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October 31, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Room CY-B402  
Washington, DC 20544

RECEIVED  
NOV 13 2000  
FCC MAIL ROOM

RE: CC Docket #00-217

Dear Ms. Salas:

I am pleased to write today in support of Southwestern Bell's bid to enter the long-distance market in Oklahoma.

As a private health care provider and small business owner, I am fully aware of the implications of competition on the market place and business. I am an independent observer and consumer of the telecommunications market in Oklahoma, and, as such, I will, without hesitation, assure you that true competition exists. All one needs to do is to drive on our interstates and see the billboards or thumb through the volumes of mail received daily at my office.

Each day we welcome new patients who choose to come into my practice to receive the wide variety of services we offer. In that spirit, I believe it is time for me and all Oklahomans to have Southwestern Bell as a choice for all of our telecommunications needs.

The FCC should listen to the recommendation made by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission and give Southwestern Bell the right to provide long-distance as another choice for Oklahoma consumers.

Sincerely,



Shannon L. Griffin, D.M.D.

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405.348.2266



**THE LANDMARK FAMILY OF BANKS**

October 30, 2000

**LANDMARK BANK n.a.**

ADA  
1601 Lonnie Abbott Blvd  
P.O. Box 1337  
Ada OK 74821-1337  
(580) 436-1117  
FAX (580) 436-1151

DAVIS  
1300 East Main  
P.O. Box 540  
Davis OK 73030-0540  
(580) 369-2331  
FAX (580) 369-2165

KINGSTON  
701 Hwy 70 East  
P.O. Box 710  
Kingston OK 73439-0710  
(580) 564-4646  
FAX (580) 564-4774

TISHOMINGO  
124 West Main  
P.O. Box 250  
Tishomingo OK 73480-0250  
(580) 371-9551  
FAX (580) 371-9173

WAPANUCKA  
Main & Choctaw  
P.O. Box 272  
Wapanucka OK 73461  
(580) 937-4224  
FAX (580) 937-4223

WYNNEWOOD  
201 South Dean A. McGee  
P.O. Box 609  
Wynnewood OK 73098-0609  
(405) 665-2031  
FAX (405) 665-5433

**LANDMARK BANK COMPANY n.a.**

DURANT  
900 West Main  
P.O. Box 1730  
Durant OK 74702-1730  
(580) 924-9090  
FAX (580) 924-6863

MADILL  
128 Plaza  
P.O. Box 823  
Madill OK 73446-0823  
(580) 795-5503  
FAX (580) 795-7290

**LANDMARK BANK**

DENISON  
2820 West FM Road 120  
P.O. Box 1220  
Denison TX 75020-1220  
(903) 464-9100  
FAX (903) 464-9103

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Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 00-217

Dear Secretary Salas:

This letter is to express Landmark Bank's support of Southwestern Bell's long distance application. As a small business, costs are a concern on a daily basis and competition is one effective way to ensure that all consumers receive fair and competitive rates.

Competing companies operate in 94% of all Oklahoma SBC wire centers and counties. The Oklahoma Corporation Commission has given its unanimous endorsement of Southwestern Bells' Oklahoma application. Southwestern Bell is committed to providing consumers with a choice, spending more than \$1.4 billion and assigning more than 4,000 employees in its effort to open the local phone market. In Texas alone, over 1 million customers signed up for Southwestern Bell long distance in the first three months it was available and as a result, A T & T responded by lowering its long distance rate by half.

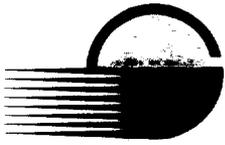
Competition is an important factor to the economic well being of Oklahoma and we, in conjunction with the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, urge you to approve Southwestern Bell's application.

Sincerely,

Chris Rudiger  
President

CRR/ckm

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**WYNNEWOOD**  
REFINING COMPANY  
A Gary-Williams Energy Corporation Subsidiary

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

October 30, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
CY-B402  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 00-217

Dear Secretary Salas:

Wynnewood Refining Company owns and operates a 50,000 barrel-per-day refinery in south central Oklahoma. We support Southwestern Bell's (SWBell) request to offer long distance services in the State of Oklahoma. SWBell has worked diligently in conjunction with the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC) to open the local telephone market to competition and, consequently, the OCC voted unanimously to endorse SWBell's application. Competing companies operate in 94% of the wire centers and counties served by SWBell in Oklahoma.

Additional long distance service providers will enhance the competition in Oklahoma, which should give consumers cheaper rates and better services. This is made evident by the result of the approval of SWBell's Texas application. One million customers signed up for SWBell's service and as a result, AT&T reduced their rates by more than one half to remain competitive. The addition of good, strong competition into this or any market will allow the consumer a better choice and lower costs.

Strong competition is important to the economic well being of Oklahoma. SWBell has opened its markets in Oklahoma to allow that competition to grow in the local markets. It is now time to allow the strength of SWBell to be used in the long-distance market to bring more competition to that arena. We, in conjunction with the OCC, urge you to approve SWBell's application at the earliest possible opportunity.

Sincerely,

David Roderick  
Vice President, Refining

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**COLLINS, BUTLER & CO., P.C.**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

C. Ross Dillon  
Dennis K. Lakely  
John D. Garrison  
Patricia A. Shaw  
James J. Trojan  
Dwayne E. Campbell

*Retired*  
Ronald B. Butler  
Donald W. Collins

November 7, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
CY-B402  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 00-217

Dear Secretary Salas,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my perspective on an important matter that is currently before the Federal Communications Commission for consideration: the pending application of Southwestern Bell Telephone to provide long distance service in Oklahoma.

The Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 stated local telephone companies would be allowed to offer long distance service if they proved to state regulators and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that their local telephone markets were opened to competition. Southwestern Bell in Oklahoma has worked in a collaborative process with the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since February of 1998 to do just that.

In Oklahoma we have seen competing telecommunications companies operating in every wire center and county served by Southwestern Bell Telephone. The same operational support systems used in Texas to provide service to competitors have been tested and certified by our Oklahoma regulators. These are the same systems used by the Department of Justice and the FCC to determine if markets were truly open to competition in Texas.

On September 28, 2000, the Oklahoma Corporation voted unanimously to endorse the application of Southwestern Bell and to recommend its approval by the FCC.

Oklahomans believe it is time for more competition, better services and the opportunity for lower cost for consumers. I wholeheartedly encourage you to consider approval of Southwestern Bell's application to provide long distance in Oklahoma.

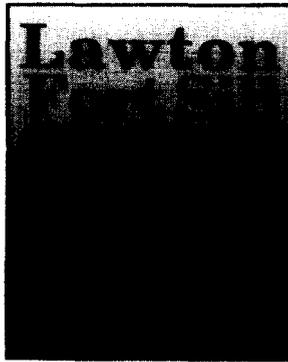
I very much appreciate the opportunity to provide input in this important mater. I appreciate your thoroughness in reviewing this application.

Sincerely,

C. Ross Dillon  
President

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November 7, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
CY-B402  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20544

RECEIVED  
NOV 13 2000  
FCC MAIL ROOM

RE: CC Docket No. 00-217

Dear Secretary Salas:

I am writing this letter to ask for your favorable consideration of Southwestern Bell's application to provide long distance service in the State of Oklahoma.

The Lawton Fort Sill Chamber of Commerce and Industry represents 700 Business members. We are the voice of business in Lawton Fort Sill and Comanche County. Our organization is the lead entity for economic development in the southwestern region of the state.

As you know, economic development is highly competitive. One of the major obstacles our state must continually overcome is the perception of Oklahoma being "backward" because of our rural nature and history. In many instances, Southwestern Bell is helping us to overcome that perception with the high-speed Internet access that is provided to rural areas throughout Oklahoma.

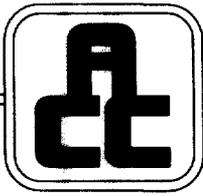
While technology and high-speed Internet services are important, low-cost long distance rates are critical factors for many site location decisions. Long distance competition is important if we are to succeed in our economic development endeavors. Companies contemplating our area as a possible location for new facilities *always* inquire about long distance service. At this time, we have limited choice, and not all of them are appealing. We believe that allowing Southwestern Bell to enter the long distance market in Oklahoma would facilitate better services in the telecommunications arena in our state.

I urge you to give Oklahoma the opportunity to grow our local economies and respectfully request your support of Southwestern Bell's application to provide long distance service to all Oklahomans who desire their services.

Sincerely,

  
Marilyn Weaver  
President & CEO

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# ALTUS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

November 6, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas  
 Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
 Room TW-B-204  
 445 12th Street, SW  
 Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED  
 NOV 13 2000  
 FCC MAIL ROOM

Re: CC Docket No. 00-217

Dear Secretary Salas :

On behalf of the Altus Chamber of Commerce let me urge you to allow Southwestern Bell Company (SBC) to offer long distance service in our state. Southwestern Bell has always been a strong partner in many efforts in our state. They have a proven track record of being diligent in their efforts to follow all rules and regulations, both at the Federal and State levels. Southwestern Bell has worked in a collaborative process with the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) and the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC) since February of 1998 to open the local markets in each state.

The OCC voted unanimously on September 28, 2000 to endorse Southwestern Bell's application. On October 26, 2000, Southwestern Bell filed both applications with the FCC. On October 4, 2000, the KCC indicated that it would recommend FCC approval of Southwestern Bell's application when it was filed with the FCC.

Our local phone market is open. Competing telecommunications companies operate as many as 170,000 lines in Oklahoma and operate in 94% of all Southwestern Bell wire centers and counties across the state. The Oklahoma Corporation Commission has given its unanimous endorsement of SBC's Oklahoma application. SBC has met the Federal Telecom Act's 14-point checklist for opening the local phone market in both states. The operational support systems used to provide service to competitors have been tested and certified by regulators. They are the same systems used to provide service in Texas, where the Department of Justice and the FCC found the local market open to competition. SBC has spent more than \$1.4 billion and assigned more than 4000 employees in its successful efforts to open the local phone market.

Approval of the long distance applications will benefit consumers by increasing competition and lowering prices. Competition in the long distance market breeds competition in the local market. In both Texas and New York - the two states in which local phone companies have been allowed to enter the long distance market - the Big Three long distance companies dramatically increased their marketing efforts in the local phone market when local phone companies were approved to sell long distance. When long distance companies face competition in their market, they aggressively enter the local market - and consumers win. The FCC should listen to the endorsements of state regulators and bring full-fledged competition to the telecommunications markets in Kansas and Oklahoma.

Thank you for the work you do on behalf of the citizens of our country

Sincerely,

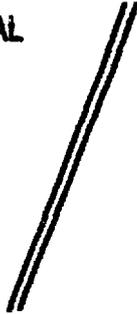
*Holley Urbanski*  
 Holley Urbanski  
 President

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**International  
Association of  
Machinists and  
Aerospace Workers**



LOCAL LODGE 898  
1901 North Washington  
Enid, Oklahoma 73701  
(580) 233-7290  
FAX (580) 233-0230



P.O. Box 3333 (73702)

November 8, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
CY-B402  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

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RE: CC Docket No. 00-217

Dear Secretary Salas,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my perspective on an important matter that is currently before the Federal Communications Commission for consideration: the pending application of Southwestern Bell Telephone to provide long distance service in Oklahoma.

The Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 stated local telephone companies would be allowed to offer long distance service if they proved to state regulators and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that their local telephone markets were opened to competition. Southwestern Bell in Oklahoma has worked in a collaborative process with the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since February of 1998 to do just that.

In Oklahoma we have seen competing telecommunications companies operating in every wire center and county served by Southwestern Bell Telephone. The same operational support systems used in Texas to provide service to competitors have been tested and certified by our Oklahoma regulators. These are the same systems used by the Department of Justice and the FCC to determine if markets were truly open to competition in Texas.

On September 28, 2000, the Oklahoma Corporation voted unanimously to endorse the application of Southwestern Bell and to recommend its approval by the FCC.

Oklahomans believe it is time for more competition, better services and the opportunity for lower cost for consumers. I wholeheartedly encourage you to consider approval of Southwestern Bell's application to provide long distance in Oklahoma.

I very much appreciate the opportunity to provide input in this important matter. I appreciate your thoroughness in reviewing this application.

Sincerely,

Jerry McCune  
DBR-IAMAW LOCAL 898

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## CHEROKEE NATION

P.O. Box 948  
Tahlequah, OK 74465-0948  
918-456-0671

Chad "Cornassel" Smith  
ᎠᎿᎾᎿ  
Principal Chief

Hastings Shade  
ᎠᎿᎾᎿ  
Deputy Principal Chief

November 8, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
CY-B402  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20544

Re: CC Docket No. 00-217

Dear Ms. Salas:

On behalf of the Cherokee Nation, I am pleased to write to you in support of Southwestern Bell's application to provide long-distance service in Oklahoma.

As with all matters that are considered by the Federal Communications Commission, I know you will thoroughly review all the evidence in this filing. I commend you for considering this application and for undertaking this proceeding.

My responsibility in communicating with you today is to provide you with the input of the Cherokee Nation and potentially other Native Americans throughout Oklahoma.

In supporting Southwestern Bell's application, I want to underscore the benefits that consumers will realize once the company is approved to provide long distance in Oklahoma. Currently, the three major long distance companies control about 80 percent of the long distance market. Consumers need another choice. If approved, I know that Oklahoma consumers can expect Southwestern Bell to offer long distance packages similar to what the company currently offers in Texas. Likewise, I have read that more than 1 million customers have signed up for similar packages in Texas in the first three months. I urge you to give Oklahomans the same choice and the same opportunity.

I have also seen in the press that the major long distance companies have responded to Southwestern Bell's entry by lowering their rates by up to 50 percent. Thus, as a result of your actions, Texans have more choices and lower rates than ever before. I urge you to give Oklahomans the same choice and the same opportunity.

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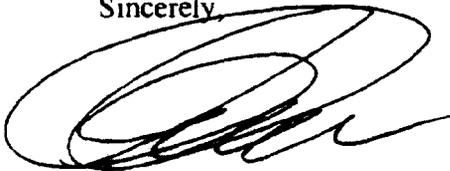
page 2  
CC Docket No. 00-217

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Native Americans in Oklahoma will be best served by cost-effective calling long distance plans and by the ability to select one telecommunications provider for all their needs.

I respectfully ask you to listen to the unanimous endorsement of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission and to bring customer benefits of true long distance competition home to Native Americans in Oklahoma.

Sincerely,



Chad Smith  
Principal Chief



The President

# Oklahoma City Community College

November 2, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
Room TW-B-204  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20544

RECEIVED  
NOV 13 2000  
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RE: CC Docket No. 00-217

Dear Secretary Salas:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my perspective on an important matter that is currently before the Federal Communications Commission for consideration: the pending application of Southwestern Bell Telephone to provide long distance service in Oklahoma.

I want to go on record as wholeheartedly supporting Southwestern Bell's application. Southwestern Bell is poised to offer its competitive offering to area residents and businesses.

It is my understanding that since you approved Southwestern Bell to provide long distance service in Texas, a number of long distance companies have started to compete in the local phone business in Texas cities benefiting customers.

I urge you to rule in favor of Southwestern Bell's application to provide long distance in this state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert P. Todd".

Robert P. Todd, Ed.D.  
President

RPT:bh

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M. Susan Savage  
MAYOR

918 • 596 • 7411



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

200 CIVIC CENTER

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

74103

October 27, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
CY-B402  
Washington, DC 20554

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NOV 13 2000  
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RE: Common Carrier Docket No. 00-217

Dear Secretary Salas:

Having followed the recent changes in telecommunications and its governing laws, I've taken a special interest in how those changes affect my community. Over the past decade, Tulsa has received many opportunities and economic benefits from investments tied to the telecommunications industry. Job growth related to local development of long distance service, auto and airline reservation services, financial services, credit card firms and other telecommunication-based businesses have greatly contributed to the diversity of our local economy and its prosperity.

This development is also tied to a major capital investment by Southwestern Bell, which provides a digital switching system that links our 4,200 square mile, toll-free calling area and offers broadband services throughout Tulsa. In addition to making a major investment in the local telecommunications infrastructure, the company also has taken an active role in issues concerning education, quality of life and community development. The company has supported civic and government efforts to develop our community and to upgrade our school system's technology. Southwestern Bell is an active partner in local life, supporting institutions that advance the arts and the health and welfare of our citizens.

In Tulsa, we believe that the growth of the community is tied to its most active players. That's why I encourage you to support Southwestern Bell's entrance into the long distance market. For our community, an additional choice in long distance service will mean not only more choices for our long distance users, but also for more jobs for our citizens. Our community will significantly benefit from the expansion of the telecommunications industry and the job growth stimulated by another long distance provider.

While the increase of telecommunications options can bring real benefits to the entire nation, we believe those benefits will be of particular importance to Tulsa. The expansion of service options is vital to our growing economy and our long-term economic objectives. Thank you for considering our request to advance the benefits of telecommunications competition.

Sincerely,

  
M. Susan Savage, Mayor

MSS/DSL/mr

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00-217

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
The Chickasaw Nation  
Post Office Box 1548 • Ada, Oklahoma 74821  
(580) 436-2603 • Fax (580) 436-4287

BILL ANOATUBBY  
GOVERNOR

November 2, 2000

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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, Southwest  
CY-B402  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Secretary Salas:

After a two-year review, the Oklahoma Corporation Commission has unanimously agreed that Southwestern Bell has met all of the requirements to open its local service market to competition. Therefore, the OCC is supporting Southwestern Bell's request to the Federal Communications Commission that the company be allowed to provide long distance service to Oklahoma. We offer our support to that request and ask for swift approval.

We have seen the Oklahoma telecommunications market literally come alive in recent years. From what we understand from information shared at OCC hearings, the Oklahoma telecommunications market is one of the most competitive in the country, with more than 105 certified companies already serving about 11 percent of Oklahoma's customers. There is only one area where it seems we have no true competition or the benefits such competition brings: long distance service.

We believe true long distance competition will provide greater choices, better customer service and lower prices. We would like to have the privilege of weighing all the options and making the choice on our own. We would also like to see what benefits the traditional long distance providers will offer Oklahoma customers after Southwestern Bell enters the market.

Please, as soon as possible, approve Southwestern Bell's application.

Sincerely,

*Bill Anoatubby*  
Bill Anoatubby, Governor  
The Chickasaw Nation

**Our Mission:**  
*To Enhance the Overall Quality  
of Life of the Chickasaw People*

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Visit Our Web Site: <http://www.chickasaw.com/~cnation>  
Governor's email address: [governora@chickasaw.com](mailto:governora@chickasaw.com)



November 2, 2000

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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
Room TW-B-204  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Salas,

On behalf of the Bank of Oklahoma, I forward this letter as a sign of our support for Southwestern Bell's application to the Federal Communications Commission to provide long-distance service in the state of Oklahoma (**Common Carrier Docket Number 00-217**).

In your consideration of our support, please know that the Bank of Oklahoma is not necessarily endorsing Southwestern Bell in this effort or promising to purchase long distance services from that company once approval is granted. We proclaim our support because we are pro-competitive, and we believe the increased competition Southwestern Bell brings to the market will result in lower prices, more choices and better service in the long-distance industry.

In short, we believe Southwestern Bell's entry will be good for consumers.

The FCC has a big task in front of them and numerous issues to weigh as they consider Southwestern Bell's application to enter long-distance in Oklahoma. Like the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, which unanimously approved Southwestern Bell's request, the FCC will review much testimony both for and against Bell's entry. At the Bank of Oklahoma, we respectfully request the FCC commissioners base their decision – as the Oklahoma Corporation Commission based its decision – on what's best for consumers.

Again, the Bank of Oklahoma supports Southwestern Bell's entry into long-distance in Oklahoma. We hope the FCC agrees with our position and votes yes on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Helen Richardson".

Helen Richardson  
Manager Technical Services

HR/klw

Noted as rec'd 011  
LISA BLOOM

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SEARCHED

**Kenneth D. Ray**  
Director, External Affairs & Communications  
Mid-Continent Business Unit

**Conoco Inc.**  
P.O. Box 1267 - 5315 CB  
Ponca City, OK 74602-1267  
(580) 767-4096  
Fax: (580) 767-3898

November 6, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
CY-B402  
Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Secretary Salas,

RE: CC Docket No. 00-217

On October 26, 2000, Southwestern Bell Telephone filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission requesting that they be allowed to provide long distance service to their customers in Oklahoma. I urge you to approve this application.

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission on September 28, 2000, unanimously approved this application. After an extensive review of the application, lasting more than two years, the OCC determined that Southwestern Bell in Oklahoma had met all criteria for entry into the long distance markets.

If the developments in Texas following your recent decision to allow Southwestern Bell into the long distance markets in that state are any indication, Oklahoma consumers, both business and residence, should immediately see the benefits of increased competition and lower rates. Following the Texas decision, AT&T responded to the increased competitive market by lowering its long distance rate from 15 to 7 cents per minute, *a reduction of more than half*.

Competition in the long distance market breeds competition in the local market. In both Texas and New York - the two states in which local phone companies have been allowed to enter the long distance market - the Big Three long distance companies dramatically increased their marketing efforts in the local phone market when local phone companies were approved to sell long distance. When long distance companies face competition in their market, they aggressively enter the local market - and consumers win.

I again urge you to follow the recommendation of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission and approve this application.

Sincerely,



Kenneth D. Ray

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November 3, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
CY-B402  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20544

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NOV 13 2000  
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Re: CC Docket No. 00-217

Dear Secretary Salas:

I am writing today to encourage you to rule swiftly on Southwestern Bell's application to provide long distance in Oklahoma.

As the owner of several businesses, both large and small, I understand the vital importance of telecommunications. I value the role that the market place and competition play in keeping rates affordable and in generating new services and products. We are beginning to see such innovation in the local telecommunications market in Oklahoma and that's a good start toward fulfilling the promises of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

However, competition for local telephone service isn't enough. I've seen statistics that demonstrate the three largest long-distance companies still control about 80 percent of the long-distance market. While prices initially decreased, businesses and residential consumers have yet to see any "real competition" in the long-distance industry. Now is the time for the FCC to open up the long-distance market in Oklahoma to true competition. Let Southwestern Bell compete!

I urge you to carefully review the work the Oklahoma Corporation Commission has done in examining Southwestern Bell's application. Furthermore, I urge you to send a strong signal to the nation that competition is king by approving Southwestern Bell's Oklahoma application promptly.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Funk  
Chairman of the Board  
Chief Executive Officer

RAF:cg

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**KERR-McGEE CORPORATION**

KERR-McGEE CENTER • OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73125

LUKE R. CORBETT

CHAIRMAN AND  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

November 2, 2000

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Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
CY-B402  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20544

CC Docket No. 00-217

Dear Secretary Salas:

I am writing to support the application of Southwestern Bell Telephone to provide long distance service in Oklahoma.

After almost two years of independent and comprehensive review, the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC) unanimously ruled to support Southwestern Bell's application on November 26, 2000. In its ruling, the OCC stated that Southwestern Bell has met the 14-point checklist and that local markets in Oklahoma are open to competition.

In reviewing key facts from Southwestern Bell's filing to write this letter, it appears abundantly clear that Oklahoma, a rural state, is one of the most competitive markets in the country. Consider the following:

- 105 companies have been certificated by the OCC to provide local service in Oklahoma.
- 79 companies have signed interconnection agreements with Southwestern Bell, with 46 of those actively passing orders to Southwestern Bell.
- Competitors are doing business in 94 percent of the counties served by Southwestern Bell.
- Since January 1, 1997, Southwestern Bell and its competitors in Oklahoma have exchanged more than 847 million minutes of use over interconnection trunks.

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Magalie Roman Salas  
November 2, 2000  
Page Two

The case seems clear that local telecommunications markets are irreversibly open in Oklahoma. In fact, competitive entry into the local telecommunications market in Oklahoma seems to be greater than larger, more urban states, like Texas.

I urge you to consider the facts, listen to the endorsement of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission and bring full-fledged competition to the telecommunications market in Oklahoma by approving Southwestern Bell's application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luke R. Corbett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

Luke R. Corbett

LRC/csw

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

KEITH E. BAILEY  
Chairman of the Board, President and  
Chief Executive Officer  
918/573-3258  
918/573-3905 office fax  
918/523-0813 home fax  
kbailey@wcp.twc.com

November 3, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
CY-B402  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20544

Re: CC Docket No. 00-217

Dear Secretary Salas:

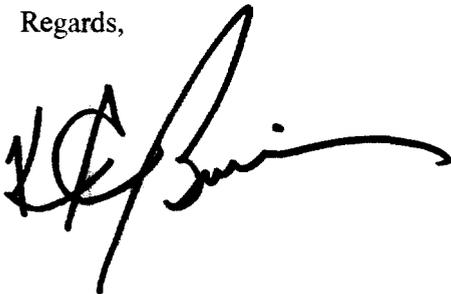
I am writing in support of Southwestern Bell's application to provide long distance service in Oklahoma.

Williams is one of the largest companies headquartered in the state, as well as one of the largest employers. Our Communications business unit, Williams Communications Group, also has a major business relationship with SBC and has had the opportunity to judge first-hand the company's commitment to the competitive marketplace.

I urge the Commission to give prompt and favorable treatment to Southwestern Bell's application. It is in the interest of our state and those of us who choose to live and do business here, as it will significantly expand the options available to us with regard to our communications needs, which is critical in today's economy. I would also point out that the Oklahoma State Corporation Commission has done a thorough review of their application and believes it conforms well with the requirements precedent to such relief.

Your attention to this important issue is very much appreciated.

Regards,



cc: Howard Janzen  
President and CEO  
Williams Communications Group



One Williams Center  
P.O. Box 2400  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74102  
918/573-2000

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Frank Keating  
Governor

November 6, 2000

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Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
CY-B402  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20544

RE: CC Docket No. 00-217

Dear Secretary Salas:

I am pleased to add my thoughts to the public record as the Federal Communications Commission considers the application of Southwestern Bell to provide long distance service in Oklahoma.

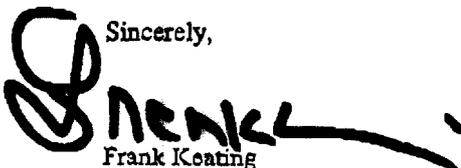
As you know, Oklahoma is a predominantly rural state with two large metropolitan areas, Oklahoma City and Tulsa. As a state, we are making great progress in improving the economic development and educational opportunities for our citizens. Yet, in order to continue to meet our goals, we must insist on affordable, universal telecommunications and technology.

Southwestern Bell is helping us to begin high-speed Internet access to 39 rural communities throughout Oklahoma. Our communities are poised to maximize the opportunities that such technology brings to rural areas both in terms of economic and educational development.

However, another part of the equation is still missing. While technology and high-speed Internet access are important to attracting and keeping industries in rural locations, low-cost long distance rates are equally as important. Since the major long distance companies still control a majority of the InterLATA market, as has been shown in states like New York and Texas, I believe that the entry of regional telephone companies like Southwestern Bell will continue to bring long distance rates down. Thus, making it economically feasible for business and industry to operate in the rural areas of our state.

I urge you to give states like Oklahoma the tools we need to continue to grow our local economies and to sustain the rural qualities of life. And, in doing so, I urge you to support Southwestern Bell's application to provide long distance service to all Oklahomans who want it.

Sincerely,

  
Frank Keating

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Areawide Aging Agency

November 6, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Room TW-B-204  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, D.C.

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Re: CC Docket No. 00-217

Dear Secretary Salas:

As the Executive Director of the Areawide Aging Agency, I write to you on behalf of the senior adults in central Oklahoma in support of Southwestern Bell's application to provide long distance service in the state of Oklahoma. I strongly encourage you to rule in favor of their application.

When it comes to purchasing their telecommunications services, senior adults are looking for a name they know and trust, fair rates and particularly simplicity and convenience. Allow me to illustrate that by allowing Southwestern Bell to offer long distance service in Oklahoma, you are assisting senior adults in meeting these requirements.

First, seniors are seeking simplicity. Please allow them to select Southwestern Bell as their point of contact for all their telecommunications needs, whether it's local service or long distance calling. I can personally attest to dozens of conversations with older adults who have bemoaned receiving multiple bills for services, often confusing them greatly. Like most of us, seniors get confused about which company to call if they have problems or want to make changes in their service.

Second, mature adults are looking for convenience. Allowing them the option of having one bill and only having to write one check for all their telecommunications services is an outstanding convenience for all of us, not just seniors. This point also applies to other potential telecommunication providers. That is, by setting the

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precedent with Southwestern Bell and a single billing, you are creating a competitive atmosphere from which all providers could profit.

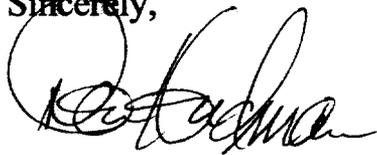
Third, senior adults want value for their money. According to my parents, a calling plan with no monthly rates and no minimum monthly charges, with very low per-minute call rates, like Southwestern Bell is currently offering in Texas, certainly qualifies as an economical calling plan, particularly for seniors on fixed incomes.

Finally, seniors, more than any other group, seek a name they know and trust when purchasing services of any kind. Hence, there would be a certain 'comfort level' in allowing one-stop shopping for the elderly.

As you consider the merits of Southwestern Bell's filing and the record the Oklahoma Corporation Commission has compiled in this matter, I ask you to think about the positive impact which approving this company's entry into long distance would have on someone like your own parents. In this manner I believe you'll be able to fully realize the benefits your decision can bring to older Oklahomans.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this important issue. I appreciate your thoroughness in reviewing the merits of the application and am available should you need to speak with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Hudman", written over a circular stamp or mark.

**Don Hudman**  
**Executive Director**

# TERRY GARTSIDE, REALTORS®



- P.O. Box 306, 3815 S. 113th W. Ave., Sand Springs, Oklahoma 74063 • (918) 245-6641
- P.O. Box 446, 1301 East Taft, Sapulpa, Oklahoma 74066 • (918) 224-5915
- Mannford, Oklahoma 74044 • (918) 865-4768

November 1, 2000

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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
CY-B402  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Salas:

RE: Common Carrier Docket Number 00-217

As telecommunications competition has developed over the last few years, I have often asked: "When will Southwestern Bell be able to provide me with long distance service?" So many companies have asked me to change my local service, it only stands to reason that Southwestern Bell should be allowed to provide long distance service. I was pleased to read the Oklahoma Corporation Commission unanimously agreed Southwestern Bell and its competitors are ready to go toe-to-toe. Oklahoma consumers will benefit, and we need that benefit.

I'm sure you are aware the majority of the long distance market is controlled by three companies--AT&T, WorldCom and Sprint. Oklahomans need another choice. According to news reports, Southwestern Bell's entry in Texas triggered not only much lower rates, but some very aggressive marketing by long distance competitors. Just like Texans I need to save money on my long distance costs and true competition makes that possible. I've followed the issue for quite some time. Southwestern Bell has been required to go to great pains to prove it has opened every required door to its competitors, significantly changing the landscape.

There's really only one more door to open -- the door to realistic long-distance choice -- and I want to walk through it. I want greater choice. And I want to save money. Now it is up to you at the FCC to allow Oklahoma business owners to share the benefits already extended to our Texas counterparts.

I urge you to analyze all the information and the recommendation from our Corporation Commission and act favorably on Southwestern Bell's application to enter the long distance market in Oklahoma.

Sincerely,

Pete Galbraith  
Terry Gartside, Realtors

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November 1, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, FCC  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Room TW-B-204  
Washington, DC 20554

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00-217

Dear Secretary Salas:

I have long been an advocate for the best possible telephone service in rural Oklahoma. Over the past several years we have seen the removal of all party lines, enhanced digital switching throughout the state, and, most recently, a wide deployment of DSL broadband service. Thanks to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, that is a pretty good record of accomplishment for a small rural state.

However, the last piece of the puzzle is still needed badly. That is, the ability to get long-distance service from Southwestern Bell. The Oklahoma Corporation Commission recently ruled unanimously in favor of Southwestern Bell's application to provide this service.

I am writing today to urge you to favorably consider the application, as it is now in your hands. The consumers of this state deserve another choice and the increased competition that your approval will bring.

I anxiously await your approval so that we can enjoy simpler billing and lower rates.

Sincerely,



Jean Sanders  
Owner  
Access Wireless  
Muskogee, OK

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November 1, 2000

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
CY-B402  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Ms. Salas:

RE: Common Carrier Docket Number 00-217,

Oklahomans need your help. We ask you to approve the application from Southwestern Bell to enter the long distance business. The "Sooner" the better.

I respect the caution with which the FCC has guided telecommunications companies in recent years as a very complex industry reconfigured itself to work within a truly competitive marketplace. At times I was skeptical the huge companies would maneuver through the legal challenges and come out with anything of benefit to me as a business owner. It's taken a long time . . . but finally the opportunity is here for significant progress . . . and for a reduction in a significant cost to my business: long distance.

A recent article in the *Daily Oklahoman* pointed out what happened in Texas when Southwestern Bell entered the long distance business. The competitors responded. Now Texas telephone users have many new companies from which to choose and most of them are offering lower rates. Some of them – including Southwestern Bell – require no monthly minimum fee. These companies could probably have done that long ago, but the reality of competition made them actually take action.

I want that same competition in Oklahoma. I understand the reasoning behind making Southwestern Bell prove it has competition in other areas of its business before entering long distance. But I believe they've proven it. The Corporation Commission also believes it, and that's no small feat, considering that historically the Commission has been pretty hard on Southwestern Bell.

I am confident that after careful consideration of all the evidence you will agree with our Commission, Southwestern Bell has done their part. I hope Oklahomans will bring in 2001 with good news from the FCC that will provide us better service, better prices and more choices.

Sincerely,

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November 9, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
CY-B 402  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 00-217

Dear Secretary Salas:

This letter is written in strong support of Southwestern Bell's application to provide long distance service in Kansas and Oklahoma.

As a company with our national headquarters in Kansas and with over 150,000 customers, we are concerned with long distance competition and rates and their impact on our employees and our customers.

Southwestern Bell has worked with the Kansas Corporation Commission to open local markets and the consumers of Kansas have benefited. Now it is time to allow Southwestern Bell the same opportunity with long distance service.

The results in Texas have been positive, and business and individual customers in Kansas and Oklahoma deserve this same opportunity.

We encourage your favorable approval.

Very truly yours,

Mark V. Heitz  
President and Chief Executive Officer

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