

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

Received & Inspected

MAR 05 2013

FCC Mail Room

Commission Seeks Comment on Rates for)
Inmate Calling Services)

WC Docket No. 12-375

INITIAL COMMENTS OF MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

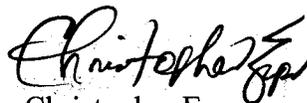
The Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) has contracted with Global Tel-Link, Inc. (GTL) to provide collect call phone service for inmates housed in state operated facilities. GTL pays MDOC a commission rate of 60.5% on gross revenues generated from these collect calls.

Telephone commission income from GTL for Fiscal Year 2012 totals \$1,651,805.23 and is used for the following programs through expenditures governed by Mississippi Code Section 47-5-158:

1. Family Visitation
2. Education (ABE, GED and Vocational Education)
3. Alcohol & Drug Treatment
4. Pre-Release Training
5. Discharge Assistance
6. Recreation

It is our opinion that collect phone service benefits the inmates in two ways; 1) it allows the inmate to stay in contact with family members through monitored phone calls, 2) the commission revenue earned from these calls directly benefits the inmate as noted above.

Loss or decrease of this funding source will negatively affect necessary programs for rehabilitation of offenders and will potentially increase recidivism.



Christopher Epps
Commissioner
Mississippi Department of Corrections
723 N. President Street
Jackson, MS 39202
(601) 359-5297 (telephone)
(601) 359-5293 (facsimile)

Dated: February 14, 2013

No. of Copies rec'd _____
LIST ABOVE

0