## 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:

SEPTEMBER 14, 2000

TO:

DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING

FROM:

DIVISION OF COMPETITIVE SERVICES (ISLER)

DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (ELLIOTT)

RE:

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

DOCKET NO. 001038-TC - GREGORY J. HOFFSTETTER

DOCKET NO. 001045-TC - INTERCONTINENTAL COMMUNICATIONS

GROUP, INC. D/B/A I.C.G.I.

DOCKET NO. 001050-TC - BRIAN KEITH LEWIS

DOCKET NO. 001051-TC - GERALD J. CAREY II

DOCKET NO. 001052-TC - GERALD ALEXANDER

DOCKET NO. 001067-TC - FARRUKH RAZZAO

DOCKET NO. 001068-TC - LARRY WAYNE ASTOLFI

DOCKET NO. 001069-TC - JACK A. OSTRANDER

DOCKET NO. 001072-TC - SUMMIT COMMUNICATIONS OF

SARASOTA, L.C.

DOCKET NO. 001073-TC - TRIANGLE TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC.

AGENDA: 09/26/00 - REGULAR AGENDA - PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION -

INTERESTED PERSONS MAY PARTICIPATE

CRITICAL DATES: NONE

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: NONE

FILE NAME AND LOCATION: S:\PSC\CMP\WP\001038.RCM

### CASE BACKGROUND

Each of the certificated pay telephone providers listed on page 5 were mailed the 1999 Regulatory Assessment Fee (RAF) notice. When full payment had not been received by the due date, the

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

1 328 SEP 128

DOCKET NOS. 001038-fC, 001045-TC, 001050-TC, 001051-TC, 001052-TC, 001067-TC, 001068-TC, 001069-TC, 001072-TC, 001073-TC DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 2000

Division of Administration mailed a delinquent letter to the companies. As of September 5, 2000, none of the companies have paid the past due amount.

Staff believes the following recommendations are appropriate.

DOCKET NOS. 001038-TC, 001045-TC, 001050-TC, 001051-TC, 001052-TC, 001067-TC, 001068-TC, 001069-TC, 001072-TC, 001073-TC DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 2000

#### **DISCUSSION OF ISSUES**

**ISSUE 1:** Should the Commission impose a \$500 fine or cancel each company's respective certificate listed on page 5 for apparent violation of Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, Regulatory Assessment Fees; Telecommunications Companies?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes. The Commission should impose a \$500 fine or cancel each company's certificate as listed on page 5 if the fine and the regulatory assessment fees, including statutory penalty and interest charges, are not received by the Commission within five business days after the issuance of the Consummating Order. The fine should be paid to the Florida Public Service Commission and forwarded to the Office of the Comptroller for deposit in the State General Revenue Fund pursuant to Section 364.285(1), Florida Statutes. If the Commission's Order is not protested and the fine and regulatory assessment fees, including statutory penalty and interest charges, are not received, the pay telephone certificate numbers listed on page 5 should be canceled administratively and the collection of the past due fees should be referred to the Office of the Comptroller for further collection efforts. (Isler)

**STAFF ANALYSIS:** Pursuant to Section 364.285, Florida Statutes, the Commission may impose a fine or cancel a certificate if a company refuses to comply with Commission rules. Rule 25-24.514, Florida Administrative Code, establishes the requirements for cancellation of a pay telephone company certificate. The rule provides for the Commission to cancel a certificate on its own motion for violation of Commission Rules and Orders.

Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, which implements Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, 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.

The Division of Administration's records show that each of the pay telephone providers listed on page 5 had not paid its 1999 regulatory assessment fees, plus statutory penalty and interest charges. Therefore, it appears the companies have failed to comply with Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, Regulatory Assessment Fees; Telecommunications Companies and have not requested cancellation of their certificates in compliance with

DOCKET NOS. 001038-FC, 001045-TC, 001050-TC, 001051-TC, 001052-TC, 001067-TC, 001068-TC, 001069-TC, 001072-TC, 001073-TC DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 2000

Rule 25-24.514, Florida Administrative Code. This fine is consistent with amounts used for recent, similar violations.

Accordingly, staff recommends that the Commission should impose a \$500 fine or cancel each company's certificate as listed on page 5 if the fine and the regulatory assessment fees, including statutory penalty and interest charges, are not received by the Commission within five business days after the issuance of the Consummating Order. The fine should be paid to the Florida Public Service Commission and forwarded to the Office of the Comptroller for deposit in the State General Revenue Fund pursuant to Section 364.285(1), Florida Statutes. If the Commission's Order is not protested and the fine and regulatory assessment fees, including statutory penalty and interest charges, are not received, the pay telephone certificate numbers listed on page 5 should be canceled administratively and the collection of the past due fees should be referred to the Office of the Comptroller for further collection efforts.

### **ISSUE 2:** Should these dockets be closed?

**RECOMMENDATION:** Yes, these dockets should be closed upon receipt of the fine and fees or cancellation of the certificate, 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. (Elliott)

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 receipt of the fine and fees or cancellation of the certificate. A protest in one docket should not prevent the action in a separate docket from becoming final.

DOCKET NOS. 001038-TC, 001045-TC, 001050-TC, 001051-TC, 001052-TC, 001067-TC, 001068-TC, 001069-TC, 001072-TC, 001073-TC DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 2000

DOCKET NO.	PROVIDER LAST REPORTED REVENUES & PERIOD COVERED	CERT.	RAFs	P and I
001038-TC	Gregory J. Hoffstetter 1998 Revenues - \$0 For the Period Ended 12/31/98	5573	1999	1999
001045-TC	I.C.G.I. 1998 Revenues - \$0 For the Period Ended 12/31/98	5862	1999	1999
001050-TC	Brian Keith Lewis 1998 Revenues - \$0 For the Period Ended 12/31/98	5849	1999	1999
001051-TC	Gerald J. Carey II 1998 Revenues - (\$91.91) For the Period Ended 12/31/98	5871	1999	1999
001052-TC	Gerald Alexander No Previous Return Filed	5890	1998 1999	1998 1999
001067-TC	Farrukh Razzaq 1998 Revenues - \$0 For the Period Ended 12/31/98	5918	1999	1999
001068-TC	Larry Wayne Astolfi 1998 Revenues - \$0 For the Period Ended 12/31/98	5919	1999	1998 1999
001069-TC	Jack A. Ostrander 1998 Revenues - \$0 For the Period Ended 12/31/98	5937	1999	1998 1999
001072-TC	Summit Communications of Sarasota 1998 Revenues - \$26,400 For the Period Ended 12/31/98	5948	1999	1999
001073-TC	Triangle Telephone Company, Inc. 1998 Revenues - \$0 For the Period Ended 12/31/98	5949	1999	1998 1999