



UNITED STATES  
TELEPHONE  
ASSOCIATION

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October 17, 1997

William F. Caton  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W. - Room 222  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: Universal Service Administrator Advisory Committee Nomination  
CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Mr. Caton:

On October 16, 1997, USTA filed a motion to accept late-filed nomination, and a nomination of William Sonnett to the Universal Service Administrator Advisory Committee. The nomination was supposed to have included a bio for Mr. Sonnett, but that bio was inadvertently omitted. Attached is the complete document, with the bio included.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary McDermott  
Vice President - Legal & Regulatory Affairs

cc: Tim Peterson  
Sheryl Todd  
(Universal Service Branch)

1401 H Street NW Suite 600  
WASHINGTON DC 20005-2164  
TEL 202 326 7300 FAX 202 326 7333 INT www.usta.org  
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20554

OCT 17 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of: )  
 )  
Universal Service Administrator ) CC Docket No. 96-45  
Advisory Committee Nomination )

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**MOTION TO ACCEPT LATE-FILED NOMINATION**

The United States Telephone Association (USTA) respectfully requests that the Commission approve USTA's motion to accept a second late-filed nomination in the above-referenced proceeding. USTA is the principal trade association of the local exchange industry, with over 1200 members from the large, mid-size and small company segments.

On September 12, USTA submitted a nominee from its mid-size company segment. In the course of making that nomination, USTA discovered that no one from the large ILECs were included among the USAAC nominees to date. As USTA explained in its September 12 filing, we had participated in the nominations for the USAC Board, but we did not realize that the USAAC was under a separate nomination process.

USTA again apologizes for its confusion, but believes that acceptance of the accompanying nomination of Mr. William Sonnett of Southwestern Bell will ensure the fairly balanced membership

on the Committee that is required by the Federal Advisory Committee process. Since ILECs of all sizes are directly affected by the selection of the permanent administrator of the universal service support mechanisms, it is important that a large company representative be nominated and selected to the USAAC.

USTA does not believe that any party will be disadvantaged by the acceptance of this nomination, since the members of the USAAC have not yet been selected by the Commission.

Based on the foregoing, USTA requests that this nomination be accepted.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION

BY 

Mary McDermott  
Linda L. Kent  
Keith Townsend  
Hance Haney

U.S. Telephone Association  
1401 H Street, NW  
Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 326-7247

October 16, 1997



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Mr. William F. Caton  
Acting Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Room 222  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Universal Service Administrator Advisory Committee Nomination  
CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Mr. Caton:

The United States Telephone Association hereby nominates Mr. William Sonnett, Director National Policy Issues, Southwestern Bell, to serve on the Universal Service Administrator Advisory Committee. This nomination is submitted pursuant to the Commission's August 1, 1997 Public Notice, DA Number: 97-1649.

The Universal Service Administrator Advisory Committee will have a vital role in helping choose the permanent administrator for the Universal Service Fund. It is important that all segments of the broader telecommunications industry have an opportunity to participate - including the large incumbent local exchange carriers. Therefore, USTA is pleased that it is able to nominate Mr. Sonnett to serve on the USAAC, in addition to its earlier nomination of Ms. Diane Smith. As the attached short resume indicates, Mr. Sonnett has had extensive experience in the telecommunications industry with a variety of companies. His continuing outreach efforts to industry groups has given Mr. Sonnett unique insight into the issues that will come before the USAAC. If he is chosen, USTA is confident that Mr. Sonnett will be a dedicated and highly qualified member of the USAAC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary McDermott".

Mary McDermott

Vice President - Legal & Regulatory Affairs

cc: Tim Peterson  
Sheryl Todd  
(Universal Service Branch)

**WILLIAM R. SONNETT, JR.**

Director- Industry Affairs  
Southwestern Bell Telephone  
One Bell Center, 38-Y-03  
St. Louis, Missouri 63101

Telephone: (314) 235-5038  
Fax: (314) 235-7550  
E-Mail: [ws0514@real.sbc.com](mailto:ws0514@real.sbc.com)

Mr. Sonnett is responsible for the oversight and management of the corporate interface functions with national industry organizations (i.e., NARUC, USTA, NECA, OPASTCO, NTCA AND NRTA) for SBC Communications: including Southwestern Bell Telephone, Pacific Bell, and Nevada Bell. He is also responsible for the management of issues, on behalf of the Company, with federal/state regulatory bodies, Joint Board Staffs and other exchange carriers.

Mr. Sonnett's background and experience includes the following:

- 1987-Present Southwestern Bell Telephone, St. Louis, Missouri
- 1984-1987 Bell Communications Research, Livingston, New Jersey
- 1977-1984 Commonwealth Telephone Company, Dallas, Pennsylvania
- 1971-1977 Citizens Utilities Company, Stamford, Connecticut
- 1965-1971 Bell Telephone Co. of Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Mr. Sonnett's education background includes the following:

- Bachelor of Business Administration (June, 1977)  
Connecticut State University, Danbury, Connecticut
- Associate in Science in Business Administration (June, 1971)  
Robert Morris College, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Throughout his thirty-two (32) year career in telephony, Mr. Sonnett has been involved in just about every aspect of the telephone business and industry. As an example, Mr. Sonnett was the Subset 1 representative to the NECA Industry Advisory Task Group from 1988 to 1996 including four years as Chairman.