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January 8, 2013

Mr. Allan Jeffries

Dear Mr. Jeffries:

Thank you for your e-mail of January 3, 2012 to the IURC Commissioners in which you expressed your frustration over the high per-minute charges levied against those who call inmates at many local, county, state and other jails and prisons, and in which you specifically addressed the cost of calling your granddaughter, who is currently held in the Porter County Jail.

The Indiana Commissioners are members of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, or NARUC. That group, which meets three times a year, is the organization through which state utility commissioners address matters of concern to the regulatory community, to utilities and to their customers. Each of us is assigned to one or more committees at NARUC, and I am writing to you as the Commissioner from Indiana assigned to the Telecommunications Committee.

As it happens, the NARUC Telecommunications Committee addressed this issue specifically and directly in a resolution passed by the Telecommunications Committee and by the NARUC Board of Directors. I voted for the resolution both times. In the resolution, NARUC calls for "immediate action [by the Federal Communications Commission] on the 'Wright Petition' [see next paragraph] by prohibiting unreasonable interstate rates and charges for inmate telephone services." I have attached a full copy of the resolution for your reference.

This issue dates back at least ten years. The Federal Communications Commission was asked in the "Wright Petition" filed with the FCC in 2003 to resolve the issue of inmate telephone rates which, the petition notes, are often much higher than rates charged to other customers. The FCC was asked to impose price caps on long-distance prison telephone rates which would acknowledge that there are unique costs involved in the provision of such service, but that commissions and various connection fees and other charges often significantly exceed those costs. The resolution was directed to the FCC because under Federal law, the FCC has exclusive jurisdiction over interstate services such as long distance.

Four years later, in the absence of any action on the part of the FCC, the petitioners in 2007 offered an alternate rulemaking petition. Today, ten years later, the FCC has yet to act. One of the FCC Commissioners, Mignon Clyburn, who was just reconfirmed and who formerly

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Page 2 of 2

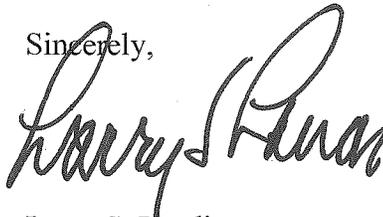
served on the South Carolina Public Utility Commission, has singlehandedly taken up the cause and attended our November meetings, in part to support passage of NARUC's resolution.

Regardless of one's stance on imprisonment, it is unconscionable that the FCC should take an entire decade to address and decide upon this issue. According to the 2012 Statistical Abstract published by the US Census, preliminary figures for 2009 (the latest available) report 760,000 jail inmates and 1, 525,000 prison inmates. As such, this is of obvious concern to the families of many of those who are incarcerated.

It now appears that Commissioner Clyburn may be successful in prodding her colleagues to action. I have known, served with and greatly respected Commissioner Clyburn for nearly a decade; she can be a very determined woman, and I would certainly want her in my corner. If you will e-mail me your contact information (address and telephone) I will forward your e-mail and this letter to her as she presses the FCC to act, at long last.

Thank you for your e-mail. If there is any way in which I can be of further assistance in this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry S. Landis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Larry" being the most prominent.

Larry S. Landis

LSL/kab

Enclosure

cc: Hon. Mignon Clyburn
Chairman James Atterholt
Commissioner Kari Bennett
Commissioner Carolene Mays
Commissioner David Ziegner
Doug Webber, General Counsel