BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Complaint of Super Laundry d.b.a. Ohio Laundry,)
Complainant,)
•) Case No. 05-521-TP-CSS
v.)
)
Communications Options, Inc.,)
)
Respondent.)

ENTRY

The attorney examiner finds:

- (1) On April 18, 2005, Super Laundry d.b.a. Ohio Laundry (Complainant) filed a complaint against Communications Options, Inc., (COI). The Complainant alleged in the complaint that: COI has stated that it would take sixty to one hundred eighty days to process a refund on a credit balance on Complainant's account; COI had charged Complainant 7% sales tax although the sales tax should be 6.75%; and COI had charged Complainant a 1% utility surcharge which was not provided for in COI's tariffs filed with the Commission.
- (2) On May 9, 2005, COI filed its answer, in which: COI admitted that Complainant has a credit balance but stated that it would apply the credit balance towards Complainant's monthly invoices in the future; COI admitted that it charged Complainant 7% sales tax; and COI alleged that it has not billed Complainant a 1% utility surcharge since April 2005. In addition, on May 9, 2005, COI filed a motion to dismiss the complaint.
- (3) Accordingly, this case should be scheduled for a prehearing conference on June 16, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, 11th floor, Hearing Room 11-B, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.
- (4) The purpose of the prehearing conference is to explore the parties' willingness to negotiate a resolution of this complaint in lieu of an evidentiary hearing. An attorney examiner from the

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Commission's legal department will facilitate the settlement process; however, nothing prohibits any party from initiating settlement negotiations prior to the scheduled conference. The parties should bring to the conference all documents relevant to this matter.

- (5) In the event that a settlement is not reached at the conference, the attorney examiner will conduct a discussion of procedural issues at the conclusion of the conference. Procedural issues for discussion may include discovery dates, possible stipulations of facts and potential hearing dates.
- (6) Finally, Rule 4901-1-08, O.A.C. requires that corporations be represented by an attorney-at-law. It appears that the Complainant is a corporation. Therefore, in the event that this case is not resolved at the prehearing conference, Respondent will be required to be represented by counsel for all further proceedings in this case.
- (7) COI's motion to dismiss, filed on May 9, 2005, will be addressed by subsequent entry.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That a prehearing conference be scheduled in accordance with finding (3). It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this entry be served upon all parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

By: Gregory A. Price

Attorney Examiner

/ct///

Entered in the Journal

MAY 2 0 2005

Reneé J. Jenkins

Secretary