

**ORIGINAL
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1 **Testimony of Cole Whitaker**

2 **Docket No. 941281-TL**

3 **Extended Area Service**

4 **Groveland Exchange to Orlando, Winter Garden**

5 **and Windermere Exchanges**

6 **February 1, 1996**

7 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

8
9 **A. My name is Cole Whitaker and my business address is**
10 **45 W. Washington Street, Orlando, Florida 32801.**

11
12 **Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

13
14 **A. I am the owner of Cole Whitaker Realty located at**
15 **the address just given. Cole Whitaker Realty deals**
16 **in commercial property and I have held a broker's**
17 **license in Florida since 1983.**

18
19 **Q. Please state your educational background and**
20 **professional experience.**

21
22 **A. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree from**
23 **Southern Methodist University in 1981 and I have**
24 **been licensed in the state of Florida as a real**
25 **estate broker since 1983.**

1 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

2

3 A. The purpose of my testimony is to support the
4 request before the Public Service Commission for
5 subscribers of the Groveland Exchange (429
6 exchange) for Extended Area Service to allow
7 calling to the Orlando, Winter Garden and
8 Windermere exchanges without incurring long
9 distance charges.

10

11 Q. What is your position in this Docket?

12

13 A. I support the effort to implement the Extended Area
14 Service. I own two tracts of real property in the
15 429 exchange which are located adjacent to the Lake
16 County Central Park. The two tracts which I own
17 are for commercial use and development. One is
18 approximately 205 acres in size and the other is
19 approximately 80 acres in size. These are located
20 in the approximate area of the intersection of
21 State Highways 19 and 27 and the Sunshine State
22 Parkway. I have owned these parcels since 1987.

23

24 It would certainly be a great benefit in developing
25 and attracting businesses and commercial operations

1 to this property for them to be able to call from
2 the 429 exchange to the Orlando, Winter Garden and
3 Windermere exchanges without incurring long
4 distance charges. I understand and appreciate that
5 if the Extended Area Service is granted that there
6 would be an additional monthly charge, but firmly
7 believe that this charge would be preferable to the
8 condition as it now exists which would require
9 businesses located in the 429 exchange to pay long
10 distance charges every time they needed to call
11 into the Orlando, Winter Garden and Windermere
12 exchanges. I therefore wholeheartedly support the
13 petition presently before the Commission and would
14 ask that those people within the 429 exchange be
15 given the opportunity to be surveyed further for
16 this service.

17

18 Q. Does that conclude your testimony?

19

20 A. Yes.

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