on behalf of the Citizens of the State of Florida are the original and 15 copies of the Citizens' 6th Motion to Compel.

Please indicate the time and date of receipt on the enclosed duplicate of this letter and return it to our office.

Sincerely,

Charles J. Beck

Deputy Public Counsel

Enclosure

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BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Comprehensive Review of the
Revenue Requirements and Rate
Stabilization Plan of Southern
Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company
)

Comprehensive Review of the
Docket No. 920260-TL
Filed: July 1, 1993

CITIZENS' SIXTH MOTION TO COMPEL

The Citizens of Florida ("Citizens"), by and through Jack Shreve, Public Counsel, request the Commission to order BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., d/b/a Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company ("Southern Bell") to answer the Citizens' interrogatory number 586.

1. The Citizens served our twenty-sixth set of interrogatories to Southern Bell on April 23, 1993. Southern Bell filed their response and objections on May 28, 1993.

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2. Interrogatory number 587, included in the twenty-sixth set of interrogatories, requested the following:

" 587. Please state the number of service representatives or other employees with similar titles and responsibilities who have been terminated and the number disciplined, stated separately, by the company in Florida for falsification of sales for each year starting in 1985 to date."

Southern Bell's response showed the following:

YEAR	# 7	rermi	NATI	ons	1	#	OTHER	DISCI	PLINE
1985								3	
1986								1	
1987		3	L						
1988								2	
1989								11	*
1990		1	Ĺ					6	*
1991		2	2	*				7	
1992		4	ŀ					14	*
1993		5	5					5	

^{*} Due to progressive discipline, 3 employees appear above 2 times each.

- 3. Interrogatory number 586, also included in the twenty-sixth set of interrogatories, requested the same information as interrogatory 587, except for the company as a whole -- not just Florida. The Citizens interrogatory was as follows:
 - " 586. Please state the number of service representatives or other employees with similar titles and responsibilities who have been terminated and the number disciplined, stated separately, by the company (BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.) in its entirety for falsification of sales for each year starting in 1985 to date."

Southern Bell's response was:

"Southern Bell objects to interrogatory number 586 on the basis that it is overly broad and burdensome and calls for information which is neither relevant to nor reasonably calculated to lead to relevant information related to the issues contained in this docket."

- 4. The thrust of Southern Bell's objection appears to be that Southern Bell does not want the Citizens to compare falsification of its sales in Florida to falsification of its sales company-wide. The comparison, however, is relevant in evaluating Southern Bell's experience in Florida with falsification of sales
- 5. The level of falsification of sales in the business office operations of the Company may be significantly different in Florida than in other similar operations of the Company. In its answer to Interrogatory No. 587 the company provided data which

reveals a sharp increase in the number of terminations and discipline for sales abuse during the 1989-1993 time frame in Florida.

- 6. Related experience of the company in other states during the same time period is unquestionably relevant and germane to the issues in this docket. This docket includes issues relating to quality of service (which includes sales) and the conduct of the company during the incentive regulation trial period. The comparison of the Company's overall experience in the area of sales fraud and abuse is germane and relevant to the Company's performance in Florida alone.
- 7. For example, by the Company's answer to interrogatory 587 we know that discipline has risen sharply under incentive regulation for falsification of sales. It is important for the Commission to also know the experience of other states where BellSouth operates under regulatory plans which have not included Incentive Regulation.
- 8. Further, the significant rise in disciplinary action due to sales falsifications in Florida should be a legitimate area of inquiry by the upper management of BellSouth. Terminations have risen in Florida over 600 per cent in the 1988-1993 time period compared to 1985-1987 because of falsification of sales. Other discipline for sales falsifications has risen by 750% during the

same time period in Florida. Faced with these factors in Florida, it is inconceivable that BellSouth has not already questioned whether the experiences in Florida are consistent throughout the Company.

9. Interrogatory 586 is therefore not only a legitimate request for comparative data intended to further our knowledge of the sales environment in Florida, but it is also the kind of information the Company would logically need to manage its business.

WHEREFORE, the Citizens request the Commission to order BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., d/b/a Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company ("Southern Bell") to answer the Citizens' interrogatory number 586.

Respectfully submitted,

JACK SHREVE Public Counsel

Charles J. Beck

Deputy Public Counsel

JANIS SUE RICHARDSON Associate Public Counsel

Office of Public Counsel c/o The Florida Legislature 111 West Madison Street Room 812 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400

(904) 488-9330

Attorneys for the Citizens of the State of Florida

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE DOCKET NO. 920260-TL

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. Mail or hand-delivery to the following parties on this 1st day of July, 1993.

Marshall Criser, III
BellSouth Telecommunications,
Inc. (Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company)
150 S. Monroe St., Suite 400
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Harris B. Anthony
BellSouth Telecommunications,
Inc. (Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company)
150 W. Flagler St., Suite 1910
Miami, FL 33130

Robin Norton
Division of Communications
Fla. Public Service Commission
101 East Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Doug Lackey
BellSouth Telecommunications,
Inc. (Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company)
4300 Southern Bell Center
Atlanta, GA 30375

Mike Twomey
Department of Legal Affairs
Attorney General
The Capitol Bldg., 16th Floor
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050

Laura L. Wilson Messer, Vickers, Caparello, Madsen & Lewis, P.A. P.O. Box 1876 Tallahassee, FL 32302-1876 Angela Green
Tracy Hatch
Jean Wilson
Division of Legal Services
Fla. Public Service Commission
101 East Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Edward Paschall Florida AARP Capital City Task Force 1923 Atapha Nene Tallahassee, FL 32301

> The American Association of Retired Persons c/o Bill L. Bryant, Jr. Foley & Lardner 215 S. Monroe St., Suite 450 P.O. Box 508 Tallahassee, FL 32302-0508

Richard D. Melson
Hopping, Boyd, Green & Sams
23 South Calhoun Street
P.O. Box 6526
Tallahassee, FL 32314

Michael J. Henry
MCI Telecommunications Corp.
MCI Center
Three Ravinia Drive
Atlanta, GA 30346

Lance C. Norris, President Florida Pay Telephone Assn., Inc. 8130 Baymeadows Circle, West Suite 202 Jacksonville, FL 32256 Joseph A. McGolthlin Vicki Gordon Kaufman McWhirter, Grandoff & Reeves 315 S. Calhoun Street, Suite 716 Tallahassee, FL 32301

Rick Wright AFAD Fla. Public Service Commission 101 East Gaines Street Tallahassee, FL 32301

Peter M. Dunbar
Haben, Culpepper, Dunbar
& French, P.A.
306 N. Monroe St.
P.O. Box 10095
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Patrick K. Wiggins Wiggins & Villacorta, P.A. P.O. Drawer 1657 Tallahassee, FL 32302

Dan B. Hendrickson P.O. Box 1201 Tallahassee, FL 32302

Monte Belote Florida Consumer Action Network 4100 W. Kennedy Blvd., #128 Tampa, FL 33609

Cecil O. Simpson, Jr.
Peter Q. Nyce, Jr.
Regulatory Law Office
Office of the Judge Advocate
General
Department of the Army
901 North Stuart St.
Arlington, VA 22203-1837

Michael Fannon Cellular One 2735 Capital Circle, NE Tallahassee, FL 32308 Joseph P. Gillan J. P. Gillan and Associates P.O. Box 541038 Orlando, FL 32854-1038

C. Everett Boyd, Jr.
Ervin, Varn, Jacobs, Odom & Ervin
305 S. Gadsden Street
P.O. Drawer 1170
Tallahassee, FL 32302

Chanthina R. Bryant Sprint 3065 Cumberland Circle Atlanta, GA 30339

Michael W. Tye
AT&T Communications of the
Southern States, Inc.
106 East College Avenue
Suite 1410
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Florida Hotel and Motel Assn. c/o Thomas F. Woods Gatlin, Woods, Carlson & Cowdery 1709-D Mahan Drive Tallahassee, FL 32308

Douglas S. Metcalf Communications Consultants, Inc. P.O. Box 1148 Winter Park, FL 32790-1148

Benjamin H. Dickens, Jr.
Blooston, Mordkofsky, Jackson
& Dickens
2120 L Street., N.W.
Washington, DC 20037

Floyd R. Self Messer, Vickers, Caparello, Lewis, Goldman & Metz, P.A. P.O. Box 1876 Tallahassee, FL 32302-1876

Charles J. Beck
Deputy Public Counsel