

MAR 24 2000

Law Offices Of

A. GERARD CASWELL

(A Professional Law Corporation)

Telephone
337-457-7378

142 N. Second St.
Post Office Box 1600
Eunice, Louisiana 70535
(Also Licensed in Texas)

CKET FILE COPY

Facsimile
337-457-8502

March 21, 2000

**Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554**

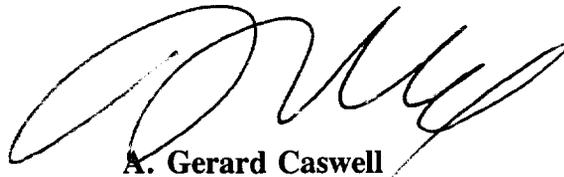
**Re: In the matter of: Request for Review by St. Landry Parish School Board
of Decision of Universal Service Administrator
FCC Docket Numbers: 97-21 and 96-45**

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find the St. Landry Parish School Board's request for review of the March 1, 2000 Administrator's Decision on Spin change issued by the Schools and Libraries Division, Universal Service Administrative Company. The relevant Application Number is 119687. The relevant Funding Request Numbers is 171411. The relevant funding year is 1999. Please forward your response to the undersigned at the above address. Should you need anything else to process this appeal, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With kindest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,



A. Gerard Caswell

AGC:dc

Enclosures

cc: **Universal Service Administrative Co. - certified mail
Schools and Libraries Division
Box 125 - Correspondence Unit
100 South Jefferson Road
Whippany, NJ 07981**

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

**IN THE MATTER OF:
REQUEST FOR REVIEW BY ST. LANDRY PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
OF DECISION OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR**

Now before the Commission, comes the St. Landry Parish School Board, who pursuant to Section 54.719 does submit the following request for review.

The St. Landry Parish School Board is a 1999-2000 E-rate applicant under Application Number 119687, Funding Request Number 171411, and Funding Year 1999. The St. Landry Parish School Board requested a Spin change and was denied same by the Administrator's Decision dated March 1, 2000.

The St. Landry Parish School Board did in deed apply for E-rate funding for the year 1999-2000. St. Landry Parish School Board was assigned Form 471 Application Number 119687 for funding year 1999 and Funding Request Number 171411. The St. Landry Parish School Board as a government entity in the State of Louisiana is required to bid out the work for which the E-rate funding was being applied. By the time the deadline for the Form 471 Application came, the bid process for the St. Landry Parish School Board was not complete. However, the application required a Service Provider to be identified and the St. Landry Parish School Board identified Com-Net Services, Inc. which had performed such work for the School Board in the past. As a result, the Service Provider and Service Provider Identification Number was assigned to Com-Net Services, Inc. When the legal bid process as required by Louisiana Law was completed, Integrated Communications submitted the best and lowest bid which was some \$51,500.00 lower than the Service Provider (Com-Net Services, Inc.) that had been identified on the Form 471 application submitted by the St. Landry Parish School Board.

The School Board was required by law to accept the lowest bid and award that bid to Integrated Communications. As a result, the St. Landry Parish School Board then requested approval to change the Service Provider Identification Number and Service Provider so that the actual Service Provider would be listed in the School Board's application. The School Board did in fact make such a request and by decision dated March 1, 2000, the Administrator's Decision on Spin change was denied. The only reason listed for the denial was that there are only three (3) accepted reasons for approving a Spin change and that the School Board's reason for a change did not fit one of those pigeon holes.

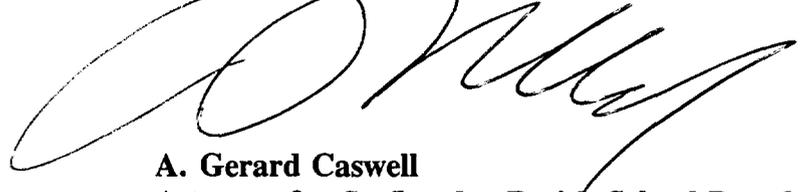
The School Board has in fact gone ahead and awarded the job which Integrated has completed for the computer wiring. The School Board has in fact paid Integrated and is now only seeking to receive the E-rate funding that it does in fact qualify for. Simply put, had the School Board been able to complete the legal bidding process prior to the deadline for the Form 471 application number and had listed Integrated Communications on the application as its Service Provider, then everything would operate as intended.

There is no reason to disqualify Integrated as a Service Provider as they meet all necessary qualifications. This is simply a matter of timing and assigning of numbers.

To not allow the Spin change as requested for the reasons enumerated, would defeat the purpose of the program.

It is respectfully requested that the Commission reverse the Administrator's Decision on Spin change and allow the Service Provider identification number to accurately reflect that of the Service Provider who performed the work, namely Integrated Communications, Service Provider Identification Number 143019245.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Gerard Caswell', written in a cursive style.

**A. Gerard Caswell
Attorney for St. Landry Parish School Board**