STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION JEFFERSON CITY - September 23,1999

CASE NO: TC-2000-36

Office of the Public Counsel

P.O. Box 7800 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Legal Department

Southwestern Bell Telephone Company One Bell Center St Louis, MO 63101 General Counsel

Missouri Public Service Commission P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Jim Levin, Director

Center for Dispute Resolution 206 Hulston Hall Columbia, MO 65211

Enclosed find certified copy of an ORDER in the above-numbered case(s).

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

Uncertified Copy: Ms. Mayada N. Said 3615 Bridgeton Valley Circle Bridgeton, MO 63044

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Mayada N. Said,)
	Complainant,)
v.) <u>Case No. TC-2000-36</u>
Southwestern Bell Telephone	Company,))
	Respondent.)

MEDIATION REFERRAL ORDER

On July 14, 1999, Mayada N. Said filed a complaint with the Missouri Public Service Commission against Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT) regarding a billing disagreement. The Commission issued its Notice of Complaint on August 20, 1999, providing 30 days for SWBT to file an answer, or, in the alternative to file a request for mediation. On September 9, 1999, SWBT filed its Request for Mediation. Mayada N. Said consented to mediation in a Request for Mediation filed September 20, 1999.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. That this matter is referred to mediation.
- 2. That initial designated contacts for the mediation and subsequent matters are as follows:

COMPLAINANT:

Mayada N. Said

3615 Bridgeton Valley Circle Bridgeton, Missouri 63044 314/770-2744 **RESPONDENT:**

Leo J. Bub

One Bell Center, Room 3518 St. Louis, Missouri 63101

314/235-2508

MEDIATOR(S):

Jim Levin, Director, and [Law Student]

Center for Dispute Resolution

University of Missouri School of Law

206 Hulston Hall

Columbia, Missouri 65211

573/882-1630

573/882-3343 (fax)

COMMISSION:

Secretary

Public Service Commission

Post Office Box 360

Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0360

- 3. That the Commission's Records Manager shall mail this Order to each party. The Records Manager shall mail this Order and copies of the Complaint, Respondent's Request for Mediation and Complaint's written consent to mediation to the Mediator.
- 4. That the Complainant and Respondent shall each individually contact the Mediator within 15 days of the effective date of this Order to obtain instructions from the Mediator, to review the Complaint and to schedule a MEDIATION CONFERENCE. Any mediation conference shall be scheduled in the Commission's offices in Jefferson City, Missouri or the offices of the mediator in Columbia, Missouri, unless the Mediator consents to a different location that is mutually agreed to by the parties.
- 5. That the process of mediation shall continue until the parties have reached a settlement, until any party is unwilling to proceed further, until the Mediator(s) determines that further efforts would be of no avail, or until the Commission remands this matter from mediation.

- 6. That the unexcused absence and failure of any party to attend any mediation conference will end the mediation process and cause a mandatory procedural schedule to be set by the Commission. Attendance will only be recognized if the party or representative attending has full authority to negotiate.
- 7. That the mediation process is voluntary and any party may notify the Secretary of the Commission by letter when the mediation process has ended.
- 8. That the mediation process is informal and any party may communicate with the Mediator individually without the presence of other parties. Information disclosed to the Mediator, including any settlement offer, is confidential and privileged and will not be disclosed to the Commission.
- 9. That each party shall advise the Commission in writing of the status of the mediation process by letter not later than the last day of each month beginning with the first full month after the effective date of this Mediation Referral Order.
- 10. Any proposed full or partial settlement agreement shall be in writing and shall be filed with the Secretary of the Commission for review and approval by the Commission. A settlement may be shielded from disclosure and filing with the Commission if the Commission is notified in writing that a settlement has been reached and the case is voluntarily dismissed.

11. This order shall become effective on October 5, 1999.

BY THE COMMISSION

Ask Hard Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(SEAL)

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 23rd day of September, 1999.

Thornburg, Regulatory Law Judge

STATE OF MISSOURI OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and

I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City,

Missouri, this 23RD day of SEPTEMBER, 1999.

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge