

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

April 9, 1991

Thomas M. Beard, Chairman Florida Public Service Commission 101 East Gaines Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Dockets Nos. 900960-TL and 910163-TL

Dear Chairman Beard:

This past Wednesday your staff counsel Suzanne F. Summerlin advised our office that the Florida Public Service Commission intended to proceed with the depositions scheduled in docket 900960-TL. I want to make my position clear to you.

I had meetings with a representative from the Attorney General's economic crimes unit and the office of the statewide prosecutor following the depositions taken by our office on March 1, 1991. I was made aware of the ramifications of our taking further depositions. It is my understanding your staff had conversations with these same representatives and that this same information was made available to your staff and presumably to you.

My decision to temporarily postpone this aspect of our investigation is based on my past experience in criminal prosecution, while conducting grand jury investigations as Assistant State Attorney, working with FDLE, the Attorney General, and local law enforcement while serving as Chairman of the House Criminal Justice Committee, Assistant State Attorney, and General Counsel of the Florida Department of State.

The attached letter dated February 12, 1987 indicates that the Commission received a report about alteration of repair records by Southern Bell management employees before that date. Since the Commission has had this time to investigate, I do not think it would be dilatory to temporarily postpone depositions while a criminal investigation is conducted.

Chairman Beard Page 2 April 9, 1991

I will temporarily postpone depositions in our investigation while continuing to fully use other discovery tools, which are available and have been available to both the Public Service Commission and this office such as, but not limited to, requests for admissions, requests for production of documents, and interrogatories which are available to the Office of the Public Counsel.

I am providing a copy of this letter to all parties of record in dockets 900960-TL and 910163-TL, as well as to the Attorney General and Statewide Prosecutor.

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Jack Shreve Public Counsel

JS/bdd Enclosure

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File

Commissioners:
OHN R. MARKS, III, CHAIRMAN
GERALD L. (JERRY) GUNTER
JOHN T. HERNDON
KATIE NICHOLS
MICHAEL McK. WILSON



DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR, WALTER D'HAESELEER (904) 488-1280

## Public Service Commission

. February 12, 1987

Arthur W. Tifford, P.A. Attorney at Law 1385 North West 15th Street Miami, FL. 33125

Dear Mr. Tifford:

Confirming our meeting of February 2, 1987 concerning the alleged alteration of records by Southern Bell management employees. As we discussed, the best approach for us to take, absent testimony from persons with first hand knowledge, is to make sure our staff fully understands the capabilities of the data bases used for control of out of service reports. With additional training we expect to have the tools necessary to discover any abuses of Southern Bell's trouble reporting system.

At my request Southern Bell is in the process of arranging a Commission staff tutorial. Our task will then be easier since we already know what we will be looking for in our next Southern Bell evaluation. A time and place for the evaluation has not yet been established, however, I will notify you of our findings at its conclusion.

I hope, considering your clients request for anonymity, that this has been responsive to your complaint. Please feel free to call on me if you have any questions.

Sincerely

J.A. Taylor, Chief

Bureau of Service Evaluation

JAT/tp (0368C)

cc: B. Bailey, 0-113