NEWMAN, COMLEY & RUTH

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STEPHEN G. NEWMAN JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102-0537 www.ncrpc.com J. MATTHEW SHELLENBERGAR

April 10, 2003

TELEPHONE: (573) 634-2266 FACSIMILE: (573) 636-3306

The Honorable Dale Hardy Roberts Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge Missouri Public Service Commission P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

FILED³ APR 1 0 2003

Missouri Public Price Commission

Re:

ROBERT K. ANGSTEAD

CATHLEEN A. MARTIN

ALICIA EMBLEY TURNER

MARK W. COMLEY

JOHN A. RUTH

Sage Telecom, Inc.

Dear Judge Roberts:

You will find enclosed the original and five copies of Sage Telecom, Inc.'s Request for Confidential Treatment of its 2002 IXC Annual Report. Also enclosed is one copy of the annual report with the HC portions removed, and one copy of the annual report filed under seal.

We are submitting this request pursuant to 4 CSR 240-3.540 and in accord therewith, we are specifically requesting the Secretary, and in turn the Commission, to treat with utmost confidence certain portions of the annual report that are described in the request.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this filing. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

NEWMAN, COMLEY & RUTH P.C.

comleym@ncrpc.com

MWC:ab Enclosure

cc: Katherine K. Mudge

Andra Farley

General Counsel's Office Office of Public Counsel

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of Sage Telecom, Inc.'s)	
2002 Annual Report to the Commission as)	Case No.
an Interexchange Carrier and)	
Confidential Treatment of a Portion Thereof)	

REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT OF ANNUAL REPORT

Comes now **Sage Telecom, Inc.** ("Sage" or "the Company"), by and through counsel, and pursuant to 4 CSR 240-3.540 respectfully requests and petitions the Secretary and the Commission to protect from public disclosure and to treat with utmost confidence paragraph 11 on page 4 of its 2002 Annual Report to the Commission as an Interexchange Carrier (the Annual Report). In support thereof, Sage states the following:

- 1. In accord with past Commission directives, there is submitted with the original of this request a complete confidential version of Sage's 2002 Annual Report under seal for Staff access, and a public version of the Annual Report in which a portion of page 4 has been clearly marked as containing highly confidential material.
- 2. With the exception of a portion of page 4, the Company does not seek extraordinary or confidential treatment for the Annual Report.
- 3. A portion of page 4 contains financial information. Sage deems this page to be confidential because it contains market sensitive information that competitors could use to their economic advantage.
 - 4. Because all but a portion of page 4 of the Annual Report will be available for public

¹See In the Matter of the Application of Teligent, Inc., to Close Information Presented in 1998 Annual Report, Case No. TO-99-543.

inspection, there can be no argument that the public interest will be negatively affected by granting Sage's request. Public disclosure of the contents of a portion of page 4 would have negligible benefit for the public, but would unfairly place Sage's competitive efforts at risk.

5. Permitting confidential treatment of Sage's Annual Report would be in the interest of fairness and justice without compromising the interest of the public.

WHEREFORE, Sage respectfully requests the Secretary and the Commission to:

- Protect from public disclosure and treat with the utmost confidence paragraph 11 on page 4 of its Annual Report, and
- 2. Enter such other orders and relief, including a declaration that the highly confidential portion of page 4 is a "closed record(s)" as defined in Missouri law, that the Commission deems meet and just under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark W. Comley

J#28847

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Jefferson City, MO 65102-0537

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Attorneys for Sage Telecom, Inc.

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was sent by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, or hand delivered, on this day of April, 2003, to:

Office of Public Counsel P.O. Box 7800 Jefferson City, MO 65102 General Counsel's Office

P.O. Box 360

Jefferson/City, MO 65102

Mark W. Comley