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December 14, 1999

The Honorable Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
301 West High Street, Floor 5A
Jefferson City, MO 65101

FILED²

DEC 15 1999

Missouri Public
Service Commission

Dear Judge Roberts:

Re: Case No. TC-2000-56

Enclosed for filing with the Commission in the above-referenced case are an original and fourteen (14) copies of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's Request for Mediation.

Also enclosed is an additional copy to be file stamped and returned to us in the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Thank you for bringing this matter to the attention of the Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "K. Swaller".

Enclosures

CC - Parties of Record
Mr. Cupples

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED²
DEC 15 1999

Missouri Public
Service Commission

Tom Cupples,)
Complainant,)
vs.)
Southwestern Bell Telephone Company,)
Respondent.)

Case No. TC-2000-56

**SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY'S
REQUEST FOR MEDIATION**

COMES NOW Southwestern Bell Telephone Company ("Southwestern Bell")
and for its Request for Mediation states as follows:

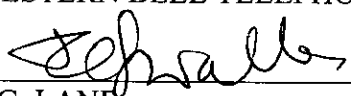
1. On September 15, 1999, Southwestern Bell filed a request for mediation of this billing issue complaint.
2. On September 23, 1999, the Commission issued an Order directing a response to Southwestern Bell's mediation request.
3. The Complainant did not respond, but in a December 4, 1999 pleading responding to the Motion to Dismiss that Southwestern Bell filed on December 3, 1999, he indicated he had never received the notice regarding the mediation request. He further indicated he would not be opposed to mediation, as an alternative to dismissal.
4. On December 8, 1999, the Commission issued an Order denying Southwestern Bell's Motion to Dismiss setting a prehearing conference in light of the Complainant's failure to respond to the mediation request.
5. Southwestern Bell believes this is a good case to be resolved by mediation and would renew its request for mediation and that the prehearing be postponed until after mediation is given a chance to resolve the issues raised in the Complaint.

WHEREFORE, Southwestern Bell urges the Commission to issue an order canceling the prehearing and referring this matter to mediation.

Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY


BY


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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing document were served to all parties on the Service List by first-class postage prepaid, U.S. Mail on December 14, 1999.


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