

THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

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MAR 02 2001

FCC MAIL

COMMITTEES:

Commerce and Economic Opportunities,
Vice Chairman
Education
Health, Aging and Long-Term Care
Reapportionment - Subcommittee on Congressional
Apportionment and Redistricting
Regulated Industries

JOINT COMMITTEE:

Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations

SENATOR RON KLEIN
28th District

February 26, 2001

Federal Communications Commission
Attn: Ms. Magalie Salas
445 12th Street SW, Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Salas:

I write to you today to ask you to include in **DA No. 01-341/Dkt No. 96-98** the following letters and resolutions which were received by my office and the Florida Public Service Commission in support of our position to keep the 561 area code for Palm Beach County and provide a new area code for the Treasure Coast.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. If you have any questions please contact my office.

Very truly yours,



Ron Klein
State Senator
District 28

No. of Copies rec'd 0
USABODE

REPLY TO:

- 3333 South Congress Avenue, Suite 305 A, Delray Beach, Florida 33445 (561) 274-4777
- 406 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5091

Legislature's Website: <http://www.leg.state.fl.us>

JOHN M. MCKAY
President

GINNY BROWN-WAITE
President Pro Tempore

FAYE W. BLANTON
Secretary

DONALD SEVERANCE
Sergeant at Arms



CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE



A CITY FOR ALL AGES

James F. Fielding, Mayor

DA NO. 01-341

August 28, 2000

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FCC MAIL ROOM

Mr. E. Leon Jacobs, Commissioner
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shurmand Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0866

Re: 10 Digit Dialing

Dear Mr. Jacobs:

The citizens of Port St. Lucie and I were amazed with the news of August 24, 2000, that the staff of the Public Service Commission made their recommendation for an overlay in our area. A few months ago, a meeting was held in the County Commission Chambers. Those who attended, including members of government and the Chamber of Commerce left with the belief that we were going to have a new area code assigned. It was even suggested that we could submit numbers for this new area code.

I am sure that you realize that this is one of the fastest growing areas in Florida. Projections from Bell South indicated an overlay would last three to six years. We have had area codes 305, 407, and 561 all within the last 15 years. This area is looking forward to a time that when an area code would last 20-25 years such as other areas of Florida have experienced.

Port St. Lucie is the third largest in area in the State of Florida, with build-out at approximately 30%. Currently there are about 86,000 residents and projections indicate 250,000 to 300,000 at build-out. We still have in excess of 60,000 platted lots that are in private ownership to be built upon. We are also in the middle of a much-needed commercial development. At present, the city is about 92% residential and it is a known fact that you cannot operate a city of this size with this makeup. Your plan will mean that as our new residents move in at the rate of 1200 to 1500 new homes per year our telephone use will be further exacerbated with 10-digit dialing.

Page Two
August 28, 2000
Mr. E. Leon Jacobs

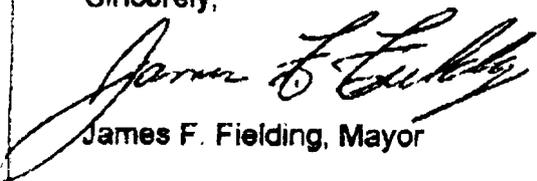
There are concerns regarding our computerized reverse dialing system. We use this system in emergencies to inform citizens when there are police and fire emergencies, water main breaks, and for informational purposes for special area meetings. The Sheriffs Department, 911, and others in our area have similar systems. It is our belief that with our growth pattern and the growth pattern of Martin and Indian River Counties this overlay will make it extremely hard, if not impossible, to enter the data. Port St. Lucie was laid out 40 years ago by a developer attempting to become wealthy. Lots were sold all over the city and we now have homes scattered from border to border. Some areas may only have one or two houses on a street. I believe you can see the impact that will burden the city if the 10-digit dialing occurs.

I find it hard to believe that staff studied our conditions or listened to us at the meeting earlier in the year. I have spoken to the County Commissioners, Sheriff and other officials in the area and all are upset by this decision. It appears that there was little thought by this staff and certainly no consideration of our residents and businesses. Three area codes in 15 years should entitle us to more consideration for our own area code and 20 years without always replacing stationary, advertising, dialing systems, and updating of computer systems. We are all in agreement to do it one more time and have it last for an extended period of time.

I was surprised to see that a public hearing and meeting on September 5 has been scheduled. You may not be aware that this is Primary Election day in most areas of the state and many of our elected offices, who are up for election, would be unable to travel to Tallahassee on that date. Prior to making this decision, I believe the staff should study again this issue as to how it will affect the citizens and business community. I would like you to reconsider the date of September 5 for the public hearing. You might also note that Election Day is November 7.

One suggestion that I believe should be considered is to assign an area code for cell phones, pagers and any other mobile equipment by states or regions. Since these lines are mobile and could be used anywhere in the United States it would free up lines. Why not assign them area codes accordingly?

Sincerely,



James F. Fielding, Mayor

Jff/mm



PO. Box 1989
 West Palm Beach, FL 33402-1989
 (561) 355-2001
 FAX: (561) 355-3990
 www.co.palm-beach.fl.us

**Palm Beach County
 Board of County
 Commissioners**

- Maude Ford Lee, Chair
- Warren H. Newell, Vice Chairman
- Karen T. Marcus
- Carol A. Roberts
- Mary McCarty
- Burt Aaronson
- Tony Masilotti

- County Administrator**
- Robert Weisman

The Honorable Bill Andrews
 Chairman, Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation
 777 E. Atlantic Ave., Ste. 226
 Delray Beach, FL 33445

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DA-NO. 01-341

MAR 02 2001

September 28, 1999

MAIL ROOM

Dear Representative Andrews:

Enclosed please find a copy of a Board resolution which was passed on September 21 expressing our support for maintaining the 561 area code as the sole area code for Palm Beach County. This is an issue we have discussed with the Delegation in the past and we appreciate your support of our position on this issue.

Fortunately, the Federal Communications Commission has apparently developed a temporary solution to this problem by allowing the Public Service Commission to rescind blocks of numbers in the 561 area code that have been allotted to telecommunications companies but remain unused. These numbers will be redistributed, potentially delaying the point when 561 numbers will run out for a few years. However, we will have to address this issue again in the future and hope you will continue to support our position that Palm Beach County maintains 561 as its only area code, while smaller counties are assigned a new area code.

Sincerely,

Maude Ford Lee
 Chair, Board of County Commissioners

- cc: Members, Board of County Commissioners
 Members, PBC Legislative Delegation
 Bob Weisman, County Administrator
 Denise Coté, Public Affairs Director
 Todd Bonlarron, Legislative Delegation Executive Director
 Marcia Mowbray, Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator
 Gordon Selfridge, Chief Deputy County Attorney
 Lenny Berger, Assistant County Attorney
 Kathy Daley, PBC Lobbyist

att: as noted

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RESOLUTION NO. 99-1680**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION SUPPORTING THE RETENTION OF THE 561 AREA CODE IN PALM BEACH COUNTY.**

WHEREAS, the 561 area code is nearing capacity and the region is on the verge of being dissected; and

WHEREAS, there is precedent for the Public Service Commission to retain the area code in the largest affected area, which is Palm Beach County; and

WHEREAS, by restricting the 561 area code to Palm Beach County, the capacity limitations and the possible implementation of 10-digit dialing can be delayed; and

WHEREAS, the affected areas of Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin counties will most likely be able to retain a new area code for a much longer period of time because they are slower growth areas; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County believes a majority of County residents would choose to avoid the expense and disruption of changing the 561 area code until capacity in Palm Beach County alone is met at some point in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Public Service Commission will be conducting public hearings tentatively scheduled for March 23, 2000 in Boca Raton and March 24, 2000 in West Palm Beach to address this issue and the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County hereby requests the Florida Public Service Commission to retain the 561 area code for all of Palm Beach County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, THAT:

1. The Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners hereby requests the Florida Public Service Commission to retain the 561 area code for the residents of Palm Beach County.
2. The Public Affairs Department is directed to forward this Resolution to the Florida Public Service Commission and the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation.
3. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner Aaronson
 who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner
Roberts, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

COMM. MAUDE FORD LEE	___	Aye
COMM. WARREN H. NEWELL	___	Aye
COMM. BURT AARONSON	___	Aye
COMM. MARY McCARTY	___	Absent
COMM. KAREN T. MARCUS	___	Absent
COMM. TONY MASLOTTI	___	Absent
COMM. CAROL A. ROBERTS	___	Aye

The Chair thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this 21 day
 of September, 1999.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
 LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, BY ITS
 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DOROTHY H. WILKEN, CLERK

By: [Signature]
 Assistant County Attorney

By: [Signature]
 Deputy Clerk





Intercepted

DA 01-341

RECEIVED

August 29, 2000

RECEIVED

SEP 7 2000

Mr. J. Terry Deason, Chairman
Public Service Commission
2540 Sherman Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

MAR 02 2001

Florida Public Service Comm.
Chairman Deason

MAIL ROOM

RE: Docket Number 990456-TL REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF PROPOSED
NUMBERING PLAN RELIEF FOR THE 561 AREA CODE

Dear Mr. Deason:

The lengthy process to develop a plan to alleviate the shortage of available phone numbers is about to come to an end with the Commission's vote scheduled for 5 September 2000. The Board of County Commissioners for Palm Beach County has been following this with great interest as your decision will have a profound impact on our citizens.

During the public hearings held in West Palm Beach, the Commission had the opportunity to hear from a number of citizens as well as representatives from Senator Klein, Representative Merchant, and Palm Beach County Government. Each of these speakers voiced their concerns and recommended to the Commission that we avoid going to ten digit dialing. The recommended alternative supported by Palm Beach County, as presented by my Deputy, Mr. Pat Miller, was Alternative Four which retained the 561 area code within Palm Beach County. Later in the afternoon, my Director of Communications, Mr. Bob Zelazny, presented the Commission with an option which included Alternative Four with conservation measures which addressed Mr. Foley's major objective to Alternative Four by extending the exhaust period in Region A out to approximately seven years, according to our calculations. This option, which would appear to meet most of your selection criteria as well as the desires of our citizens was not evaluated as an option in the memorandum presented to you by the staff.

I request that in your considerations for relief to the area code 561 that you weigh heavily the stated desires of those citizens and elected officials that provided testimony at the open hearings. To the individual, their position was clear: no ten digit dialing at this time. Additionally, Alternative Four with conservation measures provides the citizens with a viable solution to going to ten digit dialing at this time, while maintaining the geographical integrity of the counties involved and it warrants evaluation and consideration as a means of providing relief to the 561 area code.

Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Robert Weisman
Robert Weisman
County Administrator

Facilities Development
& Operations Department
Communications Division
323 Belvedere Road, Building 506
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406
(561) 233-4400
Fax: (561) 233-4439
www.co.palm-beach.fl.us

Palm Beach County
Board of County
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Maude Ford Lee, Chair
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Mary McCarty
Burt Aaronson
Tony Masilotti

County Administrator
Robert Weisman

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DA 01-341

In Partnership with St. Lucie County • Port St. Lucie and Fort Pierce
to create and promote economic development.

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MAR 02 2001

FCC 12/1/01

August 21, 2000

Mr. Levent Ileri, Engineer
Division of Telecommunications
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0866

Dear Mr. Ileri:

Earlier this year, St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce President Jeannette Walsh addressed the Public Service Commission (PSC) at the meeting it held in Fort Pierce. At that time, Ms. Walsh informed the PSC that the Chamber preferred changing the geographic area of the existing 561 code and creating a new code for the area of Indian River, Martin and St. Lucie Counties. This continues to be the Chamber's position.

At that time, Ms. Walsh was also asked to recommend a new code for the area. Subsequently, you were most helpful in identifying available codes from which to choose. After careful consideration, the St. Lucie County Chamber recommends that the new area code be "820". The "8" and "2" would stand for "T" "C" respectively; TC for Treasure Coast, a regional name which we market and by which the area of Indian River, Martin and St. Lucie Counties is known.

It is our hope that the Commission will give these recommendations favorable consideration. Our 1200 Chamber members and 190,000 St. Lucie County residents will appreciate being able to continue to dial 7-digit local numbers and use an area code that holds special meaning to those that call the Treasure Coast home.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Al Rivett
Executive Vice President

cc: Members, Florida Public Service Commission
Members, Board of Directors
St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce

Antonia

J. Terry Deason

From: JulieLStanko@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2000 6:13 PM
To: tdeason@psc.state.fl.us; ajacobs@psc.state.fl.us; ljaber@psc.state.fl.us; bbaez@psc.state.fl.us
Cc: klein.ron.web@leg.state.fl.us
Subject: 561 area code

DA#01-341

My name is Julie Stanko and I'm a social worker at Elder Crisis Outreach. We serve the elderly residents of Palm Beach County. On behalf of my clients, I urge you to retain the 561 area code. Changing the area code will only lead to increased confusion and frustration for this vulnerable group of people.

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POSTAL MAIL ROOM 1

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this important decision. I may be reached at 561-533-1060, if you have any questions or concerns on how your vote will affect this population of Palm Beach County.

Sincerely,
 Julie L. Stanko, BA, CIRS
 Elder Crisis Outreach

re program phones...

Customer

For RK Proposal

7 Treasure Coast
 5 Palm Beach
 also letters from
 Suzanne Jacobs +
 Mayor Fielding, Port St. Lucie

against proposal

2 letters Treasure Coast

Intney

J. Terry Deason

From: JRingo2801@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2000 3:02 PM
To: tdeason@psc.state.fl.us
Subject: 10 digit Indian River & St Lucie Counties

DA # 01-341

Dear Chairman Deason: The proposal to increase to 10 digit dialing is strongly disfavored by Condo residents here in St Lucie County. Our seniors all favor a new area code. Jim Ringo, Midport Place Condo Assn.

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MAR 02 2001

FCC MAIL ROOM

Customer

DA 01-341

Intercom
Customer

J. Terry Deason

From: Alan Bauman [abauman@adelphia.net]
Sent: Sunday, September 17, 2000 10:33 PM
To: tdeason@psc.state.fl.us
Subject: 10-digit overlay

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MAR 02 2001

MAIL ROOM

Dear Mr. Deason,

I am contacting you on behalf of the upcoming vote on "overlay dialing" and how it will affect the residents & businesses of Palm Beach. I am aware of an alternative plan which would allow Palm Beach to retain 561, and allow all parties considered to experience a minimum amount of disruption and confusion over the long term. As a physician, small business owner and resident of Palm Beach County, I would urge you to please vote to retain the 561 area code solely for the residents of Palm Beach County, and allow a new area code for St. Lucie, Martin, & Indian River Counties.

Progress and growth is inevitable and encouraging, however, it would seem to me that this would allow the other counties concerned (St. Lucie, Martin & Indian River) to also benefit by retaining this new area code for a much longer period of time--considering their slower rates of growth.

Again, I urge you to "delay the overlay" and vote to maintain 561 solely for the residents and businesses of Palm Beach. Thank you for your response and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Alan J. Bauman, M.D.
doctorb@baumanmedical.com

NATURE SAVER™ FAX MEMO 01616		Date	# of pages ▶ 14
To	Brandon	From	Bill Berg
Co./Dept.		Co.	FPSC
Phone #		Phone #	850-413-6002
Fax #	561-279-1990	Fax #	

DA 01-341

J. Terry Deason

From: Broz05@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2000 12:55 PM
To: tdeason@psc.state.fl.us; ejacobs@psc.state.fl.us; ljaber@psc.state.fl.us;
 bbaez@psc.state.fl.us
Subject: Palm Beach County overlay

Handwritten signature

Dear Members,

Please allow Palm Beach County to keep its current area code and assign a new one to the Treasure Coast. We realize that the time may come when we will have to have a 10-digit overlay, but clearly there is an easier alternative right now that is preferred by residents, businesses and elected officials in both regions. In other words, we all win. As the old saying goes, No good reason to do something is a good reason not to do it.

In these days of heroes and villains, there are few heroes. Please be ours.

Respectfully,

Donna Brosemer
 561-775-1072

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 MAR 02 2001
 FCC MAIL ROOM

Customer

Anthony

J. Terry Deason

From: RWSIPSL@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2000 5:36 PM
To: tdeason@psc.state.fl.us
Subject: New Area Code

DA 01-341

Mr. Deason, As a small businessman in Port St Lucie it would seem to me a new area code for a specific area, i.e., St. Lucie, Indian River and Martin Counties would make a lot more sense than doing the so called 'overlay'.

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FCC MAIL ROOM

I have some business friends in Miami Dade and since the implementation of the additional area code in the same geographical area it appears to have caused a lot more work than having a separate area. At least for the public. Maybe it is easier for the service provider but candidly I think the customers should have some say in this.

Thanks and regards

Ralph Wood
Ralph Wood Services, Inc.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34985
561-337-2528
RWSIPSL@AOL.COM

Customer

John

J. Terry Deason

From: Mike [luderi@email.msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2000 7:10 PM
To: tdeason@psc.state.fl.us; ejacobs@psc.state.fl.us; ljaber@psc.state.fl.us
Cc: alrivett@stluciechamber.org
Subject: St. Lucie County Area Code

DA 01-341

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Dear Sir

MAR 02 2001

Please be advised that I oppose the adoption of 10 digit phone numbers for St. Lucie County, Fl. I am in agreement with the St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce recommendation to form a new area listing for Indian River, Martin and St. Lucie Counties. Thank you for the consideration of my input.

FCC MAIL ROOM

Dr. Michael C. Riordan
email: luderi@msn.com
Fort Pierce, Florida

Customer

DA 01-341

Patricia A. Baldwin

J. Terry Deason

From: Pat Baldwin [pabaldwin@worldnet.att.net]
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2000 8:37 PM
To: jdeason@psc.state.fl.us
Subject: New Area Code is opposed to an overlay and prefers that a

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MAR 02 2001

FCC MAIL ROOM

I am a resident and own a law office in Port St. Lucie. I am opposed to the proposed overlay for a new area code to be added and prefer that a new geographic area be established for the new code. My understanding is that the new area would include Indian River County, St. Lucie County and Martin County, with the exception of Hobe Sound. I find it very inefficient to have to repeatedly dial the area code for calls that are within my own area code.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. Patricia A. Baldwin.

Customer

J. Terry Deason

DA 01-341

Intentional

From: MPAREAMGR@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2000 8:43 PM
To: ldeason@psc.state.fl.us; ejacobs@psc.state.fl.us; ljaber@psc.state.fl.us; bbaez@psc.state.fl.us
Subject: 10 Digit Overlay

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FCC MAIL ROOM

My husband and I, both business owners, oppose the 10 digit overlay. This will cause delays in service and waste time. We would prefer a new area code to this proposal. Please reconsider your recommendation.

Linda & Paul Ogle
 Port St. Lucie

Customer

DA 01-341

Intercept

J. Terry Deason

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From: Sheila_Shelton@cch.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2000 5:37 PM
To: tdeason@psc.state.fl.us; ejacobs@psc.state.fl.us; ljaber@psc.state.fl.us; bbaez@psc.state.fl.us
Subject: 561 area code question for Palm Beach County

MAR 02 2001

FCC MAIL ROOM

Customer

I have opened a sales office in Delray Beach for one of the 3 largest international legal publishers and I am very concerned about the pending vote for the area code changes in Palm Beach county.

I represent CCH INCORPORATED, a division of Wolters Kluwer out of Amsterdam and while we are small in number in Palm Beach County , we use this office location to reach customers round the world. We have invested heavily in promoting our phone as a resource to have customers reach us from all over the globe. If we have to reprint and distribute that information in catalogs, direct mail and business cards all over again, it would be very expensive. I'm sure that I represent the feeling of most business folks in the county. I feel that Palm Beach has worked hard to develop a strong business base, rather than all residential, and therefore should be permitted to keep the 561 area code in order to promote the business continuity.

Thank you for hearing my concerns, Sheila Shelton

Intercept

REC'D
MAR 02 2001
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SEP 15 2000
Florida Public Service Comm.
Chairman Deason

September 12, 2000

J. Terry Deason
Chairman
Public Service Commission
2546 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee FL 32399-0850

DA 01-341

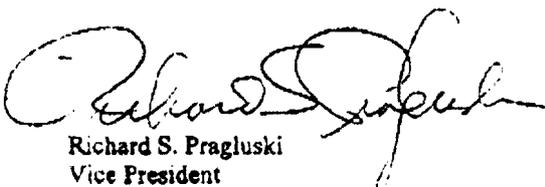
RE: Martin County Area Telephone Codes

I request that you give consideration to the following two options to fix the 561 area code problem in Martin, Palm Beach and St. Lucie counties:

Option 1: Increased demand for new telephone numbers is due in large part to the proliferation of connections to computers, networks and fax machines. By creating a class of service for non-voice use and using ten digit dialing for this purpose, telephone numbers would be freed-up for voice calling. A price incentive would encourage such separation of services. An added advantage of this approach could be its universal application throughout Florida.

Option 2: Ten digit dialing in preference to a new and separate area code. Our business employs a PBX system for our 15 lines and 80 extensions. The PBX can be programmed to dial the extra digits automatically. This is preferable to changing our telephone number on our business cards, stationery and advertising signs.

Respectfully,



Richard S. Praguski
Vice President
All Points Leasing Corporation

From: pr@publicrelations.nu
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2000 5:17 PM
To: tdeason@psc.state.fl.us; ejacobs@psc.state.fl.us; ljaber@psc.state.fl.us; bbaez@psc.state.fl.us
Cc: Klein.Ron.S28@leg.state.fl.us
Subject: New Area Code

DA 01-341

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JAIL ROOM 1

I am writing to implore you to please leave the 561 area code for Palm Beach County and create a new area code for St. Lucie, Martin and Indian River Counties. This will be much less disruptive for the businesses in Palm Beach County, which is the most populous and provide the same service

as Broward County now has. To institute an overlay in the 561 area code, like was done in Dade County, would require 10 digit dialing which would be

most intrusive to the businesses and residents in Palm Beach County. I realize that ultimately, we may have to have it, but if it could be delayed

for a few years more, as long as possible, it would be much more preferable. I also understand that the other counties would prefer to get

their own new area code too, rather than having to deal with an overlay and

the annoyance of requiring 10 digit dialing for them. Thank you for your consideration in this matter, I remain, most respectfully, Barry R. Epstein, APR.

barry r. epstein, APR, CCE, CED; president/ceo
barry r. epstein associates, inc. public relations
talk: 561.852.0000
send: 561.451.0000
click: pr@publicrelations.nu
portfolio: http://www.publicrelations.nu
write: 11922 waterwood drive
boca raton, fl 33428-1026