State of Florida



Public Service Commission

CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER ◆ 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE:

DECEMBER 5, 2002

TO:

DIRECTOR, DIVISION

OF THE

COMMISSION

CLERK G &

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (BAYÓ)

FROM:

DIVISION OF COMPETITIVE MARKETS & ENFORCEMENT (ISLER) P_{γ}

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL (TEITZMAN; ELLIOTT; DODSON)

-992

RE:

CANCELLATION BY FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF PATS CERTIFICATES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE 25-4.0161, F.A.C., REGULATORY ASSESSMENT FEES; TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES.

AGENDA:

12/17/02 - REGULAR AGENDA - PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION -

INTERESTED PERSONS MAY PARTICIPATE

CRITICAL DATES: NONE

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: NONE

FILE NAME AND LOCATION: S:\PSC\CMP\WP\020808.RCM

CASE BACKGROUND

This recommendation deals with the enforcement actions against pay telephone companies (PATs) for nonpayment of the Regulatory Assessment Fees (RAFs). Staff is recommending that offenders not complying with the cancellation rule be denied a voluntary cancellation.

The Commission is vested with jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 364.336, 364.285, and 364.3375, Florida Statutes. The following docket numbers are addressed by this recommendation.

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PAT Offenders - Nonpayment of RAFs - Deny Voluntary Cancellations

DOCKET NO. 020808-TC - STEVE P WEIS D/B/A TEFCYC SYSTEMS

DOCKET NO. 020913-TC - BJM SALES, INC.

DOCKET NO. 020914-TC - VAL TEL COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

DOCKET NO. 021071-TC - LYNDON C. SCHERR

DOCKET NO. 021072-TC - JON ADAMS

DOCKET NO. 021074-TC - UNITED PAYPHONE OWNERS, LLP

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DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

<u>ISSUE 1</u>: Should the Commission grant the companies listed on Attachment A a voluntary cancellation of their respective certificates?

RECOMMENDATION: No. The Commission should not grant the companies a voluntary cancellation of their respective certificates. The Commission should cancel each company's respective certificate on its own motion with an effective date as listed on Attachment A. The collection of the past due fees should be referred to the Office of the Comptroller for further collection efforts. If the certificates for each company as listed on Attachment A are cancelled in accordance with the Commission's Order from this recommendation, the respective companies should be required to immediately cease and desist providing pay telephone services in Florida. (Isler; Teitzman; Elliott; Dodson)

STAFF ANALYSIS: Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, incorporated by Rule 25-24.505, Florida Administrative Code, 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.

Each of the companies listed on Attachment A wrote the Commission a letter and requested cancellation of their respective pay telephone certificates except in Docket No. 021072-TC. In that case, Mr. Jon Adams called staff and requested cancellation of his certificate. In addition, the companies stated that they either

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had never begun operations or were no longer in the pay telephone business. Staff wrote each company listed on Attachment A and explained that the companies needed to comply with Rule 25-24.514(2)(a), Florida Administrative Code. Each of the companies listed on Attachment A have not complied. 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 cancel each company's respective certificate on its own motion with an effective date as listed on Attachment A. The collection of the past due fees should be referred to the Office of the Comptroller for further collection efforts. If the certificates for each company as listed on Attachment A are cancelled in accordance with the Commission's Order from this recommendation, the respective companies should be required to immediately cease and desist providing pay telephone services in Florida.

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ISSUE 2: Should these dockets be closed?

RECOMMENDATION: The Order issued from this recommendation will become final upon issuance of a Consummating Order, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the Commission's decision files a protest within 21 days of the issuance of the Proposed Agency Action Order. These dockets should then be closed upon issuance of a Consummating Order. A protest in one docket should not prevent the action in a separate docket from becoming final. (Teitzman; Elliott; Dodson)

STAFF ANALYSIS: Whether staff's recommendation on Issue 1 is approved or denied, the result will be a Proposed Agency Action Order. If no timely protest to the Proposed Agency Action is filed within 21 days of the date of issuance of the Order, these dockets should be closed upon issuance of a Consummating Order. A protest in one docket should not prevent the action in a separate docket from becoming final.

ATTACHMENT A

DOCKET NOS. 020808-TC, 020913-TC, 020914-TC, 021071-TC, 021072-

TC, 021074-TC

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DOCKET NO.	PROVIDER LAST REPORTED REVENUES & PERIOD COVERED	CERT.	Effective Date of Cancellation
020808-TC	Steve P Weis d/b/a TEFCYC Systems \$0 Revenues for Period Ended 12/31/00	7457	10/03/02
	Year RAF Unpaid 2001 and 2002		
	Year Penalty and Interest Unpaid 2001		
020913-TC	BJM Sales, Inc. \$324 Revenues for Period Ended 12/31/01	7310	07/24/02
	Year RAF Unpaid 2001 and 2002		
	Year Penalty and Interest Unpaid 2000 and 2001		
020914-TC	Val Tel Communications, Inc. \$0 Revenues for Period Ended 12/31/01	7359	06/28/02
	Year RAF Unpaid 2002		
	Year Penalty and Interest Unpaid 2001		
021071-TC	Lyndon C. Scherr \$0 Revenues for Period Ended 12/31/01	1697	05/30/02
	Year RAF Unpaid 2002		
021072-TC	Jon Adams No Previous Return Filed	7793	06/27/02
	Year RAF Unpaid 2001 and 2002		
	Year Penalty and Interest Unpaid 2001		

ATTACHMENT A

DOCKET NOS. 020808-TC, 020913-TC, 020914-TC, 021071-TC, 021072-

TC, 021074-TC

DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2002

PROVIDER CERT.

DOCKET NO. LAST REPORTED REVENUES & PERIOD COVERED NO. Effective Date of Cancellation

021074-TC United Payphone Owners, LLP 8083 09/23/02

No Previous Return Filed

Year RAF Unpaid

2002

NOTE: There are no outstanding consumer complaints against the companies listed on Attachment A.

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