

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Cancellation by Florida  
Public Service Commission of Pay  
Telephone Certificate No. 4534  
issued to Ameritel Payphone  
Distributors, Inc. for violation  
of Rule 25-4.0161, F.A.C.,  
Regulatory Assessment Fees,  
Telecommunications Companies.

DOCKET NO. 010478-TC  
ORDER NO. PSC-01-1519-PAA-TC  
ISSUED: July 23, 2001

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of  
this matter:

E. LEON JACOBS, JR., Chairman  
J. TERRY DEASON  
LILA A. JABER  
BRAULIO L. BAEZ  
MICHAEL A. PALECKI

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION  
ORDER IMPOSING FINE AND REQUIRING PAYMENT OF  
DELINQUENT REGULATORY ASSESSMENT FEES, OR  
CANCELING PAY TELEPHONE CERTIFICATE

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE is hereby given by the Florida Public Service  
Commission that the action discussed herein is preliminary in  
nature and will become final unless a person whose interests are  
substantially affected files a petition for a formal proceeding,  
pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code.

Ameritel Payphone Distributors, Inc. (Ameritel) currently  
holds Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 4534,  
issued by the Commission on March 19, 1996, authorizing the  
provision of Pay Telephone service (PATS). The Division of  
Administration advised our staff by memorandum that Ameritel had  
not paid the Regulatory Assessment Fees (RAFs) required by Section  
364.336, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-4.0161, Florida  
Administrative Code, for the year 2000. Also, accrued statutory  
penalties and interest charges for late RAFs payments for the year  
2000 had not been paid.

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FPC-COMMISSION CLERK

ORDER NO. PSC-01-1519-PAA-TC  
DOCKET NO. 010478-TC  
PAGE 2

Pursuant to Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, certificate holders must pay a minimum annual RAF of \$50 if the certificate was active during any portion of the calendar year. Pursuant to Rule 25-4.0161 (2), Florida Administrative Code, the form and applicable fees are due to the Florida Public Service Commission by January 30 of the subsequent year. All entities that apply for certification receive a copy of our rules governing PATS service.

Pursuant to Section 350.113(4), Florida Statutes, the RAFs forms, for the period of January 1 through December 31, are mailed to the entities at least 45 days prior to the date that payment of the fee is due. Ameritel has been given adequate opportunity to pay. As of the date of our vote, Ameritel has not paid the required fees.

For the reason described above, pursuant to Rule 25-24.514(1)(b) and (c), Florida Administrative Code, we find it appropriate to cancel Ameritel's certificate for failure to comply with Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, unless Ameritel pays a \$1,000 fine and remits all past due RAFs, along with accrued statutory penalties and interest charges, to the Florida Public Service Commission. Ameritel must comply with these requirements within five business days after the issuance of the Consummating Order. The payment should be identified with the docket number and the entity's name. The fine will be remitted to the Office of the Comptroller for deposit in the State of Florida General Revenue Fund, pursuant to Section 364.285 (1), Florida Statutes.

This is the second docket opened against Ameritel for non-payment of the RAF. In Docket No. 991062-TC, Order No. PSC-00-0056-AS-TC was issued on January 7, 2000, which accepted Ameritel's settlement offer. Ameritel paid the past due amount, proposed to pay future RAFs on a timely basis, and offered to pay a \$100 contribution. The company paid the \$100 contribution and the docket was closed.

When the appropriate fees, statutory penalties, interest charges, and fine are received, this Docket shall be closed. Should Ameritel fail to comply with this Order within five business days after the issuance of the Consummating Order, Ameritel shall have its certificate canceled, effective on the date of issuance of

ORDER NO. PSC-01-1519-PAA-TC  
DOCKET NO. 010478-TC  
PAGE 3

the Consummating Order, the collection of the past due fees shall be referred to the Office of the Comptroller for further collection efforts, and the Docket shall be closed. The cancellation of the certificate and the closing of the Docket in no way diminishes Ameritel's obligation to pay applicable delinquent RAFs, and accrued statutory penalties and interest charges. The Commission is vested with jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 364.336, 364.3375, and 364.285, Florida Statutes.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Ameritel Payphone Distributers, Inc. must pay the past due Regulatory Assessment Fees, statutory penalties, interest charges, and a \$1,000 fine to the Florida Public Service Commission for failure to comply with Section 364.336, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-4.0161, Florida Administrative Code, within five business days after the issuance of the Consummating Order. The fine will be transmitted to the Office of the Comptroller for deposit in the State of Florida General Revenue Fund. It is further

ORDERED that should Ameritel Payphone Distributers, Inc. fail to comply with this Order, Ameritel Payphone Distributers, Inc.'s Certificate No. 4534 shall be canceled, effective on the date of issuance of the Consummating Order, the collection of the past due fees shall be referred to the Office of the Comptroller for further collection efforts, and the Docket shall be closed. It is further

ORDERED that the cancellation of the certificate and the closing of the docket in no way diminishes Ameritel Payphone Distributers, Inc.'s obligation to pay applicable delinquent Regulatory Assessment Fees, and accrued statutory penalties and interest charges. It is further

ORDERED that the provisions of this Order, issued as proposed agency action, shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order unless an appropriate petition, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code, is received by the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on the date set forth

ORDER NO. PSC-01-1519-PAA-TC  
DOCKET NO. 010478-TC  
PAGE 4

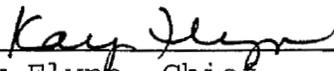
in the "Notice of Further Proceedings" attached hereto. It is further

ORDERED that in the event this Order becomes final, this Docket shall be closed upon payment of the fine, and fees, or upon cancellation of the certificate.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 23rd Day of July, 2001.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director  
Division of the Commission Clerk  
and Administrative Services

BY:

  
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Kay Flynn, Chief  
Bureau of Records and Hearing  
Services

( S E A L )

JAE

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 that is available under Section 120.57, 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 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.

ORDER NO. PSC-01-1519-PAA-TC

DOCKET NO. 010478-TC

PAGE 5

The action proposed herein is preliminary in nature. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on August 13, 2001.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.