

ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF CREDIT

B. Deposits – Continued

The Company shall permit a customer, concurrent with the beginning of service, to post a deposit in two (2) equal monthly installments or as otherwise agreed upon.

The Telephone Company will not require a deposit or contract of guaranty because of race, sex, creed, national origin, marital status, age, number of dependents, source of income, condition of physical handicap, or geographical area of residence of a customer or potential customer.

The amount of deposit for a present customer will be twice that customer's average monthly billing. The average monthly billing will be based on the actual billing for services. The amount of deposit will be based upon the immediate months preceding the request for the deposit, not to exceed twelve (12) months. (T)

Upon discontinuance or termination of service, the deposit will be credited to the charges stated on the final bill and the balance, if any, shall be returned to the customer within twenty-one (21) days of the rendition of such final bill. (D)

Upon satisfactory payment of all undisputed charges during the last twelve (12) billing periods, the deposit will be promptly refunded or credited against charges stated on subsequent bills. Payment of a charge is satisfactory if received prior to the date upon which the charge becomes delinquent provided it is not in dispute. The Company may withhold refund of a deposit pending the resolution of a dispute with respect to charged secured by such deposit. (D)

A guarantor shall be released upon satisfactory payment of all disputed charges during the last twelve (12) billing periods. Payment of a charge is satisfactory if received prior to the date upon which the charge becomes delinquent provided it is not in dispute.

The fact that a deposit has been made, or a guaranty provided, shall in no way relieve the applicant or the discontinuance of service for nonpayment of any charges due the Company for services rendered. The Company may discontinue service to any customer failing to pay undisputed delinquent charges without regard to the fact that such customer has made a deposit with the Company to secure payment of such charges or has furnished the Company with a guarantee in writing of such charges.

(D)