BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Cancellation of the)	
Certificate of Service Authority of JRS)	Case No. PD-2005-
Services, L.L.C.)	

MOTION TO OPEN CASE AND CANCEL CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AUTHORITY

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) and requests that the Commission cancel the certificate of service authority of JRS Services, L.L.C. In support of its motion, Staff respectfully states as follows:

- 1. In February 1997, the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) granted a certificate of service authority to provide payphone service to JRS Services, L.L.C. in Case No. TA-97-282. According to the Commission's *Order Granting Certificate* in that case, "[o]n January 17, 1997, JRS Services L.L.C. filed a verified application seeking a certificate of service authority to provide private pay telephone service in the State of Missouri via customer owned telephone (COCT) equipment. Applicant is a limited liability company authorized to do business in the State of Missouri with his principal office or place of business located at 8737 Del Vista, St. Louis, Missouri 63126."
- 2. On its Fiscal Year 2004 Statement of Revenue, the organizer, registered agent and secretary-treasurer of JRS Services, L.L.C. wrote, "I have never run a business related to the Public Service Commission. I have written & called often. Why do we continue the wasted paper & postage?" The Fiscal Year 2004 Statement of Revenue is attached as Appendix A.
- 3. JRS Services, L.L.C. is a Missouri limited liability company and is reflected as "active" in the records of the Missouri Secretary of State. Those same records reflect the author

of the above note is the organizer and registered agent of that entity. However, Commission's rule at 4 CSR 240-2.040(5) states that "[a] natural person may represent himself or herself. Such practice is strictly limited to the appearance of a natural person on his or her own behalf and shall not be made for any other person or entity." To consider a matter involving an entity such as JRS Services, L.L.C., the Commission requires a Missouri-licensed attorney to make a filing to initiate a case. This statute is in keeping with established legal principles:

The law does not treat individuals and corporations equally. The law allows an individual to bear the risk that representation without an attorney may entail. Natural persons may represent themselves in situations which, if done for someone else, would constitute the practice of law. *Clark v. Austin*, 340 Mo. 467, 101 S.W.2d 977, 982 (1937). Unlike individuals, corporations are not natural persons, *Clark v. Austin*, 340 Mo. 467, 101 S.W.2d at 982, but are creatures of statute. Businesses operating in corporate form are entitled to certain benefits that are denied to others. In addition to benefits, however, corporations also have certain restrictions placed upon them. One such restriction in Missouri is that a corporation may not represent itself in legal matters, but must act solely through licensed attorneys. *Liberty Mut. Ins. Co. v. Jones*, 130 S.W.2d at 955.

Reed v. Labor and Indus. Relations Com'n, 789 S.W.2d 19, 21 (Mo. 1990). Limited liability companies, like corporations, are creatures of statute. See Chapter 347 RSMo. (2000).

- 4. After sending in its Fiscal Year 2004 Statement of Revenue with the above comment, JRS Services, L.L.C. has not returned any subsequent Statements of Revenue. However, during the period since its certification by the Commission JRS Services, L.L.C. has returned Statements of Revenue and it owes no assessments. As a payphone provider, the Commission does not require submission of annual reports. 4 CSR 240-3.505(1)(B). No customers have contacted the Commission with complaints about JRS Services, L.L.C. since the commencement of the Commission's EFIS system.
- 5. The Commission has the authority to cancel a telecommunications company certificate pursuant to Section 392.410.5 RSMo. (Supp. 2004), which provides:

Any certificate of service authority may be altered or modified by the commission after notice and hearing, upon its own motion or upon application of the person or company affected.

However, the Commission need not hold a hearing, if, after proper notice and opportunity to intervene, no party requests such a hearing. *State ex rel. Rex Deffenderfer Enterprises, Inc. v. Public Service Commission*, 776 S.W.2d 494 (Mo.App. 1989).

6. Staff is serving this pleading upon the address provided by the company to the Commission and upon the company's registered agent (which are one and the same). The letter will be served via certified mail.

WHEREFORE, the Staff recommends the Commission cancel the certificate of service authority of JRS Services, L.L.C. to provide payphone service.

Respectfully submitted,

DANA K. JOYCE General Counsel

/s/ David A. Meyer

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or electronically mailed to all parties of record as shown below this 13^{th} of May 2005.

/s/ David A. Meyer

Office of the Public Counsel P.O. Box 7800 Jefferson City, MO 65102 Harry Schroeder JRS Services, L.L.C. 8737 Del Vista St. Louis, MO 63126 (via certified mail)