FCC Appeal

Filer: Grapeland ISD

Erate Contact: John Norman

Date: October 26, 2017

To: FCC

From: John Norman

Grapeland ISD is a small East Texas district with a little more than 500 students. I am the only person which files Erate forms. I have been the only in the district that has been filing Erate forms since 1999.

On November 26, 2016, my wife had a mental breakdown which resulted in having her institutionalized for five days. It has been a struggle to get her back functional. On November 30, 2017, I filed the district’s 470 form which I had been working on.

In March of 2016 Grapeland ISD hired a consulting firm to exclusively work on Erate filings for a New Elementary School. The consulting firm did not have any contractual responsibility for Category 1 filings. I worked closely with this firm to get them the information for New Elementary School.

On March 8 of 2016, my wife, still struggling with her mental illness, had emergency Gall Bladder surgery. An infection from her surgery went septic and on March 12, 2016, I took her the emergency room. She spent nine days in the hospital, three of which are in intensive care. The doctors said she should have died. I had little to no family support.

When our consulting firm finished their work and filed the 471, I mistakenly thought I was done. I did not realize the mistake I had made until our Internet provider pointed it on October 12, 2017.

Grapeland ISD has no failsafe system that could have prevented this to occur. I am appealing to you with the reason of mental stress of work and family. This is the first time I have failed my Erate responsibilities in 19 years.

John Norman

Technology Director

Grapeland ISD

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