

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Cathect )  
Communications Inc. for a Certificate of ) **File No. CA-2021-0268**  
Authority to Provide Local Exchange )  
Services in the State of Missouri )

## NOTICE OF DEFICIENCY

Issue Date: February 26, 2021

On February 23, 2021, Cathect Communications Inc. filed an application for authorization to provide basic local exchange (CLEC) telecommunications services. Cathect Communications Inc.'s application is signed by Suzane Anderson, who is not identified as an attorney licensed to practice law in Missouri or any other state.

Missouri statute Section 484.020, RSMo (2016), restricts the practice of law to licensed attorneys, and Commission rules require corporations be represented by an attorney. Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.080(1) states that pleadings shall be signed by an attorney. Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.080(5) states that unsigned pleadings may be rejected. Lastly, Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.040(5), requires all entities be represented by counsel except when a natural person acting solely on his or her own behalf and representing only him or herself.<sup>1</sup>

Cathect Communications Inc.'s application is signed by Ms. Anderson, who is not identified as an attorney. To appear before the Commission, Cathect Communications Inc., which appears to be a corporate entity, must be represented by an attorney authorized to practice law in Missouri.

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<sup>1</sup> See also *Clark v. Austin*, 340 Mo 467, 101 S.W. 2d 977 (Mo 1937); *Reed v. Labor and Indus. Relations Com'n*, 789 S.W.2d 19 (Mo 1990).

Therefore, the application is deficient in that it does not comply with Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.040 requiring a corporation to be represented by counsel. The Commission cannot take action on this complaint until this deficiency is corrected. The Commission will leave the file open until March 18, 2021, to allow Cathect Communications Inc. to correct the deficiency. If no response is filed by that time, the Commission will reject the filing and close the file.



**BY THE COMMISSION**

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff  
Secretary

Charles Hatcher, Regulatory Law Judge,  
by delegation of authority pursuant to  
Section 386.240, RSMo (2016).

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.