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PUCOBEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIOIn the Matter of the Application of)
SBC Ohio for an Alternative Form of) Case No. 02-3069-TP-ALT
Regulation)PARKVIEW'S REPLY TO OCC'S MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION TO
AT&T OHIO'S REQUEST FOR WAIVER

On January 12, 2007, AT&T OHIO filed a request for waiver with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO or COMMISSION) seeking permission to allow people who are eligible to receive Ohio Lifeline discount to purchase vertical features and to purchase them in a plan which is now restricted by PUCO.

On January 18, 2007, Parkview Areawide Seniors, Inc., a non-profit organization eligible as a 501(c)(3), comprised mainly of Ohio seniors, et al, filed our support of AT&T Ohio's request for Waiver because it will benefit lifeline customers who have a deep need for the vertical features in a discounted package deal as regular telephone customers have.

On January 30, 2007, the Office of Consumers Counsel ("OCC") filed their Memorandum in opposition. It is interesting to note that on January 29, 2007, OCC slyly slipped in to the Ohio Lifeline Advisory Board meeting, listened to Board members speak from their heart on the benefits seniors need and would receive and made no comment, but were able to respond to these comments in their opposition to seniors having lifeline along with vertical features in a package deal like other regular telephone customers enjoy. Two hours later, attorneys for OCC filed their papers with PUCO.

At the January 29, 2007 Ohio Lifeline Advisory Board ("Advisory Board"), one of the Commissioners who also were present asked how many people were on the Advisory Board. The Chair replied, "about 20." The Board's Roster shows the following members as 15, but only 10 members can vote for reasons that the OCC has 3 members and the PUCO has 2 members, and AT&T Ohio has 3 members, to wit: *

SEVEN (7) LEGAL VOTES PRESENT - five(5) VOTED AYE two(2) VOTED NAY

Jane Acri - Central Ohio Area Agencies on Aging	- 1 vote
Erin Biehl - Ohio Consumers Counsel	- NO VOTE
Daryl Darby - TriStar Consumer	- 1 vote
Theresa Fauver - PUCO	- NO VOTE
Tom Mendelsohn - Empowerment Center Ex.Director	- 1 vote
Joe Meissner, Chair, attorney for Empowerment Center	- NO VOTE as Chair
Barb Mullins - Ohio Consumers Counsel	- NO VOTE
Linda Pausch - Ohio Consumers Counsel	- 1 vote
Mike Schadler - AT&T	- NO VOTE
Tonja Stewart - PUCO	- 1 vote
Ellie Sullivan - Cuyahoga County Officer	- 1 vote
Diane Talboo - AT&T	- NO VOTE
Mary Jo Wenckus - AT&T	- 1 vote
DORA MCKEEVER - Parkview Areawide Seniors (non-profit)	1 vote
Clinton Warne - Consumers League	- 1 vote
*TOTAL VOTES PERMITTED OUT OF 15 Board members	- 9 votes

Note: 2 allowable votes LEFT THE LINE

5 votes approved of waiver letter to PUCO, which constituted the majority

2 votes negative (OCC & PUCO)

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Parkview hopes that this issue who supports the yes votes concerning AT&T Ohio's waiver were in the majority and does not cast a negative feeling that the OCC tried to emphasize in their Answer in Opposition to AT&T Ohio's Waiver by stating that therefore the motion to approve of the Board's decision "was not unanimous." What counts in Robert's Rules of Order Parliamentary Rules is that the MAJORITY AYES were around 65%, and OCC should respect the voting procedures the Board follows.

In addition to the aye vote listed above, over twenty-three (23) Ohio organizations who represent thousands of lifeline customers, filed their support of seniors et al being entitled to apply for and be treated as other telephone customers, and copies were filed at the PUCO'S Docketing Division and distributed to the Commissioners and are part and parcel of this issue in Case No. 02-3069-TP-ALT. Since then, other management offices, Certified Mental Health Board companies who assist and work with SSA (Social Security Administration), who send hundreds of people's checks to bonded and licensed organizations in Ohio, to pay these people's rents, phone bills, etc. HAVE ALSO filed SUPPORT letters for vertical features giving their reasons forthwith with PUCO'S DOCKETING DIVISION. WHAT MORE is OCC COUNSEL looking for when these organizations who become representatives and/or payees for hundreds of Ohio residents work right with these people, are educated in gerontology, special needs people, etc. and see no harm in supporting those lifeline eligible customers. Their response does not match the following quote, which we are to believe, is how OCC COUNSEL wants us to believe:

"...Although much has changed over the last three decades, one constant has remained - the OCC's steadfast advocacy in representing the interests of residential consumers." 2006 Consumers Corner. Signator: Janine L. Medgen-Ostrander, OCC Counsel.

The only constant is their attitude of making all of the decisions for the elderly, the poor, the disadvantaged, the disabled, the lonely, social outcasts, stereotyping, etc. OCC dares to label us as "vulnerable," easily seduced, and want to have the upper or whip hands, the master, to rule, sway, while they reign as the head, lead, preside over, direct and manager our lives depriving us of our choicess, discipline, autocracy, dominate, lead us by the nose, turn around one's little finger, keep under one's thumb, bend to their will, all in an effort to preside over the PUCO's decisions all to have power and stand over we seniors they called "vulnerable,"

OCC needs to speculate what could possibly occur in the telephone utility industry and predict new ways our rapid new technology can start using these new ways to get and use the essential services, such as:

Three-Way Calling is more important when lonely seniors need to talk with their doctor while their home helper is there, their pharmacist, many of their children who lives hundreds of miles away and have 3 of the family on the phone together, saving time and money on long distance...

OCC wants us to bend to their will that Call Waiting and/or Caller I.D. would be "better, than our own choise...that is called lead by the nose or rule the roost.

We don't need another feature for medical and/or safety reasons as the autocracy (OCC) wants to push on us and the PUCO to hand us one more feature they want us to have, depriving us of our own CHOICES in a packaged deal. These principles they advocate were and are non-constitutional, and are more like a supra-imperialistic system.

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OCC quote: "...it is crucial that AT&T OHIO'S lifeline customers (should) not be overburdened with bills for services pushed (emphasis ours) on them by the Company (AT&T OHIO) in its aggressive marketing efforts." Parkview has been in touch with many management companies of seniors housing and have emphasized that 99.9% of their resident/tenants pay their rent on time and pay their phone bills as it is essential to their feelings of reassurance that they can use various features to their comfort of safety reasons in dangerous areas where they might live, etc. What grounds does OCC make their irresponsible statement and intimate that we won't pay our bills and that we can be seduced so quickly.

OCC needs to go after the banks and credit card companies who market viciously and deceptively not only to seniors but to the very residents they claim to represent. Why can't OCC get involved in writing to these credit card companies and banks to lower the interest rate? Parkview calls this swindling, yet OCC was not around when the bankruptcy laws were changed in that credit card holders who were the "real" vulnerable customers, could not have their credit card balances waived in a bankruptcy proceeding. I guess they were considered, in OCC's expert thinking to be "different," that is they had no heel of Achilles from the marketing of these fraudulent practices.

There is a movement on in telephone rapid technology. GOOD PEOPLE CANNOT HELP BUT RESPOND to any injustices. OCC needs to know that when what seems normal and acceptable one day is understood to be unjust and intolerable the next. When this happens, a MOVEMENT HAS BEGUN.

Most eligible lifeline customers have a budget and make major lifestyle choices based on the size of their monthly income, how the extra feature(s) which they pay for can bring reassurance, pleasure, comfort, and very essential to their needs.

I know a 95-year-old lady whose bedside phone had a feature that could re-dial a number if that line was busy. This saved her life twice. She was feeling dizzy and dialed this number, it was busy, and all she had to do was press another button which would re-dial automatically that number. In this case it was for an ambulance. PARKVIEW paid for this feature to be installed in her home. IT SAVED HER LIFE. This lady was my mother. She lived in West Virginia. OHIO IS THE ONLY STATE THAT HAS THIS RULE OF RESTRICTING VERTICAL FEATURES INSTEAD OF FOR MEDICAL AND/OR SAFETY REASONS.

OCC's opinion of themselves is narcissistic in that they consider themselves benefactors, befriending injustices on their "residents in Ohio," angels, good Samaritans, helpers, aider, and "a very present help in time of trouble." They pride themselves of being evildoers as it pertains to their lack of empathy as in their unfairness.

Parkview takes pity on OCC who some say and refer to as "hatchet men." Where is the pity, sympathy, feeling, compassion, mercy, humanity, charity...? "Poor things! Poor dears! God help you!!," you are so vulnerable... while they turn a deaf ear.

CONCLUSION

We encourage PUCO to approve AT&T Ohio's request to offer us packages deals with no strings attached to get it and receive it at the same price regular customers get. We do not want just another feature to add that was chosen for us but want our own choices. Please have a change of heart as change is inevitable as OCC predicts. RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, Dora Theresa McKeever, President and Statutory Agent for Parkview Areawide Seniors, Inc. P.O.Box 14604, Cleveland, OH 44114 (216) 281-4849.

cc: AT&T, OCC, et al

Dora McKeever, Pres.

ATTACHMENT

Letters of support filed as of 2/05/07.

1. Friendship Foundation of American-Vietnamese.
2. Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority.
3. The Center for Community Solutions.
4. Lifecare Alliance
5. Oasis
6. Mahoning County Senior Center
7. West Side Ecumenical Ministry.
8. Ohio Conference of NAACP.
9. Greater Toledo Urban League, Inc.
10. The Dayton Urban Ministry Center
11. Retired and Senior Volunteer Program.
12. Love Inc. (FAX)
13. Hispanic Business Association.
14. Info Line.
15. Community Action Agency of Columbiana County, Inc.
16. Cuyahoga County
17. Elderly United of Springfield & Clark County, Inc.
18. University Settlement
19. Judy Seiber.
20. Empowerment Center of Greater Cleveland
21. Parkview Areawide Seniors, Inc.
22. Community Action Agency of Muskingum County.
23. Eastside Community Ministry.

PARKVIEW AREAWIDE SENIORS, INC.
Advocates For Seniors



Just Call Dora
Dora, The Explorer

Dora McKeever, B.S. Ed
President

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EXHIBIT A