

Received & Inspected

NOV 15 2012

FCC Mail Room

SCI Greene
175 Progress Drive
Waynesburg, PA 15370

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public Comments
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

**THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE WRIGHT PETITION
CC DOCKET #96-128**

Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to you in response to your fight to lower the high cost of phone calls from prisoners to their friends and families.

I am incarcerated at SCI Greene in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania and for me to call home (in state), the cost is \$5.41 using the Global Tel Link pre paid calling card system sold through the institution commissary. A collect call to that same number (in state) is just over \$6.00 (both for fifteen minute phone calls. A person who makes the same call out of state must pay a rate of \$8.00 to \$10.00 using the pre paid calling system, \$10.24 for a collect call. This is simply too much money for the majority of my family members, my support network, to afford, especially in this present economy. As it stands, I have very limited contact with my family and loved ones due to the excessive costs of these phone calls.

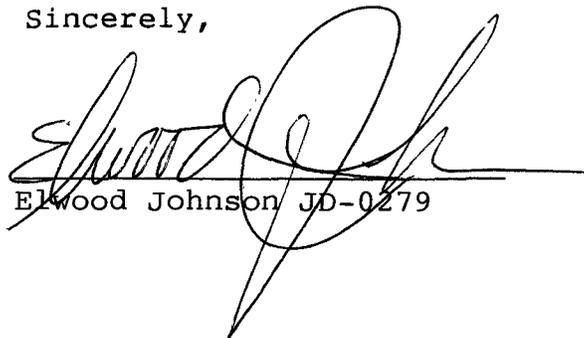
Recently, Pennsylvania transferred more than 1000 inmates to Michigan due to prison overcrowding. While there, they were allowed to make phone calls using the exact same system that Pennsylvania does (Global Tel Link). The calls from MI to anywhere in the United States were only \$1.80 for a fifteen minute phone call using the

same prepaid calling card system presently in use. Collect rates were only \$1.94 for the same amount of time. These are the same calls I have tried to make within Pennsylvania but I cannot afford them. In Michigan, these same calls were 70% cheaper and I do not understand how rates from Michigan to anywhere else in the United States are 30% of the cost of a call we pay in Pennsylvania for in state calls.

There are too many people that I am unable to call due to the fact that they cannot afford the cost. These are the same family members and friends whose support I will need to have a successful reentry back into society upon my release. However, I am losing my relationships with them due to lack of interaction and contact. And we should not be punished by GTL due to the fact that our friends and family members carry Vorizon as a carrier. We still deserve to keep in contact with our loved ones.

I hope that there is something that can be done about this, because it seems like all the phone company (GTL) and the D.O.C. (Department of Corrections) do is take advantage of our dire situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elwood Johnson', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Elwood Johnson JD-0279

ANTHONY YANG AS-3190

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SCI-Greene
175 Progress Drive
Waynesburg, PA 15370

November 6, 2012

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I'm incarcerated at SCI-Greene, Greene County, Pennsylvania. For me to call home (in-state) is \$5.41 through a pre-paid calling card sold in the prison commissary and \$6.00 to call collect (both 15 minute calls). This is simply too much money for most of my family, my support network, to afford. I have very limited contact with my family due to the excessive cost of these phone calls.

Recently, Pennsylvania transferred more than 1,000 inmates to Michigan due to overcrowding. Phone calls from MI to PA were only \$1.80 for the same 15 minute call. these are the same phone calls I try to make from Pennsylvania but can't afford, but in Michigan they were 70% cheaper. I don't understand how rates from MI to PA are 30% of the cost we pay in PA for in-state calls.

There are too many people that I can't call because they can't afford the cost. These are the same family members and friends whose support I need to have a successful reentry into society upon my release, but I'm losing my relationships with them due to the lack of interaction and contact.

I hope something can be done because it seems like all the phone company (GTL) and Department of Corrections do is take advantage of our situation.

Sincerely,



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Eugene Thomas
AY4649

SCI-Greene
175 Progress Drive
Waynesburg, PA 15370

November 6, 2012

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Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Eugene Thomas

Samuel Bawls
JP-3087

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175 Progress Drive
Waynesburg, PA 15370

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Sincerely,

Samuel Bawls

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