LAW OFFICES OF

### GRESHAM, DAVIS, GREGORY, WORTHY & MOORE

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

112 EAST PECAN STREET NINTH FLOOR SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78205-1542 FOUNDED 1880

June 5, 1998

### VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Director, Division of Records and Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 2450 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850 Attn: Ms. Blanca S. Bayo, Director **Division of Records and Reporting** or Ms. Kay Flynn, Chief Bureau of Records

RE:

Home Owners Long Distance, Inc. ("HOLD") -- Public Service **Commission Docket No. 971489** 

Ladies and Gentlemen:

APP

CAF

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OTH \_\_\_\_Enclosure

Enclosed please find the Motion of Home Owners Long Distance, Inc. ("HOLD") for Extension of Time for Consideration and Partial Response with regard to Docket No. 971489 of the Public Service Commission. This motion is filed in response to that certain Show Cause Order in this docket dated May 18, 1998. According to the Show Cause Order, a response is due on or before June 7, 1998. Since June 7, 1998 is a Sunday, this motion has been submitted for receipt on Monday, June 8, 1998. Please file this Motion in these proceedings.

As stated in the Motion, the Commission Staff and HOLD are close to a settlement in these proceedings. Because of that, this Motion requests an extension of time in order to, if so required, properly respond to the Show Cause Order. It is hoped that the parties will have successfully settled this case during such period so that a response to the Show Cause Order will not be necessary. In the ACK L event however, that the Commission denies the enclosed Motion, the full response to the Show Cause AFA Order will be timely submitted by HOLD such that the penalties set forth in the Order will not have become operational.

> In the meantime, the parties will proceed with negotiations for the settlement of this case and hope to conclude this matter as soon as possible.

	If you have any	questions or if	I can be of fur	her assistance,	, please do n	ot hesitate to	contact
the un	dersigned.						

Very truly yours,
11A
KIN
Peter E. Hosey

Counsel for Home Owners Long Distance, Inc.

RUPERT N. GRESHAM (1892-1973) RICHARD T. DAVIS (1911-1991)

> TELEPHONE (210) 226-4157

FACSIMILE (210) 226-5154

BEN J. CHILCUTT RAUL M. CALDERON

AAL ROOM

CO

SAMUEL H. BAYLESS 00

OF COUNSEL

C-REDORDS/REPORTING 86 ep 00 0

OCUMENT NUMBER-D.

BRAD S. AKIN MATTHEW D. BRADLEY MOULTON S. DOWLER, JR CLAIBORNE B. GREGORY CLAIBORNE B. GREGORY, JR. JOHN W. HARRIS PETER E. HOSEY ANN M. LEAFSTEDT MARSHALL B. MILLER, JR. RICHARD B. MOORE NANCY A. NORMAN RICHARD M. TAYLOR A. W. WORTHY

Director, Division of Records and Reporting Florida Public Service Commission June 5, 1998 Page 2

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cc: Home Owners Long Distance 8000 Vantage, Bldg. A, Ste. 2001 San Antonio, TX 78230 Attn: Joseph Webb and Dana Wilson

> Swidler & Berlin Attorneys At Law 3000 K Street N.W., Ste. 300 Washington D.C. 20007-5116 Attn: Marcy Greene

Florida Public Service Commission 2450 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850 Attn: Mr. Rick Moses

Florida Public Service Commission Office of General Counsel 2450 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0858 Attn: Ms. Cathy Bedell

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### **BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the matter of:

Initiation of show cause proceeding against Home Owners Long Distance, Incorporated for violation of Rule 25-4.118, F.A.C., Interexchange Carrier Selection. DOCKET NO. 971489

### MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME FOR CONSIDERATION AND PARTIAL RESPONSE

Home Owners Long Distance, Inc. ("HOLD"), by undersigned counsel, respectfully moves the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission") to consider and accept this Motion for Extension of Time For Consideration and Partial Response as set forth below. In support of this motion HOLD states as follows:

1. The Commission's Staff filed a recommendation in this Docket on January 8, 1998, recommending that the Commission issue to HOLD an order to show cause why it should not be fined for alleged violations of Rule 25.4.118, Florida Administrative Code.

2. Following Staff's recommendation, counsel for HOLD contacted the Commission's Staff to initiate settlement discussions. At that time HOLD filed a letter requesting that the Commission delay its consideration of the Staff's January 8, 1998 recommendation, scheduled on the Commission's regular agenda for January 20, 1998, in order to meet with Staff.

3. A meeting between Commission Staff and HOLD and its counsel was held on January 22, 1998 in order to discuss settlement proposals. Thereafter, further negotiations were held both in person and by telephone between Commission Staff and HOLD and its counsel in order to reach a settlement in this case. HOLD also submitted written settlement offers to the Commission Staff in order to resolve these proceedings.

4. On April 7, 1998, the Commission met and as part of its regular agenda, approved the Staff's recommendation in this case. As a result, on May 18, 1998, the Commission issued a Show Cause Order, a copy of which is attached hereto for all purposes. HOLD is therefore required to respond to the Show Cause Order by June 7, 1998, (June 8, since June 7 is a Sunday).

5. Since the date of the Commission hearing approving Staff's recommendation, the Commission Staff and HOLD and its counsel have continued to negotiate in order to reach a settlement. At this time, HOLD and the Commission's Staff are close to reaching a settlement in this case, and the Commission Staff does not oppose the Commission granting to HOLD an extension of thirty (30) days (until July 7, 1998) in which to file its response to the Show Cause Order. Therefore, in order to try to reach a settlement as quickly as possible, HOLD respectfully requests that the Commission grant it a thirty (30) day extension in order to timely respond to the Show Cause Order previously described. If at that time this case has not been satisfactorily resolved as a result of the negotiations which are currently pending, then HOLD shall on July 7, 1998 timely file a response to the Show Cause Order. HOLD is confident, however, that prior to such time HOLD and the Commission Staff will have negotiated a mutually acceptable settlement for consideration by the Commission.

6. In light of the fact that the Commission Staff and HOLD are near a settlement in this case, for which the foregoing extension of time to respond has been requested, HOLD contends that the Commission should consider this Motion for Extension of Time For Consideration and Partial Response a sufficient basis so that HOLD shall not be deemed to have failed to timely respond to the Show Cause Order, thereby constituting an admission of all facts and a waiver of the right to a hearing pursuant to Rule 25-22.037(3), Florida Administrative Code and a default pursuant to Rule 25-22.037(4), Florida Administrative Code. 7. In the event that the Commission should deny this Motion, HOLD hereby respectfully requests that it be granted no less than five (5) days from the date of the denial of this Motion in which to fully respond to the Show Cause Order and to show the Commission why it should not be fined the amount shown in the Order, nor to have its certificate canceled for apparent violations of Rule 25--4.118, Florida Administrative Code, and that this docket should remain open pending resolution of the show cause proceeding. In such response, if required, HOLD would show, among other things, the following:

A. That HOLD is an inter-exchange carrier providing inter-exchange services in forty-four (44) states and was certified by the Florida Public Commission to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunication service by Certificate Number 3189 issued on August 17, 1993.

B. That HOLD provides service to approximately 1,500 active customers in Florida from which its revenue base in Florida is derived.

C. That as a safeguard HOLD ceased marketing in the State of Florida more than one (1) year ago and that HOLD has and continues to respond to consumer complaints in a timely manner and to re-rate calls in compliance with the Commission rules.

- D. HOLD would further show the Commission that:
  - The HOLD LOA forms contain text which is clearly legible and printed in compliance with Rule 25-4.118(3)(b), Florida Administrative Code.
  - 2. That the HOLD LOA's are not misleading and do comply with the terms of Rule 25-4.118(3)(b), Florida Administrative Code.

E. That HOLD has not committed acts which "willfully violated" any rule or order of the Commission or any provision of Chapter 364, Florida Statutes, as described in the Show Cause Order.

8. By filing this Motion, HOLD does not admit to any violation of any statute, Commission order, or any other rule or regulation, or to any facts which might form the basis of a cause of action against HOLD, nor does HOLD waive any of its legal rights in the event the Commission does not grant this Motion, including the right to contest any assertions of law or fact.

Respectfully submitted this 5th day of June, 1998.

Respectfully-submitted, Peter E. Hosey

Gresham, Davis, Gregory, Worthy & Moore, A Professional Corporation 112 East Pecan Street, Ninth Floor San Antonio, Texas 78205 210/226-4157 210/226-5154 - Facsimile

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### BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION-

In re: Initiation of show cause proceeding against Home Owners Long Distance Incorporated for violation of Rule 25-4.118, Florida Administrative Code, Interexchange Carrier Selection. DOCKET NO. 971489-TI ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI ISSUED: May 18, 1998

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

JULIA L. JOHNSON, Chairman J. TERRY DEASON SUSAN F..CLARK JOE GARCIA E. LEON JACOBS, JR.

### ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

#### BACKGROUND

On August 17, 1993, the Commission granted Home Owners Long Distance Incorporated (Home Owners; HOLD) certificate number 3189 to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications service. Home Owners reported gross operating revenues of \$1,123,668.45 on its Regulatory Assessment Fee Return for the period January 1, 1997, through December 31, 1997. Home Owners also operates in forty-four other states and generates revenue from third party billing of regulated and unregulated charges. As a provider of interexchange telecommunications service in Florida, Home Owners is subject to the rules and regulations of this Commission.

From January 1, 1996, until March 11, 1998, our Division of Consumer Affairs received a total of 258 complaints against Home Owners. Of those complaints, 101 are apparent unauthorized carrier change (slamming) infractions in violation of Rule 25-4.118, Florida Administrative Code. Additional complaints are either pending closure in the Division of Consumer Affairs or pending response from the company.

Based on the number of apparent slamming violations, our staff opened this docket to investigate whether Home Owners should be required to show cause why it should not be fined or have its certificate canceled, pursuant to Section 364.285, Florida

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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Statutes. Soon thereafter Home Owners submitted an offer to settle the case. (See Attachment A) As we will explain in detail below, we deny the settlement offer and order Home Owners Long Distance Incorporated to show cause in writing within 20 days of the effective date of this order why it should not be fined \$10,000 per apparent violation for a total of \$1,010,000 or have Certificate Number 3189 canceled for apparent failure to comply with Rule 25-4.118, Florida Administrative Code, Interexchange Carrier Selection?

### DECISION

### SHOW CAUSE

Home Owners used sweepstakes display boxes with separable packets of Letters of Authorization (LOAs) attached to the displays as a method of obtaining new long distance customers. Our staff requested a sweepstakes display from Home Owners, but Home Owners stated that the sweepstakes has been discontinued and no copy of the display was available. Home Owners did submit the LOA forms as part of its response to the consumer complaints we received, and they appear to be in violation of Rule 25-4.118(3)(b), Florida Administrative Code.

Rule 25-4.118(3)(b), Florida Administrative Code, requires in pertinent part:

The page of the document containing the customer's signature shall contain a statement that the customer's signature or endorsement on the document will result in a change of the customer's long distance service provider and explain that only one long distance service provider may be designated for the telephone number listed; that the customer's selection will apply only to that number, and that the customer's local exchange company may charge a fee to switch service providers. Such statement shall be clearly legible and printed in type at least as large as any other text on the page. [emphasis added]

The statement on Home Owners' LOAs is not in a text size at least as large as any other text on the document.

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The numerous consumer complaints we have received allege that Home Owners' sweepstakes LOAs were misleading and did not inform customers that their long distance service would be changed if they signed the sweepstakes form. Our own review of those LOAs as well indicates to us that the forms Home Owners uses for its sweepstakes entries in combination with the sweepstakes display are misleading and deceptive. According to Rule 25-4.118(3)(b), Florida Administrative Code, in pertinent part:

> If any such document is not used solely for the purpose of requesting a PIC change, then the document as a whole must not be misleading or deceptive. For purposes of this rule, the terms "misleading or deceptive" mean that, because of the style, format or content of the document, it would not be readily apparent to the person signing the document that the purpose of the signature was to authorize a PIC change, or it would be unclear to the customer who the new long distance service provider would be; that the customer's selection would apply only to the number listed and there could only be one long distance service provider for that number; or that the customer's local exchange company might charge a fee to switch service providers. [emphasis added]

Furthermore, it appears that Home Owners submitted numerous preferred interexchange carrier (PIC) changes with forged customer signatures. In addition, in some instances, the name and address listed on the letter of authorization (LOA) is not the same as the address assigned to the person authorized to make the decision regarding the long distance service. Home Owners responded to some of the slamming complaints by stating that it received no adverse response to the confirmation letter and therefore considered the application valid.

Examples of complaints received from consumers include the following:

On November 20, 1996, Mr. Truman Flournoy advised our staff that his long distance service was switched without authorization. Home Owners' report stated that the company

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> received a LOA signed by Ms. Patricia Davis. Further investigation determined that the signature on the LOA did not match the person authorized to make decisions regarding the long distance service. In addition, the address was not that of the customer of record; therefore the welcome letter would not have been received by Mr. Flournoy. (Attachment B)

> On March 14, 1997, Mr. Ashwani Wadhwa advised our staff that his long distance service was switched without authorization. He stated he realized the change when he received his telephone bill. Home Owners' report stated that the company received a LOA signed by Mr. Witin Wadhwa. The company considered it to be valid and forwarded it to BellSouth for processing. Mr. Wadhwa notified staff that Witin Wadhwa is a minor and is not authorized to make any long distance service changes.

According to Rule 25-4.118(2), Florida Administrative Code, in pertinent part:

A certified IXC that will be billing in its name may submit a PIC change request, other than a customer-initiated PIC change, directly or through another IXC, to a LEC only if it has certified to the LEC that at least one of the following actions has occurred prior to the PIC change request: (a) the IXC has on hand a ballot or letter from the customer requesting such change.

Since Witin Wadhwa is not the customer of record for the telephone number listed on the LOA, the LOA is invalid. (Attachment C) This is a common example of how the sweepstakes entry method of switching a person's long distance service can result in a slam. Many persons attending fairs, flea markets, home shows, and other events that have sweepstakes boxes present are slammed because they are signing many different entries to obtain free giveaway products and are not expecting to be given something to sign that will result in their long distance service being switched.

> On March 13, 1996, Mr. Thomas Clark notified staff that his long distance service was switched without authorization. Home Owners stated in its report to staff that the company received a LOA signed by Mr. Clark. The company considered it to be valid and forwarded it to BellSouth for processing. Upon receipt of a copy of the LOA, Mr. Clark notified our staff that the signature on the LOA was not his. Mr. Clark's signature on the letter he submitted to our staff clearly does not match the signature on the LOA. It appears that the signature is a forgery. (Attachment D)

Home Owners has not satisfied us that it has complied with our rules. Accordingly, by Section 364.285, Florida Statutes, the Commission is authorized to impose upon any entity subject to its jurisdiction a penalty of not more than \$25,000 for each day a violation continues, if such entity is found to have refused to comply with or to have willfully violated any lawful rule or order of the Commission, or any provision of chapter 364. Utilities are charged with knowledge of the Commission's rules and statutes. Also, "[i]t is a common maxim, familiar to all minds, that 'ignorance of the law' will not excuse any person, either civilly or criminally." <u>Barlow v. United States</u>, 32 U.S. 404, 411 (1833).

Home Owners' apparent conduct in switching PICs without customer authorization has been "willful" in the sense intended by Section 364.285, Florida Statutes. In Order No. 24306, issued April 1, 1991, in Docket No. 890216-TL titled <u>In re: Investigation</u> <u>Into The Proper Application of Rule 25-14.003, Florida</u> <u>Administrative Code, Relating To Tax Savings Refund for 1988 and</u> <u>1989 For GTE Florida, Inc.</u>, having found that the company had not intended to violate the rule, the Commission nevertheless found it appropriate to order it to show cause why it should not be fined, stating that "In our view, willful implies intent to do an act, and this is distinct from intent to violate a rule." Thus, any intentional act, such as Home Owners' conduct at issue here, would meet the standard for a "willful violation."

In view of the 101 apparent unauthorized carrier change and infractions, we believe that Home Owners does not have adequate safeguards to protect consumers from unauthorized carrier changes. Accordingly, we find that there is sufficient cause to order Home

Owners to show cause in writing within 20 days of the effective date of this order why it should not be fined \$10,000 per infraction for a total of \$1,010,000 or have its certificate canceled for its apparent violations of Rule 25-4.118, Florida Administrative Code.

### SETTLEMENT OFFER

On January 22, 1998, Home Owners met with our staff to discuss the show cause proceeding. On February 27, 1998, Home Owners submitted its offer to settle the case. In its settlement offer, Home Owners agreed to do the following:

(1) HOLD will not market its services in Florida through the use of a sweepstakes program or in any other manner, and will not submit to any LEC orders to change the long distance service of Florida consumers to that provided by HOLD, for a period of at least three years from the date that this settlement offer has been agreed to by the PSC;

(2) HOLD will continue to respond to consumer complaints in a timely manner, will refund any fees incurred by consumers for changing back to their preferred carrier, and will credit the difference between the rates charged by HOLD and the consumers' preferred carrier;

(3) HOLD will make a contribution of \$80,000 to the general revenue fund of the State of Florida with no admission of liability or wrongdoing, payable in twenty-four equal monthly installments until paid;

We favor Home Owners' proposal to refrain from marketing in Florida for a period of at least three years. We also favor Home Owners' agreement to respond to consumer complaints in a timely manner and rerate calls in compliance with Commission rules. We cannot, however, support Home Owners' proposed settlement of the financial penalties associated with this show cause proceeding.

Although Home Owners states it only has 1,500 active customers in Florida, it does generate additional revenue through third party billing of regulated and unregulated charges, and it operates in forty-four other states. Home Owners' proposal is simply not sufficient to redress the harm to the public interest that its apparent slamming violations have caused.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Home Owners Long Distance shall show cause in writing within 20 days of the issuance of this Order why it should not be fined \$10,000 per apparent violation for a total of \$1,010,000 or have Certificate Number 3189 canceled for apparent failure to comply with Rule 25-4.118, Florida Administrative Code. It is further

ORDERED that Home Owners Long Distance's response shall contain specific allegations of fact and law. It is further

ORDERED that failure to respond to this Order in the manner and by the date set forth in the Notice of Further Proceedings or Judicial Review section of this Order shall constitute an admission of the violations described in the body of this Order and waiver of a right to a hearing. It is further

ORDERED that if Home Owners Long Distance fails to respond to this Order within 20 days of its issuance date, the fine shall be deemed assessed. It is further

ORDERED that if Home Owners Long Distance fails to respond to this Order and does not pay the fine within 5 business days after the expiration of the show cause response period, its certificate shall be canceled and this docket shall be closed. It is further

ORDERED that the Commission shall forward any fine payments received to the Office of the Comptroller for deposit in the Florida General Revenue Fund, pursuant to Section 364.285, Florida Statutes. It is further

ORDERED that if Home Owners timely responds to the show cause order, this docket shall remain open pending resolution of the show cause proceeding.

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By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this <u>18th</u> day of <u>May</u>, <u>1998</u>.

BLANCA S. BAYO, Director Division of Records and Reporting

By: Kay Jup Kay Flynn, Chief

Bureau of Records

(SEAL)

MCB

### NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

This order is preliminary, procedural or intermediate in nature. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal . proceeding, as provided by Rule 25-22.037(1), Florida . Administrative Code, in the form provided by Rule 25-22.036(7)(a) and (f), Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540

Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on June 7, 1998\_\_\_\_\_.

Failure to respond within the time set forth above shall constitute an admission of all facts and a waiver of the right to a hearing pursuant to Rule 25-22.037(3), Florida Administrative Code, and a default pursuant to Rule 25-22.037(4), Florida Administrative Code. Such default shall be effective on the day subsequent to the above date.

If an adversely affected person fails to respond to this order within the time prescribed above, that party may request judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of any electric, gas or telephone utility or by the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.

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### ATTACHMENT A

GRESHAM, DAVIS, GREGORY, WORTHY & MOORE

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#### February 27, 1998

### VIA FACSIMILE 1 (850) 413-6583 AND FEDERAL EXPRESS OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

OF COUNSEL PAUL M. CALDERON

<u>.</u>

Mr. Rick Moses Florida Public Service Commission 2450 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Mr. John Bowman Office of General Counsel Florida Public Service Commission 2450 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

### RE: House Owners Long Distance, Inc. - Docket No. 971489

Dear Mr. Mones and Mr. Bowman:

Thank you again for taking the time to meet with me the other day in your offices. As I said that I would at our meeting, Home Owners Long Distance, inc. ("HOLD") has revised its proposed is servienent proposal. Therefore, enclosed please find, proposed by HOLD, the terms and provisions of a revised sectionment offer. On behalf of HOLD, I submit the enclosed proposal in good faith for your review. Again, we hope that this proposal will meet your objectives concerning Florida consumers as HOLD has agreed to chase its marketing efforts for at least three (3) years, while at the same time making payments to the state of Florida, the amount and method of which will not render HOLD insolvant.

Please review this proposal, for consideration by the Public Service Commission at its March 24, 1998 docket.

If you have any questions or if I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to call.

Very analy yours, Hosey

CC: Home Owners Long Distance, Inc. Asta: Joseph Webb and Dat Public Service Commission Asta: Kally Begoisky

Mileon Via Factinile Transmission 1-850-413-6582

MEMBER OF COMMERCIAL LAW AFFILIATES I AN ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT LAW FIRMS WORLDWIDE

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### ATTACHMENT A

GRESHAM, DAVIS, GREGORY, WORTHY & MOORE

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February 27, 1998

### VIA FACSIMILE 1 (850) 413-6583 AND FEDERAL EXPRESS OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

OF COUNSEL BALL M. CALOFRON

....

Mr. Rick Mones Florida Public Service Commission 2450 Shushard Oak Boulevard Tailahassee, FL 32399-0850

Mr. John Bowman Office of General Counsel Florida Public Service Commission 2450 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

### RE: Home Owners Long Distance, Inc. - Docket No. 971489

Dear Mr. Mogas

Home Owners Long Distance, Inc. ("HOLD"), by its undersigned, respectfully submits its revised settlement offer in the above-referenced matter.

HOLD is an interexchange carrier which provides interexchange service in 44 states. HOLD was certified by the Fiorida Public Service Commission to provide intrastate interexchange service in Docket No. 930327-TI on August 17, 1993. HOLD currently provides service to approximately 1,500 active customers in Fiorida.

HOLD has historically marketed its long distance through the use of a sweepstakes program in which customers enter a sweepstakes and may also change their long distance service to that provided by HOLD. The majority of complaints filed with the Commission stem from the use of the sweepstakes marketing method.

HOLD respectfully proposes the following terms of settlement:

 HOLD will not market its services in Florida through the use of a sweepstakes program or in any other manner, and will not submit to any local exchange carrier (LEC) orders to change the long distance service of Florida consumers to that provided by HOLD, for a period of at least three (3) years from the date that this sectioment offer has been agreed to by the PSC. HOLD will resume its marketing efforts thereafter in the state of Florida, only upon the approval by the Staff of the PSC of such marketing methods which HOLD proposes to utilize.

MEMBER OF COMMERCIAL LAW AFFILIATES + AN ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT I AW FIRMS WORL CHINE

ВЛАСО З. АЛОН ЗАМУЧЕК М. ВАЛСЕЗВ ВАЛУУ В. ВЕЛУБИ ИЛУЧИВИ В. ВАЛДЕУ ОВИ Л. СМИДУРИНИЕТ ОСАЛЦ ОДИНУ В. ВАЛДЕУ ИЛУТИР В. ВИЛИЕТ САНДОВИНЕ В. ВИЛИЕТ САНДОВИНЕ В. ВИЛИЕТ ИЛИТИ И. НАЛИВ АЛИТИ И. НАЛИВ АЛИТИ И. ЦЕЛИВ АЛИТИ И. ЦЕЛИВ АЛИТИ В. ИДИНИ ИЛАЛЕВ С. ЛИБИТОНОВИ И ИЛАЛЕВИ В. ИДИНИВ ЛИБИТОНО В. КОЛИВИ

ATTACHMENT A

ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI DOCKET NO. 971489-TI PAGE 12

> Mr. Rick Moans and Mr. John Bowman Florida Public Service Commission February 27, 1998 Page 2

- HOLD will continue to respond to consumer complaints in a timely manner, will
  refund any feet incurred by consumers for changing back to their preferred carrier, and
  will credit the difference between the rates charged by HOLD and the consumers'
  preferred carrier, where such rates are lower than those charged by HOLD.
- HOLD will make a contribution of \$80,000.00 to the general revenue fund of the State of Florida with no admission of liability or wrongdoing, payable in aventy-four (24) equal monthly installments until paid.

We believe that the foregoing sectament terms and conditions are consistent with the following considerations. It is the Commission's and HOLD's goal to minimize instances of siamming in the Scare of Florida. HOLD recognizes that its previous marketing methods have resulted in consumer confusion and allegations of siamming. The number of these complaints in Florida far outnumber complaints received in any other jurisdiction. Accordingly, in order to ensure that there is no change of further problems, HOLD will discontinue all marketing efforts in Florida in accordance with the terms of Paragraph 1 above. HOLD recognizes that its marketing activities created problems for Florida consumers and placed demands on the time and resources of the Commission and its Staff. HOLD believes that the interests of the public, the Commission and HOLD itself can best be served at this time through settlement. The amount of the voluntary contribution is significant, reflecting how seriously the Commission considers unauthorized carter changes. At the same time, the amount of the payment reflects the fact that HOLD has voluntarily removed itself from the Florida marketplace.

If you have any questions, or wish to discuss this matter further, please do not besitate to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Counsel for Home Owners Long Distance, Inc.

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Home Owners Long Distance Astn: Joseph Webb and Dana Wilson Swidler & Berlin Atta: Marcy Greene Public Service Commission <u>Vie Faca</u> Astn: Kelly Begotsky

LAREN ANT INDO SUMCERSELTE

Vie Farsimile Transmission 1-850-413-6582

			ORDER DOCKE PAGE
Constant 2318 SOUTH DALE AVENUE, #11	Company_HOME_OWNERS_LONG_DISTANCE_INCORPORA_	Request No. 1486221	ио. 13 13
COUNTY 32405 COUNTY BAY	Consumer's Telephone # (904)-785-1078 Can Be Reached	By KES_Time_3:59_PMDate]1/20/96	~ ()
count Rundoer	Note <u>Sweep(name/anj)</u>	Type <u>S</u> torm <u>Phone</u>	-067 9-TI
sporty Luditar (	Limited Reponse N	Category	6-sc.
Customer said that his preferred carrier, A received his regular bill. He did not give is requesting a full refund of all usage and	T&T, had been changed when he any authorization for a change and 1 fees. Please investigation	Closed by <u>NEP</u> Date <u>02/13/97</u> Reply Received <u>1</u>	ΤΤ

is requesting a full refund of all usage and fees. Please investigate, provide proof of authorization, contact customer and advise.

12/10 Report as letter to customer with explanation, credit and sweepstakes LOA.

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CONSUMER REQUEST
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD TALLAHASSEE, FL. 32399-0850 904-413-6100

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ATTACHMENT B

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<u>Kate Smith</u>

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PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH REPORT OF ACTION TO:

			ORDER DOCKET PAGE 1
ELEDERIC PERMAN	Company_COME_DIANERS_LONG_DISTANCE_INCORPORA_	ROBIEST NU. 1486221	4 NO.
2318 SOUTH THATE AVENUE _ #11	ALLD	4y SES 11 3:59 PH Date 11/20/96	PSC 97
	Concurrer s Telephone # (901) 785 1078	to COEAXEure]1/20/96	-98- 1489
· LANAMA ITY 32105 Corry BAY	Con Be Reached	type S form Phone	9-067 (
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astomer said that his preferred carrier, accured his regular bill. He did not give a requesting a full refund of all usage a	ve any authorization for a change and	Closed My Date'/	
mout of authorization, contact customer a			
	RECEIVED HOT :: 6 1996 BY: edd UA	FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION	AT
	1 18 X	2540 SHIIMARD OAK BOULEVARD TALLAHASSEY, FL. 32399-0850 904-413-6100	ATTACHMENT
		PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH REPORT OF ACTION TO:	Ø
		Kate_Smith Dut: 12/09/96	-

### ATTACHMENT B

ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI DOCKET NO. 971489-TI PAGE 15

HOLD

Home Owners Long Distance. Inc. P O. Box 690670 San Antonio, Texas 78259 (210) 525-8152 Fax (210) 525-0637

December 3, 1996

Truman Flournoy 2318 South Dale Avenue #11 Panama City, FL 32405 904-785-1078 Req. No. 1486221

Dear Mr. Flournoy:

Please accept our sincere apologies regarding the change in your long distance service.

Home Owners Long Distance, a long distance reseller utilizing the MCI network, received an application requesting our service in the name of Patricia Davis for the above referenced telephone number. Shortly after the application was received, a confirmation letter was sent to the address indicated on the application to confirm all applicant information and to ensure that a change in long distance service was desired. There was no adverse response to the confirmation letter. Therefore, the application was considered valid and forwarded to Bell South for processing. It was not apparent by the application that Ms. Davis was not authorized to change long distance companies.

As requested, your account with Home Owners Long Distance has been canceled. At this time our records do not indicate any long distance billing, however, if you receive a bill from HOLD please contact me and an adjustment will be issued. Enclosed is a refund of \$2.98 for switch over fees.

Once again, we apologize for this error and any inconvenience it may have caused. It is not our intent or desire to obtain customers who do not wish to utilize our service.

Should you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact me at 1-800-879-4653 ext. 440.

Sincerely,

Mitchel

Liesl Mitchell Administrative Assistant

cc: Florida Public Service Commission

.

### ATTACHMENT B

. .

Official LOA Form Long Distance Application
Please Print - Fill out completely - Only one per household
nome Phone: (109) 185-1170
Name This Number Is Listed Under Patricia Davis
Mother's Maiden Name (Used for ventication gurpases any) latrice Shall
Address: 625 APache Circl 2 Aparment Number
Signature: Patricia Davis
(Must be signed and fully completed to quality.)
MARITAL STATUS Single I married AGE Hunger 21 221

By signing the above Latter of Agency (LOA) form. I am agreeing to change my current long distance camer to Home Owners Long Distance, inc., (THOLD), and I designate HOLD as my agent to cancet my agreemers with my existing camer to Home Owners new service with HOLD, for my 1+ long distance service one. I understand that I can nave only one 1+ long distance service and that one with my previous 1+ long distance camering with be changed included on the telepone number writen above may authorize init switch in 1+ service. And by signing above I acknowledge that I am that bersons. Charges for my 1+ long distance may will be builded by my local telepone company as charges from HOLD. I understand that my local telepone company will charge me a one-time charge of up to \$5, plus tax. for this selection.

# LONG DISTANCE OFFER

By signing the letter of agency on the reverse side you are selecting Home Owners Long Distance. Inc., ("HOLD") as your 1 + long distance service company. You will be mailed a welcome letter from HCLD before your long distance service is changed to HOLD.

HOLD's long distance rates are: 25 c cer minute daytime (8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monoay through Friday), to anywhere in the contiguous 48 states and 20 c per minute all other times.

NOTE: Fionda residents only. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the division of consumer service by calling toil-free 1-800-HELP-FLA, within the State of Flonda. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the State.

NOTE: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania residents only. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Consumer Protection Bureau by calling toil-free 1-800-441-2555. within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the State.

2 1996 Home Owners Long Cistance, Inc., P.O. Box 690670, San Amonio, Texas, 78269, 1-600-879-4653,

A CLO SCUTH DALE AVENUE HTT		15- 3:59 PM Hateli, 20/90	ORDE DOCK PAGE
Ackiness 2318 SOUTH DALE AVENUE, #11 Caty/Zip PANAMA CITY 32405 County BAY Account Number	Company HOME OWNERS LONG DISTANCE INCORPORA AttnUSEPH_WEBB_1486221 Consumer's Telephone #_(904)-785-1078 Can Be Reached	Request No. <u>1486221</u> By <u>KES_Time_3:59_PM_Date]1/20/96</u> To <u>CO_Time_FAXBate]1/20/96</u> * Type_ <u>S_form_Phone</u>	R NO. PSC-98-0 ET NO. 971489- 17
Company Contact	Note <u>SWeep(name/ani)</u> Limited Reponse_ <u>N</u>	Category	676-SC TI TI

Customer said that his preferred carrier, AT&T, had been changed when he received his regular bill. He did not give any authorization for a change and is requesting a full refund of all usage and fees. Please investigate, provide proof of authorization, contact customer and advise.

12/10 Report as letter to customer with explanation, credit and sweepstakes LOA. File closed.

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Request No. 1486221	17
By <u>KES_time_3:59_PM</u> Date <u>11/20/96</u>	
10 <u>CO</u> Iine_ <u>FAX</u>	
Type_S_form_Phone	
Category	
Infraction <u>IS-13A</u>	
Closed by <u>NEP</u> Date <u>02/13/97</u>	

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ATTACHMENT

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## **CONSUMER REQUEST**

Reply Received

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD TALLAHASSEE, FL. 32399-0850 904-413-6100

# PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH REPORT OF ACTION TO:

Kate Smith

DUE: 12/09/96

.

### ATTACHMENT B

ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI DOCKET NO. 971489-TI PAGE 18

HOLD

Home Owners Long Distance. Inc. P.O. Box 690670 San Antonio, Texas 78259 (210) 525-8152 Fax (210) 525-0637

December 3, 1996

Truman Flournoy 2318 South Dale Avenue #11 Panama Ciry, FL 32405 904-785-1078 Req. No. 1486221

Dear Mr. Flournoy:

Please accept our sincere apologies regarding the change in your long distance service.

Home Owners Long Distance, a long distance reseller utilizing the MCI network, received an application requesting our service in the name of Patricia Davis for the above referenced telephone number. Shortly after the application was received, a confirmation letter was sent to the address indicated on the application to confirm all applicant information and to ensure that a change in long distance service was desired. There was no adverse response to the confirmation letter. Therefore, the application was considered valid and forwarded to Bell South for processing. It was not apparent by the application that Ms. Davis was not authorized to change long distance companies.

As requested, your account with Home Owners Long Distance has been canceled. At this time our records do not indicate any long distance billing, however, if you receive a bill from HOLD please contact me and an adjustment will be issued. Enclosed is a refund of \$2.98 for switch over fees.

Once again, we apologize for this error and any inconvenience it may have caused. It is not our intent or desire to obtain customers who do not wish to utilize our service.

Should you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact me at 1-800-879-4653 ext. 440.

Sincerely,

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Liesi Mitchell Administrative Assistant

cc: Florida Public Service Commission

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ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI DOCKET NO. 971489-TI PAGE 19

Official LOA Form Long Distance Application Please Print - Fill out completely - Only one per household
Home Phone: $(709)$ 785 - 1078 Day: 10-13
Name This Number is Listed Under: Patricia Davis
Mother's Maiden Name (Used for ventication purposes any):
Address: 625 Alpache Circle Apartment Number:
City: )etona Jeto zio: 32723
Signature: Parriera Davia
(Must be signed and fully completed to quely.) MARITAL STATUS Sungre I married AGE Junder 21 XI 21 & over

By signing the above Latter of Agency (LOA) form, i am agreeing to change my current long distance camer to Home Owners Long Distance. Inc., (THOLD"), and I designate HOLD as my agent to cancel my agreement with my existing carrier in favor of new service with HOLD. for my 1+ long distance company will be canceled when my 1+ service is switched to HOLD. I understand that can have only one 1+ long distance service and that only the period service, and by signing above 1 accorded when my 1+ service is switched to HOLD. I understand authorize that switch in 1+ service, and by signing above 1 accorded when my 1+ service. Charges for my 1+ long distance will be billed by my local telephone company as charges from HOLD. I understand that my local telephone company will charge me a one-time charge of up to \$5, plus tax, for this selection.

# LONG DISTANCE OFFER

By signing the letter of agency on the reverse side you are selecting Home Owners Long Distance. Inc., ("HOLD") as your 1 + long distance service company. You will be mailed a welcome letter from HOLD before your long distance service is changed to HOLD.

HOLD's long distance rates are: 25 c per minute daytime (8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday), to anywhere in the contiguous 48 states and 20 c per minute all other times.

NOTE: Florida residents only. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the division of consumer service by calling toil-free 1-800-HELP-FLA, within the State of Flonda. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the State.

NOTE: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania residents only. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Consumer Protection Bureau by calling toll-free 1-800-441-2555. within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the State.

3 1996 Home Owners Long Distance. Inc., P.O. Box 890670. San Antonio. Texas. 78269, 1-800-879-4653.

H. MALIE . ASIMANI	COMPARING HUNE OWNERS LONG DISTANCE INCORPORA	Request No. 1648941
Autors 204 NW 102ND TERRACE	ALLII. JOSEPH W. WEBB 1648941	By MEP_1100 1:24_PM_ Dat
	Eonsumer 's Telephone # (954) • 475 • 4239	To <u>CO</u> Da
City/2111 PLANTATION 33324 County_BRO	Can Be Reached (954) • 475 • 4239	Type S Form MAIL
Acconst Nindor	Note Sweepstakes	Eategory
Company Contact	Limited Rusponse N	Infraction <u>LS-13A</u>

.

See attached correspondence regarding customer's concerns with a switch in his long distance service from MCI to Home Owner's Long Distance without authorization or request. Customer has returned to carrier of choice. Please investigate this matter, contact the customer, and provide me with a detailed written report including LOA/Tape and applicable credits for switching fees as well as an adjustment of rates to that of the customer's preferred carrier by the date below.

04/01/97 Received report as letter to customer with explanation, \$265.03 credit and sweepstakes LOA.

04/02/97 Closed by telephone conversation with Mr. Wadhwa, who states that his child filled out what he thought was a sweepstakes entry.

Request No. 1648941 By MEP_11me_1:24_PM_Dute03/14/97 TO CO Dute03/11/97 Type_S_form_MAIL Category Infraction_LS-13A Closed by MEPDate04/02/97 Reply Received CONSUMER_REQUEST	RDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI OCKET NO. 971489-TI AGE 20
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD TALLAHASSEE, FL. 32399-0850 904-413-6100 FLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH REPORT OF ACTION TO: Ellen Plend]	ATTACHMENT C

n Q Q

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### ATTACHMENT C

ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI DOCKET NO. 971489-TI PAGE 21

HOLD

nòme Owners Long Distance (inc) F D Bax 690670 San Antonic (Texas 78269 Dis 625-3162 (Fax (210)626 0687

March 26, 1997

Ashwani Wadhwa 264 NW 102<sup>nd</sup> Terrace Plantation, FL 33324

Re: 954-475-4239 Req. No. 1648941

Dear Mr. Wadhwa:

Please accept our sincere apologies regarding the change in your long distance service.

Home Owners Long Distance, a long distance reseller utilizing the MCI network, received an application requesting our service in the name of Witin Wadhwa for the above referenced telephone number. Shortly after the application was received, a confirmation letter was sent to the address indicated on the application to confirm all applicant information and to ensure that a change in long distance service was desired. There was no adverse response to the confirmation letter. Therefore, the application was considered valid and forwarded to Bell South for processing. It was not apparent by the application that Witin was not authorized to change long distance companies, nor was there any reason to believe that the application was altered.

As requested, your account with Home Owners Long Distance has been canceled. Please be advised that a credit of \$265.03 for difference in rates and switch over fees has been issued to Bell South and will appear on your bill within one to two billing cycles.

Once again, we apologize for this error and any inconvenience it may have caused. It is not our intent or desire to obtain customers who do not wish to utilize our service.

Should you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact me at 1-800-818-6806

Sincerely,

Mitchell

Liesl Mitchell Administrative Assistant

ce: Florida Public Service Commission

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ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI DOCKET NO. 971489-TI PAGE 22

Long Distance Service Application
HOME PHONE#1305, 475-4234 DATE 2-12/36 34
NAME THIS NUMBER IS LISTED UNDER With N Wadhua
ADDRESS 264 NUL 102 Terrace APT.
CITY plantationSTATE E/_ IP 333.24
MARITAL STATUS I SINGLE D MARRIED AGE I UNDER 21 J 21 & OVER
-SIGNATURE Mitin Wadhurg
(MUST BE SIGNED AND FULLY COMPLETED )
TYES, I WOULD LIKE A VOX GOLD LONG DISTANCE TRAVEL CARD (SUPER RATES).

By signing above I designate Home Owners Long Distance, Inc., (HOLD) as my agent to cancel my agreement with my existing carner in favor of new service with HOLD, for my 1+ long distance service only, and understand that: I can have only one 1+ long distance service and any previous selection of a 1+ long distance company made by me will be cancelled. I am the person legally responsible for charges on the telephone number written above. Charges for my 1+ long distance from HOLD will be billed by my local telephone company and i understand that my local telephone company may charge me a one time charge of up to \$5.00 plus tax for this selection.

#### LONG DISTANCE OFFER

By signing the letter of agency on the reverse side you are selecting Home Owners Long Distance. Inc., (HOLD) as your 1+ long distance company. You will be mailed a welcome letter before your service is changed to HOLD. HOLD's long distance rates are: 25c per minute daytime (8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, to anywhere in the contiguous 48 states and 20c per minute for all other times.)

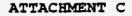
This offer is void in any state where prohibited by law. You must be 18 years old or older to apply. One application per family. This material is being used for the purpose of obtaining letters of agency for telephone customers to change their long distance service.

NOTE: FLORIDA RESIDENTS ONLY: A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICE BY CALLING TOLL FREE 1-800-HELP-FLA. WITHIN THE STATE OF FLORIDA. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

NOTE: COMMONWEALTH OF PA RESIDENTS ONLY: A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CONSUMER PROTECTION BUREAU BY CALLING TOLL FREE 1-800-441-2555. WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PA. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

Copyright 1995 Home Owners Long Distance, Inc. P.O. 80x 690670 San Antonio, Texas 78259 1-800-879-4653

> . DIMISSIONERS "LEAL JOHNSON CHAIRMAN SUSAN F CLARK . TERRY DEASON DE GARCIA DIANE K. KIESLING



State of Floridg



DIVISION OF CONNUMER AFFAIRS BEVERLEE DEMELLO DIRECTOR (904) 415-0100 TOLL FREE 1-800-342-3352

# Public Service Commission

March 18, 1997

Mr. Ashwani Wadhwa 264 Northwest 102nd Terrace Plantation, FL 33324

Dear Mr. Wadhwa:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning Home Owners Long Distance Incorporated.

We will look into the matter you outlined, advise the company to contact you to resolve the problem, and require the company to provide the Florida Public Service Commission with a letter outlining its resolution of the matter.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at 1-800-342-3552.

Sincerely,

Ellen Plendl Regulatory Specialist I Division of Consumer Affairs

MEP:ewe

### ATTACHMENT C

ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI DOCKET NO. 971489-TI PAGE 24

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Den

264 NW 102nd Terr. Plantation, Fl. 33324 Tel. 954-475-4239 Feb. 19, 1997

Lawton Chiles Governor State Capitol Federal Building Tallahassee, Florida

#fill: Hadnwa Ashwani Bedd 61 JJ 1997 DEO DAM To DAD-BLA-DAW Due 1 10 1997

REF: REPORTING SUSPICIOUS AND FRAUDULENT PRACTICE BY LONG DISTANCE CARRIER - Home Owners Long Distance Inc., (HOLD) P.O. Box. 690670 San Antonio, Tx. 78269

Sir,

I received my telephone bill from Bell South yesterday and upon reviewing I noticed HOLD was my long distance carrier and had some charges due me. I had my long distance carrier as AT and T for my years but I switched to MCI about three months ago and I did not remember assigning any other company as my long distance carrier.

I requested my wife to call their office to find out. She talked to Anita at their 1 800 879 4653 telephone number and requested her to fax the authorization which she did. It was very interesting to note that

a. The application was filled out by my son who is a minor (10 years old).

b. The application was dated 3/12/96 and the switching of the long distance was done in Jan./Feb, 1997. Our area code has changed from 305 to 954 and no consideration was made to that.

c. The telephone is listed under my name and he had put his name and it was not verified by their office staff.

d. The marital status is checked off as MARRIED AND is checked off as if he is 21 years old and OVER. There is a check off mark on YES also. The handwriting on the check off marks very clearly DOES NOT MATCH HIS HANDWRITING.

e. There is an obvious discrepancy with the statement on the application where it states that he designates HOLD company as the long distance carrier. Copies of my telephone bill and the application showing my son's signature are enclosed for your ready reference.

ATTACHMENT C

ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI DOCKET NO. 971489-TI PAGE 25

> My wife tried to call back and started questioning their agent Anita. When she could not answer, SHE HUNG UP THE PHONE. My wife called again and requested to talk to the supervisor. Pat came on the line and SHE TOO HUNG UP THE PHONE.

I called Bell South to report and I was notified that my long distance company was changed again about four days ago to US LONG DISTANCE. I called them at their 1-800-460-1111 and talked to Anna. She informed me that my long distance company was changeed again this morning to Multi Media All American. I called them at their 1-888-558-4726 telephone number and an answering machine came on.

There appears to be some fradulent practice going on and I would sincerely appreciate your investigating into the matter.

Your co-operation is appreciated.

Sincerelv

Ashwani K. Wadhwa

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ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI DOCKET NO. 971489-TI PAGE 26

' Long Distance Service Application (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)						
	-5	475-47	5 ~~		5	; ·

	HOME PHONE# (50) 7/3-0250 DATE 5-1250
	MANIE THIS NUMBER IS LISTED UNDER WITH MOUTH WORTH AND
	ADDRESS 264 NW 102 Termice APT.
	corr plantation STATE E/ 210 33324
1	MARITAL STATUS I SINGLE I MARRIED AGE I UNDER 31 121 & OVER
1	-SIGNATURE Thit Wadhurg
	(MUST BE SIGNED AND FULLY COMPLETED )
	- SEVES I WOULD LIKE A VOX GOLOLONG DISTANCE FRAVEL CACO RECORD DATES

DITES, I WOULD LIKE A VOX GOLD LONG DISTANCE FRAVEL CARD (SUPER RATER)

By signing above I designate Home Owners Long Distance, Inc., (HOLD) as my agent to cantel me agreement with my existing cartier in favor of new service with HOLD, for my 1+ long distance terrife only, and understand that: I can have only one 1+ long distance service and any provious selection of a 1+ long distance company made by me will be carcelled. I am the person legally responsible for enclose on the telephone number written above. Charges for my 1+ long distance from HOLD will be billed by my local telephone company and I understand that my local telephone company may charge me a one time charge of up to \$5.00 plus tax for this selection.

### LONG DISTANCE OFFER

. . .

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By signing the letter of agency on the reverse side you are selecting Home Owners Long Distance, Inc., (HOLD) as your 1+ long distance company. You will be mailed a welcome letter before your service is changed to HOLD. HOLD's long distance rates are: 25¢ per minute daytime (8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, to anywhere in the contiguous 48 states and 20¢ per minute for all other times.)

This offer is void in any state where prohibited by law. You must be 18 years old or older to apply. One application per family. This material is being used for the purpose of obtaining fetters of sector for telephone customers to change their long distance service.

NOTE: FLORIDA RESIDENTS ONLY: A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICE BY CALLING TOLLIFREE 1-800-HELP-FLA, WITHIN THE STATE OF FLORIDA. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

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HOLD

### ATTACHMENT C

# ASHWANI K WADHWA Account Number: 954 475-4239 620 180 Bill Period Date: Feb 8, 1997

## Tor HOLD Billing Services Billing Questions, Call 1 800 879-4653

## Detailed Statement of Charges

Itemized Call.						Amount
954 475-4239			_			
	er - HOME OWN	VERS LONG DS	Τ			
Direct Dialed C						
Date	Place Called	Number Called	Rate*	Time	Min	
1. 01/07	VLY STREAM NY	516 561+6497	AD	10:53AM	3	. 75
2. 01/07	VLY STREAM NY	516 561-6497	AD	10:55AM	2	. 50
3. 01/09	INDIA	91184252914	AD	09:01AM	4	13.57
4, 01/09	I ND I A	91161672635	AD	Q9:05AM	17	48.19
5. 01/11	ORLANDO FL	407 351-9993	KN	03:03PM	3	.60
6. 01/11	ORLANDO FL	407 351-9993	KN	04:03PM	8	1.60
7. 01/13	ORLANDO FL	407 843-4600	KD	03:36PM	1	.25
8. 01/13	INDIA	9111524861	AN	11:25PM	10	26.21
9. 01/15	ORLANDO FL	407 351-9993	KD	09:03AH	1	. 25
Iotal Direct	Dimled Galls					91.92
	far 954 475-423					91.92
	al does not incli					
Federal	Тах		•	SZ.	83	
Local T	ax			SO.	19	
Florida	Gross Receipts S	Surcharge	•	\$2.	29	
otal (temizer	d Calls	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			• • • • •	91.92
axes axes on Regular	ad Semicer					Amount
-	Tax					
						2.83
	Gross Receipts S					2.29
						. 19
	Regulated Servi					5.31

This portion of your bill is provided as a service to HOLD Billing Service.

There is no connection persons BellSouth and HOLD Billing Services.

\$

AC E041871

ATTACHMENT C

ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI DOCKET NO. 971489-TI PAGE 28

### Long Distance Service Application (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

HOME PHONE 4, 205 チマデ -47 २७ 3-12/31/19/26  $_{\rm ED\,MDER}\,W_{\rm C}$ -MAME THIS NUMBER 1008555 3P 332 MARITAL STATUS I SINGLE ' MARRIED AGE JUNCER 2: 71-2: & OVER SIGNATURE (MUST BE SIGNED AND FULLY COMPLETED ) THES. I WOULD LIKE A VOX GOLD LONG DISTANCE TRAVEL CARD ISLIPER PATEST.

By signing above I designate Home Owners Long Distance, Inc., (HOLD) as my agent to cancel at a agreement with my existing camer in favor of new service with HOLD, for my 1+ long distance (envice only, and understand that: I can have only one 1+ long distance service and any provide selection is 1+ long distance company made by me will be canceled. I am the person legally responsible or charges on the telephone number written above. Charges for my 1+ long distance trom HOLD will be billed by my local telephone company and 1 understand that my local telephone company may charge me a one time charges of up to \$5.00 ptus tax for this selection.

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This offer is void in any state where prohibited by law. You must be 18 years old or older to apply. One application per family. This material is being used for the purpose of optaining letters of agency for telephone customers to change their tong distance service.

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NOTE: COMMONWEALTH OF PA RESIDENTS ONLY: A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CONSUMER PROTECTION BUREAU BY CALLING TOLL FREE 1-800-441-2535, WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PA REGISTRATION DOES NOT TOPY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

Copyright 1995 Home Owners Long Distance, Inc. P.O. Box 690870 San Antonio, Texas, 79259, 1-800-578---851

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ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI DOCKET NO. 971489-TI PAGE 29

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HOLD For HOLD Billing Services Billing Questions,			ASHWANI K WADHWA Account Number: 954 475-4239 Bill Period Date: Feb 8, 1997 Call 1 800 879-4653			
	Deta	iled Statemen	t of C	harges		
Itemized Calls						Amount
954 475-4239		TRE LANC DE	<del></del>			
	er - HOME OWN	EKS LUNG DS	1			
Direct Dialed C Date	alls Place Called	Number Called	Rate*	Time	Min	
1.01/07	VLY STREAM NY	516 561-6497	AD	10:53AM	3	.75
2. 01/07	VLY STREAM NY	516 561-6497	AD	10:55AH	2	.50
3. 01/09	INDIA	91184252914	AD	09:01AM	4	13.57
4. 01/09	INDIA	91161672635	AD	09:05AN	17	48.19
5, 01/11	ORLANDO FL	407 351-9993	KN	03:03PM	3	.60
6. 01/11	ORLANDO FL	407 351-9993	KN	04:03PM	8	1.60
7. 01/13	ORLANDO FL	407 843-4600	KD	03:36PM	1	.25
8. 01/13	INDIA	9111524861	AN	11:25PM	10	26.21
9. 01/15	ORLANDO FL	407 351-9993	KD	09:03AM	1	.25
	Dialed Calis					91.92
Total Charges	for 954 475-423	9				91.92
	al does not incl					
Federal	Tax		••	S2.	83	
Local T	'ax		••	\$0.	19	
Florida	Gross Receipts	Surcharge	••	\$2.	29	
Total Itemize	d Calls		• • • • • • •		••••	91.92
Taxes	and Carriero					Amount
axes on Regula	Tax					2.83
	Gross Receipts					2.29
	×	-				. 19
	n Regulated Serv					5.31
						5.31

This periods of your bill is provided as a survive to HOLD Billing Services. There is no connection between BellSouth and HOLD Billing Services.

AC E041871

ATTACHMENT C

ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI DOCKET NO. 971489-TI PAGE 30



LAWTON CHILES

STATE OF FLORIDA

## Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

March 3, 1997

Ashwani K. Wadhwa 264 Northwest 102 Terrace Plantation, Florida 33324



١Ż iĥ 5 1997 CONSUM AFFAIR

Dear Ashwani:

Although I am glad to have the opportunity to review your recent letter, the agency you should contact to address your concerns is the Public Service Commission (PSC). The PSC was created by the legislature and is by Florida Statute an arm of the legislative branch of government. The PSC contains a division of consumer affairs which I believe can help or direct you.

I have forwarded your letter to the PSC. I feel sure you will hear from them when they have had a chance to evaluate your complaint, but if you have interim questions, call toll-free the PSC's Division of Consumer Affairs at 1-800-342-3552 or write to them at the address indicated below. If you would like to bring this issue to the attention of someone other than the PSC, you should contact either your state senator or representative.

If I can be of assistance on any issue or concern that comes under my jurisdiction, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With kind regards, I am

C/hmi/pk

cc: Public Service Commission Division of Consumer Affairs 2540 Schumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850 904/413-6100

Sincer ON CHIL

ame <u>CIARK, INOMAS E.</u> Maress <u>2402 SOUTH CLARK AVENUE</u> ty/Zip <u>TAMPA</u> <u>33629</u> <u>County HILL</u> count Number mpany Contact See attached correspondence concerning unau 3/22 Report as letter to customer with LOA. File closed.	Company_HOME_OWNERS_LONG_DISTANCE_INCORPORA_ AttnJoseph W. Webb Consumer's Tetephone # (813)-25]-8184 Can Be Reached Note <u>SWEED (forgery)</u> Limited Reponse N thorized PIC change.	Request No. 1169891 By JRD_Jime 3:53 PM_ Date03/13/56 To CO_Jime FAX Date03/14/96 Type_S_form MAIL Category Infraction _LS-13A Closed by NEP Date04/18/96 Reply Received _T CONSUMER REQUEST	ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-T1 DOCKET NO. 971489-TI PAGE 31
		FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD TALLAHASSEE, FL. 32399-0850 904-413-6100 PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH REPORT OF ACTION TO:	

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DUE: 03/29/96

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ATTACHMENT D

116134

2-16-96 Dear Mudame, Regarding my complaint of "fluencing" by Home comes hay distance, piece review this continent offices by it. D. at my application of their invice. "In will princip wetre that this is not my initial.

Friend M. Firmer F. Fuch TODATE E CARE 1702 - LARK AVE. TAMPA, IT STOLY

RULES ON BACK LONG DISTANCE APPLICATION	NECESSARY TO WIN
& ENTRY BLANK	×0V \$35.000
(PLEASE PRINT)	
HOME PHONE # 13, 251-8184 DATE SED 23 1995	Marital Status
NAME THIS NUMBER IS LISTED UNDER	C MARRIED
ADDRESS CUCK GVC. APT.	<sup>T</sup> Age
CITY_/GMPaSTATELG_ZP33629	Under 21
SIGNATURE -Thomas Clark	🚰 21 or over
MUST BE SIGNED AND FULLY COMPLETED TO QUALIFY	(Appropriate age brit man by checked)

Yest I would like \$60 CASH. Enter my name in the \$35,000 CASH or HIS AND HERS GRAND PRIZE drawing. Is addition to the grand prize drawing, asser my name in the monthly drawing for the 25 remote color TV. By signing above, I designes Home Owners Long Distance, I.e. (HOLD) as my egent to cancel my agreeneet with my estation of a westrice with HOLD. For my 1+ long distance service only, and understand that its leaker only one listence and only of the set of the

By checking this box, I am deciding that I do not with to change my long distance service. Please enter my name in the drawing only. Copyright (994 Home Ower) Long Dupmen, Inc. 1-600-679-4653

Form OP 1/95

### LONG DISTANCE OFFER

When you select Home Owners Long Distance, Inc. (HOLD) as your 1+ long distance company by completing the Latter of Agency on reverse side, HOLD will provide \$60.00 CASH in the form of 4 coupons mailed to you with a welcome letter before your service is changed to HOLD. Once every three months one of the coupons must be sent to HOLD to receive a check for \$15.00 by return mail for a total of \$60.00. HOLD'S Long Distance rates are: 25¢ per minute daytime (6 a.m. - \$ p.m.) Monday through Friday, to anywhere in the continental 48 states.

### OFFICIAL CONTEST RULES

This offer is void in any state where prohibited by law. You must be 18 years old or older to enter. No purchase necessary to win. One entry per family. Do not need to be present to win. Prize drawing is for \$35,000 CASH or HIS AND HERS GRAND PRIZE (MSRP \$38,600 CASH). Olde: t in 900,000. In addition to the grand prize drawing, there is a monthly drawing for a 25° remote color TV (MSRP \$38,000 CASH). All federal, state and local taxes are the sole responsibility of the winner. Winner will be notified by mail. The Grand Prize will be 015 averaged November 30, 1995. For the name of the Grand Prize winner send a self-eddressed, stamped #10 envelope to Home Owners Long 015 ance, Inc. + PO, BOX 690670 + San Antonio, Texas 78269. This advertising material is being used for the purpose of obtaining Latters of Agency for telephone customers to change their long distance service.

NOTE: FLORIDA RESIDENTS ONLY A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICE BY CALLING TOLL FREE 1-800-HELP-FLA, WITHIN THE STATE OF FLORIDA. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

Cotwight 1994 Home Owners Long Olssence, Inc. P.O. 8OX 690670 - San Antonio, Texas 78268 - 1-800-879-4653

Form OP 1/95

CLARK, IHOMAS E.  rees 2402 SOUTH CLARK AVENUE  y/Zip TAMPA 33629 County_HILL ount Number	Attn. Joseph W. Webb Consumer's Telephone # (813)-251-8184	By JRD_1 imm_3:53_PM0at=03/13/96 to <u>CO</u> imm_ <u>EAX</u> Dat=03/14/96 Type_S_form_ <u>HAIL</u>	ORDER NO. PSC-98-06 DOCKET NO. 971489-1 PAGE 34
See attached correspondence concerning una	Limited Reparae N		676-SC-TI TI
		FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD TALLAHASSEE, FL. 32399-0150 904-413-6100	ATTACHMENT
	RECEIVED MARCE 1996 BY: Thu	PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH REPORT OF ACTION TO: Richard Durbin DUE: 03/29/36	ENT D

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ATTACHMENT D

ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI DOCKET NO. 971489-TI PAGE 35

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State of Florida

Commissioners: SUSAN F. CLARK, CHAIRMAN J. TERRY DEASON JULIA L. JOHNSON DIANE K. KIESLING JOE GARCIA



DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS BEVERLEE DEMELLO DIRECTOR (904) 413-6100 TOLL FREE 1-800-342-3552

# Public Service Commission

March 15, 1996

Mr. Thomas E. Clark 2402 South Clark Avenue Tampa, Florida 33629

Dear Mr. Clark:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning Home Owners Long Distance Incorporated.

We will look into the matter you outlined and get back in touch with you at the conclusion of our investigation.

Sincerely,

Dick Durbin Consumer Services Consultant Division of Consumer Affairs

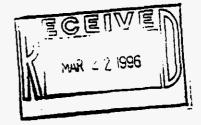
00/pr

ATTACHMENT D

ORDER NO. PSC-98-0676-SC-TI DOCKET NO. 971489-TI PAGE 36

HOLD

Home Owners Long Distance. Inc. P.O. Box 690670 San Antonio, Texas 78269 (210) 525-8152 Fax (210) 525-0637



March 18, 1996

Mr. Thomas Clark 2402 South Clark Avenue Tampa, FL 33629 813-251-8184 Req. No. 116989I and 1114321

Dear Mr. Clark:

Please accept our sincere apologies regarding the change in your long distance service.

Home Owners Long Distance, a long distance reseller utilizing the LDDS network, received an application requesting our service in the name of Thomas Clark for the above referenced telephone number. It was not apparent by the application that you did not wish to convert to Home Owners Long Distance, nor was there any reason to believe that the signature was not valid.

Our records indicate that on February 16, 1996, a refund check was mailed to you for your switch over fees. Enclosed is a second refund totaling \$17.96 for all billing.

Should you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact me at 1-800-879-4653.

Sincerely,

nd Wegins

Deborah Weaver Customer Service Manager

cc: Florida Public Service Commission JRD