

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary of the F.C.C.
445 12th Street Sw; Room Tw-B204
Washington, DC 20554

DATE: 2-16-12

Dear Secretary Dortch,

"This is a Public Comment for WC-Docket number 12-375." The following is a list of 5 things to help inmates keep in contact with their families. We are requesting:

1. Cheaper phone rates
2. A 10 minute free call for all inmates daily
3. No connection fees
4. No commissions
5. AT&T has a 15 minute phone call service for \$1.00

We would greatly appreciate it if you can make these changes for us, so we can have better communication with our children and family members. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely Yours,

Michael Eckler

DOC#

JP-9515

Received & Inspected

MAR 13 2013

FCC Mail Room

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This is a Public Comment for the Wright Petition **WC Docket No. 12-375**

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC
Office of the Secretary
Room TW-B204
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Received & Inspected

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FCC Mail Room

February 12, 2013

Re: High Cost of Prison Phone Calls – WC Docket No. 12-375

Dear Ms. Dortch,

My mother is eighty-seven years old. She fell a few months ago and broke her hip. A few weeks after her fall she went back to the hospital for a lung infection. Upon her release she had to move in with my brother as she was too weak to live alone. My sister-in-law said they could not afford the high cost of my phone calls because my brother is retired and on a fixed income. It was like a dagger to my heart. My mother is old and I don't know how much longer she will live. This time is precious.

In the past I only called my mom once a week because I realized that paying \$4.50 for each call, when she only lives 20 miles away, is robbery. Why should they bear the burden of my incarceration?

Both my mom and brother's house are only twenty minutes away, but because they live on the other side of the James River it is considered long-distance. While GTL has provided the use of "prepay accounts", we do not receive cheaper rates for utilizing those accounts.

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This is a Public Comment for the Wright Petition **WC Docket No. 12-375**

This problem does not only affect contact with my mother, it also affects my contact with my son. He wants me to call him, but the same issues exist with using GTL services. GTL tried to convince my ex-wife to switch phone carriers or pay fees to open a prepay account. Her husband did not want those added expenses and having to give personal information to yet another phone company.

Global Tel-Link acts like a "bully" because they are the only phone service provider to Virginia prisons. My family and I are powerless to make any changes. Even the State Corporation Commission no longer has jurisdiction in Virginia to address these issues because the General Assembly repealed that authority. You hold the power to affect favorable changes to the current issues with prison phone services, I ask you to please exercise that power and create reform for all who suffer under the monopoly of Global Tel-Link.

I thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Livesay Ph.D.", with a stylized flourish.

John Livesay, Ph.D., #1108120
Powhatan Correctional Center
3600 Woods Way
State Farm, VA 23160

This is a Public Comment for the Wright Petition **WC Docket No. 12-375**

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Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC
Office of the Secretary
Room TW-B204
445 12th Street, SW
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John Livesay, Ph.D., #1108120
Powhatan Correctional Center
3600 Woods Way
State Farm, VA 23160

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Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC
Office of the Secretary
Room TW-B204
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FCC Mail Room

February 12, 2013

Re: Global Tel-Link Extortion – WC Docket No. 12-375

Dear Ms. Dortch,

I have been incarcerated in the Virginia prison system for more than 25 years. During this time I have had the ability to call my mother on the telephone, but due to recent changes in Global Tel-Link policy, I can no longer speak with my mother on the telephone. I write to you and ask for assistance in any way you might provide to find a solution to these problems.

My mother, Margaret Yetsko, lives in Indiana, and has had the same phone number for 43 years; (219)942-6493. She and my step-father are retired and live on a fixed income, but they pay their bills on time, have an excellent credit history, and have never had any "billing issues" with their telephone or any other utilities.

A couple of months ago I tried to call my mother, but was informed by recording that her number was blocked by Global Tel-Link due to a "billing issue." I wrote my mother and provided her with all the phone numbers I was given to contact GTL. My mother called GTL and was told she had to open a "prepay account", which would require a fee in addition to the

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This is a Public Comment for the Wright Petition **WC Docket No. 12-375**

payment for funds to be added to the account. Not wanting to open the account she asked about removing the block. The gentleman told her he could do so if she paid him. My mother was then asked to provide personal information about her mortgage and where she does her banking. She rightfully refused to provide this information over the phone and terminated the call.

It was bad enough that my mom paid \$12 to \$13 for each phone call, while on a fixed income, so I had restricted my calls to holidays and birthdays before GTL blocked her number. . This year is the first year I was not able to speak to my mother on the telephone for my birthday, or her birthday.

To add insult to injury, I can't call my brother because GTL blocked his number due to a "billing issue", and before my grandfather passed away I was unable to call him because GTL blocked his number.

I'm sure most people would tell me, "Just put some money on your prepay account and you can call your family." Sounds good, but the phone numbers are still blocked by GTL until the person I am trying to call opens a prepay account and pays a fee. If this isn't extortion I don't know what is.

I believe that because my phone calls to my family are from Virginia to Indiana the FCC has jurisdiction for regulation. In Virginia the State General Assembly rescinded the State Corporation Commission's jurisdiction for all D.O.C. contracts because the SCC determined that the bidding process was in violation of policy, procedure and State law.

This is a Public Comment for the Wright Petition **WC Docket No. 12-375**

I ask you to please act on behalf of all prison inmates and their families to enact fair regulations which prohibit the extortion and unfair practices of telephone companies which contract to State prison systems. The purpose in advocating for prepay accounts by Virginia C.U.R.E., and other organizations, was to reduce the cost of telephone calls by prison inmates to their family and friends. Instead Global Tel-Link used it as an opportunity to extort more money from people on the outside. Because we have no real voice in society, we are often taken advantage of and traded like other commodities in the Boardrooms of Corporate America. Please help!

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey A. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "J" and "S".

Jeffrey A. Smith, #1116165
Powhatan Correctional Center
3600 Woods Way
State Farm, VA 23160

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FCC Mail Room

Dear Secretary Dortch,

This is a public comment for WC Doc # 12-375.

My son is housed in the MI Dept of Corrections. I spend \$ 80.00 - \$100.00 a month to put on his account so he can call home. Yes I know that seems like a lot for one month. His father is dying of Brain Cancer, we want him to call as much as he can, so he can talk to his dad.

Any help for the inmates and their families, ie: lowering the charge per minute or a free call would be wonderful. The calls are only 10 minutes each, so if they call back when you get cut off, you have an extra hook-up charge because of the call being collect.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,
Jan A. Lienemann
Jan A. Lienemann

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FCC Mail Room

This is a public comment for WC Docket Number 12-375

Lavelly X Brown #119564
TCIX
1499 R.W. Moore Mem. Hwy.
Only, Tennessee 37140-4050

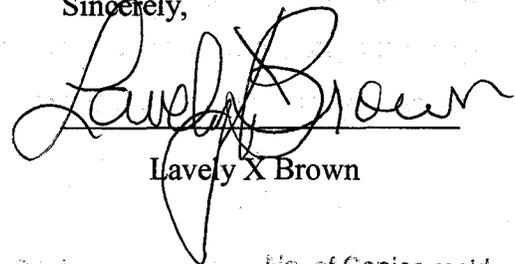
February 27, 2013

Dear Secretary Dutch,

I am a prisoner currently incarcerated at the Turney Center Industrial Prison located in Only, Tennessee. I am writing this letter because of the hardship that the current prison phone system Global Tel*Link puts upon my family and me. The costs that are charged are simply outrageous. My parents are ages sixty-six and seventy years old respectively. They are retired and on a fixed income. I am incarcerated over two hundred miles away from my family. I am unable to call much, which causes a separation in a relationship from my family. It is not feasible for me to write a letter because my parents suffer from poor eyesight, and certain comprehension. My father's memory is not operable because of a stroke that he has suffered. When I am able to call because of the outrageous costs of the telephone I must make my calls brief. My parents to the best of my knowledge used to pay on average \$200.00 a month on prison phone calls. I frequently have had dropped or disconnected calls. Currently Global Tel Link claims that they do not have a contract with MCI, which is my sister's phone system. The cost to call my sister in Hephzibah, Georgia for thirty minutes is twenty-two dollars. Additionally to place a call to my fiancée in Meriden Connecticut the costs is twenty-two dollars for a thirty-minute call. Dropped calls frequently happen or the connection is bad. I could communicate more often with my loved ones if the rates were lowered. There should be a mandate on a certain amount of free calling especially for those that have family members on a fixed income, have disabilities or are retired.

This issue definitely needs to be addressed. I have been incarcerated for over twenty-five years and my family should be refunded money for the overcharges.

Sincerely,



Lavelly X Brown

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Public Comment for WC Docket # 12-375

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MAR 13 2013

FCC Mail Room

Dear Secretary Doitch,

This is a public comment for WC Docket # 12-375. I have been incarcerated for approximately four years. In this time I have had several problems staying in communication with family and loved ones. The first problem is the high cost of the calls I am in the same state as most of those I need to communicate with (Mother and Children) but the calls are an average of 5 dollars a piece that's approximately \$3 for a connection fee and about \$.40 a minute. My family doesn't have the means to consistently send money to me or place money in an account for collect calls. I work in the prison but my starting rate was \$19 an hour and

on a cell phone tripping a 3way alert and if
 it is why is the system not adjusted by now? As of 2013
 I used cell phones regularly there was no difference than a
 land line. I'm just asking that this problem truly
 be looked at and suggest lower rates and a more
 reliable system. I mean you can get a land line
 Provider with 3way calling, call waiting, caller ID and
 long distance for about \$30 a month some have promotions
 for \$10 a month that's with unlimited calling. Why
 is one call costing us \$5.00 more, way more if you
 call outside of the state. Thank you for taking
 the time to read this letter.

Dear Secretary Dortch,

"This is a Public Comment for WC-Docket number 12-375." the following is a list of 5 things to help inmates keep in contact with their families. We are requesting:

- 1) Cheaper phone rates
- 2) A 10 minute free call for all Inmates Daily
- 3) No Connection fees
- 4) No Commissions
- 5) At&t has a 15 minute phone call for \$1.⁰⁰

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FCC Mail Room

We would greatly appreciate it if you can make these changes for us, so we can have better communication with our children and family members. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely Yours,

mark Echoz DOC# BF 6191

1100 Pike Street
Huntingdon, Pa 16654

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Dear Secretary Dortch,

"This is a Public Comment for WC-Docket number 12-375." the following is a list of 5 things to help inmates keep in contact with their families. We are requesting:

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We would greatly appreciate it if you can make these changes for us, so we can have better communication with our children and family members. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely Yours,

Delandrie Thompson DOC# _____

Em-5759

1100 Pike Street

Huntingdon, Pa 16654

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... THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR WC-DOCKET # 12-375 ...

TO: MS. MARLENE H. DORTCH, SECRETARY
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
445 12TH STREET, S.W.; ROOM: TW-8264
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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FCC Mail Room

MARCH 09. 2013 A.D.

FROM: CHRISTOPHER T. FARLEY, JW-6544
S.C.I. HUNTINGDON
1100 PIKE STREET
HUNTINGDON, PA 16654-1112

RE: WC-DOCKET NUMBER 12-375

DEAR SECRETARY DORTCH,

THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR WC-DOCKET NUMBER 12-375.
MY FIRST COMMENT FOR OUR FIRST CONCERN REGARDING "COST & EXPERIENCE",
& "CALL CHARGES".

I MUST SAY VERY FIRMLY, THAT I CAN UNDERSTAND THE DEPARTMENT
OF CORRECTION'S "ATTEMPTS" TO SQUEEZE DRY & TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE
OPPORTUNITY TO MANIPULATE OUR COMMERCIAL SYSTEM, THROUGH A LOOP-
HOLE THAT ALLOWS THEM (D.O.C) TO RECEIVE EXTRA MONEY THROUGH
"KICK-BACKS". HOWEVER, THERE IS A FINE LINE BETWEEN "NEEDS" & "GREED".
THE AMOUNT THEY CHARGE FOR PHONE CALLS IN ORDER TO RECEIVE MORE
"KICK-BACK" PROFITS & THE AMOUNT THEY RECEIVE BEYOND THE CONTRACTUAL
AGREEMENTS WITH THE COMPANY IS PREPOSTEROUS. CHARGING INDIVIDUALS
\$5.00 - \$7.00 (LOCAL) 15-MINUTE PHONE CALLS & \$7.50 - + PLUS FOR (NATIONAL)
15-MINUTE PHONE CALLS CAUSES A GREAT BURDEN ON MY FAMILY, WHO
LIVES BOTH LOCALLY & NATIONALLY.

HERE'S A QUESTION: IS THE FINANCIAL STRAIN FOR FAMILIES REALLY
NECESSARY, IN ORDER FOR THEM ~~TO~~ TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED MENTALLY,

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SPIRITUALLY, OR EMOTIONALLY TO THOSE WHO ARE INCARCERATED UNDER
CRIMINAL REHABILITATION?

KNOWING THE ANSWER IS "NO." IT HAPPENS, DUE TO THE CAUSE OF
THE D.O.C TO CLAIM THEY NEED THE PROFITS IN ORDER TO "RUN" THE
INSTITUTIONS. ISN'T IT TRUE THESE SELF-SUSTAINING INSTITUTIONS WERE
BROUGHT INTO EXISTENCE TO REFRAIN FROM HIGH COSTS TO THE PUBLIC?
SO, WHERE EXACTLY IS ALL THAT MONEY REALLY GOING? WHY IS MY
FAMILY STRUGGLING TO COMMUNICATE IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE KEY
PLAYERS Pockets?

SECOND CONCERN: "DROPPED CALLS", I HAVE HAD THIS HAPPEN
PLENTY OF TIMES. THROUGH UNCONTROLLABLE BACKGROUND NOISES ON MY
END BEING MISCONSTRUED AS A "3-WAY CALL ALERT" I CAN UNDERSTAND
MISTAKES & TECHNOLOGY GLITCHES. I KNOW I ALSO SOUND LIKE THE MOST
UNDERSTANDING GUY RIGHT NOW, BUT, WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND IS ONCE
MY FAMILY CALLS BOTH THE D.O.C & PHONE COMPANY THEY ARE UNDER
CONTRACT WITH, MY FAMILY CAN'T RECEIVE COURTESY OR ASSISTANCE.
ONLY MAKING MATTERS WORSE.

THE THIRD & LAST CONCERN: "FREE CALLS", IN MY OPINION, A FAIR
REGULATED AMOUNT OF FREE CALLS MONTHLY OR MAYBE EVEN QUARTERLY
TO SATISFY BOTH SIDES OF THE TABLE, COULD BE A FAIR DECISION. NOT ONLY
WOULD IT HELP MY FAMILY & OTHERS TO MAKE UP FOR FINANCIAL BURDENS
BUT WOULD RAISE COMPANY PROFITS (NOT D.O.C) BY LOW PERCENTAGES,
OTHERS WHO MAY NOT CURRENTLY USE THE PHONE BECAUSE OF THE COST,
WOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE FREE CALL TO RE-CONNECT AT THE SAME
TIME PEOPLE WOULD BUY MORE PHONE TIME CAUSING A MORE STEADY FLOW
OF PHONE TIME PURCHASES. IT MAY NOT SPIKE IMMEDIATELY BUT THROUGH
A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME, PROFIT MEASURES WILL RISE. IN THE END, IF
THIS "PURPOSED RULE MAKING" WOULD BE GRANTED IN OUR FAVOR, WE
WOULD ALL PROFIT AS A FAMILY AS WHOLE.

PLEASE FIND ATTACHED A PROPOSAL TO LOOK INTO.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

SINCERELY,
CHRISTOPHER EARLEY



DEAR SECRETARY DUTCH,

THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR WSC-DOCKET NUMBER 12-375
THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF (5) FIVE OPTIONS TO HELP INMATES KEEP IN
CONTACT WITH THEIR FAMILIES:

- 1) CHEAPER PHONE RATES - LOCALLY + NATIONALLY
- 2) A 10 MINUTE FREE CALL FOR ALL INMATES MONTHLY OR
QUARTERLY
- 3) NO CONNECTION FEES
- 4) NO COMMISSION IN PART OF D.O.C (DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS)
- 5) AT + T HAS A PLAN FOR 15 MINUTE PHONE CALLS FOR \$1.00

WE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU CAN MAKE THESE CHANGES
FOR US, SO WE CAN HAVE BETTER COMMUNICATION WITH OUR CHILDREN +
FAMILIES. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR TIME + CONSIDERATION!

SINCERELY,

CHRISTOPHER T. FARLEY



Mr. Guy Stephens # 678747
141 First Street
Coldwater, Michigan 49036

To: Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street, SW: Room TW-8-204
Washington, DC 20554

Received & Inspected

MAR 13 2013

FCC Mail Room

RE: THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR
WC DOCKET NUMBER--12-375

Dear Secretary Dortch;

We accept your Oath and Bond of the office you hold.

1. Costs and Experiences PrePaid Account's.

It's Costing to Much for a Call that you can only talk for
15 Min at a Time; Then if you recall you will get Charged the
same amount.

2. Call Charges. 19¢ Inside the States and 23¢ Outside the
States. There are Phone Company's Out there with Flat Rates a lot
Cheeper then what we are Paying here. And we Should not have to
Pay a Third Party Anything only the Phone Company.

3. Dropped Calls. "Yes" Mostly all call made from here is
dropped that's another way for them to make Money, and you do
Repay For each call that you make.

4. Call Frequency. Here at L.C.F. The Frequency is real Bad
at times; Doing the days that it rain Most calls get dropped.

5. Free Calls. That Would be O.K. But that's only going to
last for a little why; We need a Flat Lower Rate.

6. Disabilities Access. As Far as I Know the Rates are all
the same For everyone at every M.D.O.C. Facility.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE AND SERVICE.

Sincerely

Guy Stephens

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Dear Secretary Dortch

MAR 13 2013

FCC Mail Room

This is a public comment for WC Docket Number 12-375". My name is Thorney Lee Cooper. I am currently incarcerated in the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, and I'm so honored to voice my opinion about the "Highway robbery" telephone system currently, to call home collect, the cost is \$4.00 for 15 minutes - This is a flat rate ~~price~~^{fee} for in-state and long distance calls. The prison system has a contract with Global Tel link, and in order to be in a position to place a call, an account must be open with Global Tel link - It cost twenty five dollars. Basically twenty five dollars allow inmates to place at least 6 phone calls.

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About four months ago, a debit system was implemented, and inmates are now afforded two ways to call home - collect or debit. The latter

is so ideal, but the cost is still absurd. Local calls cost \$1.28 (relatives; Friends must live within the proximity of the prison), in-state-local calls \$3.28 and long distance calls are close to \$4.00.

An Unfortunate Situation

Two days ago I called a friend (Debit/Prepaid) and two minutes into the conversation the phone completely cut off. I had to pay \$3.28 for a two minute phone call. I address this issue to the administration, and the rebuttal was "How do we know if the person you called isn't responsible?" This is a very logical rebuttal, but so many other inmates ~~have~~ have experienced the same problem. It is almost impossible to identify the root of the problem far as which party line is responsible, so it's almost like an individual has no other choice but to accept the abuse = unbelievable!

Free phone calls

Mandating a certain amount of "Free calling" time per prisoner each month would be one way of evening out the score. I take this view because so many inmates have claimed that their family members have paid up to \$20 for one long distance

Phone. ^{call} I have absolutely no proof of their claim, but if it's true, people need to be compensated. An opportunity to call home or anyone for free would, without a doubt, eliminate the stress level to a great degree. Times are very challenging, and a lot of inmates family are not in a position to open up a \$25.00 pay account with Global Tel link.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Respectfully written,

Thorney L. Cooper

Thorney L. Cooper # 0103054

RE: Docket # 12-375
Marlene H. Dortch
Federal Communications Commission
445 - 12th St.S.W.
Rm. TW-B204
Washington DC,
20554

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MAR 13 2013

FCC Mail Room

Date

175 Progress Drive
Waynesburg PA.
15370

Dear Marlene Dortch :

I am writing to you about the high cost of phone calls made by inmates in the PA. prison system. The PA. prison system uses Global Tel-Link to provide phone service to inmates in the prison system. Global Tel-Link is charging excessive prices to inmates for use of the phone service. To make a call to Pgh. PA. which is only sixty miles away they charge \$3.35 for a fifteen minute phone call. To call CA. it cost nearly a dollar a minute. Then for a inmate to call NJ. one state away it cost almost ten dollars for a fifteen minute call. Global Tel - Link will not let calls go through unless the calls are prepaid by inmates or their families. When inmates are making calls the phone call is interrupted several times saying this call is being made by a inmate from the prison system. Inmates and their families know this when the call is being made. When a call is being made it may be cut off in the middle of the call if anyone picks up another phone in the house being called. Other prison systems have phone service that only charges \$1.89 for a fifteen minute call anyplace in the US. The high cost of the phone service in PA. is causing inmates to loose contact with loved ones. The prison system says they do not want inmates to loose contact with family and loved ones. If this is true why do they charge so much for inmates to talk to loved ones. Something needs to be done to stop the excessive cost of phone calls made by inmates to their families. I hope that you can have something done to lower the cost of phone calls made by inmates. Thank you for your time in this matter.

Respectfully


Lamont Bryant

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MAR 13 2013

FCC Mail Room

My name is

Richard HEARY EE1131

I am currently serving a life sentence
in the state of Pennsylvania; at
SCI Greene.

I am one of the many inmates that
was sent to Michigan.

In Michigan the phone calls were 12¢
a minute, and there were no connection
fee.

As to where in Pennsylvania it's a \$2.40
connection fee, and 24¢ for each minute.
which come out to \$5 something for
a 15 minute phone call.

That's not talking about dropped calls
then it cost's me another \$2.40 to
place the call again.

As to Michigan it was 12¢ a minute
no matter what; if I called for
one minute, five minutes.

My mother was dying from cancer
when I was sent to Michigan.

I was able to call her everyday
to check in on her, and tell her
that I love her b/c of there
being no connection fee, and it

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only costing me 60¢ for a five minute phone call.

Shortly after I was brought back to the state of Pennsylvania from Michigan.

My mother passed away, and I was unable to call her, and say bye to her or unable to tell that I love her, or was I able to hear her voice one last time, B/c of the cost of the phone calls here in Pennsylvania.

I was able to call my children everyday, and be a bigger part of their life when I was in Michigan.

I was able to check in on their home life, what was going on with school extra activities, and just everyday life. I had a real healthy relationship with them by being able to communicate with them on a daily basis.

Since I've been back in the state of Pennsylvania, almost two years now.

I may have been able to call them

20 times total.

The phone is my only means of communication, besides writing.

What kid likes to write letter, and read them.

Even ~~when~~^{though} when I was in Michigan it was a different state b/c of the phone system, and the cost of the phone calls.

I was much closer to my kids. Now that I am back in Pennsylvania my relationship with my children is far to distance.

The phone system here, and the cost of phone calls is way to expensive for inmates to keep healthy relations with their love ones.

especially when you have no money coming in from the out side, and the pay rates are only 19¢ to 42¢ an hour.

we need A better phone system; A more Affordable phone system.

Thank you for your time!
Richard Heary EE1131

Richard V. McKinnzie, 247811
Kentucky State Reformatory
3001 W. Hwy 146
Lagrange, KY. 40032

Received & Inspected

MAR 13 2013

FCC Mail Room

MA'AM,

This is a public comment for WC Docket
Number 12-375.

I am at Kentucky State Reformatory and our
communications provider is Securus my calls just
went from \$1.85 to \$4.50 for a local call,
effective 1-mar-13. Securus said their
rate didn't change but that the Prison raised
the rate for their profit. With Securus I have
had several dropped calls, no free moral calls, the
receiver cord is too short, phones are always broken
and my family is charged way too much, they
spend between 120.00 to 150.00 a month for me to
call home and when my wife's take home pay
is only 1200.00 a month... that's a lot not to
mention her phone cost her additional money.

12-20% of her take home pay goes to
communications, Bless her heart, I love her
but this increase she can't afford. If we keep
talking like we do it will cost her between
\$300.00 & \$375.00 just to Securus.

Please Help!!!

Richard V. McKinnzie

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MAR 13 2013

FCC Mail Room David Cardwell 17613

Kentucky State Reformatory

3001 W. Hwy 146

Lagrange KY 40032

Marlene H. Dortch Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW; Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Secretary Dortch,

This is a Public Comment for WC Docket 12-375.

I being an Inmate, know that the only way to keep contact with my family is through a very expensive phone system, that our loved ones, mostly women and children have to pay for. Not only does this deprive the inmates of the only sanity and warmth we have, but it also breaks the hearts of every small child who just wants to talk to "Daddy". Prices of over 15 dollars a call.

It is an outrage and should be criminal in itself.

A local based phone system is charging approx. \$2.00 a call. This is what we all should have and our family should be in contact and good standing for our future reform that we are receiving.

Not the opposite and extremely damaging way that it is.

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List ABCDE

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Thank you for hearing my comment

David Cardwell 176130

Cornell F. Daye
#30197 Dorm 9
Huttonsville Corr. Cnt.
P.O. Box 1
Huttonsville, W. Va. 26273

Prison Phone Calls

This is a public comment from the following West Virginia D.O.C. Inmates:

February 25th, 2013

Received & Inspected

MAR 13 2013

FCC Mail Room

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW; Room TW-B204
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I write this letter as a public comment on the proposed rule changes for phone calls from prison on behalf of myself and the inmates of the West Virginia Division of Corrections.

As of now we as inmates are experiencing significant problems with the institutional contracted Phone Company here at the Huttonsville Correctional Center in West Virginia. First of all, we are charged an initial fee simply to put money on our phone accounts. The phone company charges us \$0.85 for all local calls regardless if we are only on the one minute or less. We are not given any set prices for the costs of long distance or out of state calls, and as a result the phone companies essentially charges us what they want for long distance service no matter how long we are on the phone.

Comments: I feel that we the inmates should be able to use phone cards or have the option to pay for the phone call off of our inmate account

Name: Chris Cozad #32744 Date: 2/25/13

Comments: I think that our phone call need be cheaper and live had a lot of problems with then talking burnels off my account and my basimly spent hours on phone with G4 to get then back rumeror times

Name: Kenneth Dooley¹⁸³¹⁰ Date: 2/25/13

Comments: It would be nice if you didn't have to pay a fee to put money on your phone account. It also would be nice if the price of the call could be a little cheaper.

Name: Lacy Fruit #40603 Date: 2-25-13

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Comments: I Have Been ripped out of Hundreds of Dollars Because of lost calls from a very poor phone service THAT HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE W.V POC.

Name: Rex Hurt ⁵⁵¹⁸⁵ Date: 2-25-13

Comments: Due to the type of service (Voice of I.P.) (Internet based calling) There's often poor connections, cutting out and disconnecting. It's the cheapest possible service for the highest possible cost to our families. That cost is punishing our families for loving someone in prison.

Name: ~~A. Lymann~~ ³⁻⁷⁷⁰ Date: 2-25-13

Comments: THERE'S ALOT OF DISCONNECTING AND POOR CONNECTIONS. THE PRICE FOR IN STATE CALLS IS UNREAL.

Name: Darrell Meadows ⁴⁸⁴¹⁵ Date: 2/25/13

Comments: Im calling an In State number and it costs almost five dollars a call. Its outrageous that they can get away with it, because we have to make calls and they not.

Name: Travis Collins Date: 2/25/13

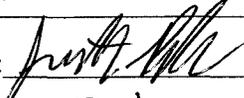
Comments: DURING My PHONE CALLS I HAVE ALOT OF DISCONNECTS + COST YOU FOR THE CALL. IT IS ALSO VERY EXPENSIVE AROUND 4.00 A CALL. I'AM ALSO NO LONGER ABLE TO CALL SEVERAL PHONE #'S DUE TO THEM HAVING TO SET UP A ACCOUNT. THEY USE TO BE ABLE TO ACCEPT + BILLED TO THOSE PHONE BILL.

Name: Walter Potts Date: 2/25/13

Comments: I call Florida and its \$8.95 a call. And most of the time its hard to hear, voices gargally. My call in state to Martinsburg is 3.85 a call, I am doing a life sentence. And this limits the contact I have with my family.

Name: Bobby Stotler Date: 2-25-13

Comments: My calls are around \$6.00 a call and most of the time my family can not hear me cause of phone connection or they say I sound muffled.

Name:  Date: 02/25/13

Comments: I think the system this prison is using is not working. it needs an upgrade.

Name: James Horton Date: 2/25/13

Comments: The current provider charges extortionate rates.
People need to remember that inmates are not the ones
"taking the fall", it is the innocent, hard working family
members that are being taken advantage of.

Name: Alex Siremore Date: 25 FEB 13

Comments: Global Tel Link charges 3.50 (approx.) for local calls, local being
in state. This is an exorbitant amount of money for an in state call
also the loss of calls, which occurs frequently results in a
loss of the total call price w/o means of recouping that loss.

Name: James Brooks Date: 25 Feb. 2013

Comments: I believe this phone Co. don't care who it hurts
families - kids - it don't matter - all it cares about
is the dollar!!! it's very unfair for inmates who's
family is poor - please do something about the phone cost.

Name: Afred Williams Date: Feb-27th 2013

Comments: I believe all inmate phone calls should be
75¢. We made the mistake not our families they
are being robbed it's not fair to them as US
please help us

Name: Monic Jordan Date: FEB-27th 2013

Comments: I think the rates are way to high, it's really
hard on myself & my family

Name: Aubrey Weeks Date: 2/27/13

Comments: The prices are against the law however
by civil law it's allowed until challenged or filed
for. This is really evil when compared to the
regular phone prices

Name: Jason Bonds Date: 2/27/2013

Comments: The price for a phone call is terrible,
some people really can't afford the calls but
will take them out of love

Name: Michael Smith Date: 2/27/13

Comments: The price for a phone call is wrong for inmates family. And its
crazy how your family has to set up a pre-paid plan so that the
prison can get there last out of the bill. It should be a better way
for setting this system up for the phone. Thanks

Name: Russell Taylor Date: 02/27/13

Comments: During the call the signal will cut off several times for around 10 seconds requiring me to ask my called party to repeat what they said.

Name: Richard Hoban Date: 2/25/13

Comments: GTL is forcing people to get pre-pay phone services for no good reason. This is a lot of hassle to our families for no good reason. My 88 yr. old father don't use credit cards.

Name: David Brantam ^{#17275} Date: 2/25/13

Comments: We are overcharged for an inadequate faulty service which drops calls and still charges us for a service we did not receive

Name: Michael Davis Date: 2/27/2013

Comments: I hate the phone service - it sucks -
Cornell F. Doge #30187

Name: Joseph Spence Date: 2-27-2013

Comments: My wife is on Disability and can not put money on the phone with the price of the calls, thats for your time
Joseph Spence

Name: Michael White Date: 2-27-2013

Comments: The phone service cuts off calls half the time and our family's still have to pay the high price.

Name: Mark Hubble Date: 2-27-2013

Comments: The phone cuts out like a "mute" button during conversations and sometimes when my family hits the "0" button to accept my call, it does not register and I can't talk to them.

Name: Kerry Jackson Date: 2-27-2013

Comments: The price of phone calls for some inmates are more than ten dollars for fifteen minutes which is absurd. We need to have a more reasonable alternative for our phone services

Name: _____ Date: _____

Comments: the calls are up to \$4⁰⁰ dollars
and it cuts you off before your time is up.
and my man has to go with out. to talk to me
please help us

Name: Day Johnson Date: 2/25/13

Comments: The phone has been cutting off on me as soon as I get connected
and my calls are 10.⁰⁰ each, I have to report sometimes cause they cannot hear
me. Please do something with the phones. THANKS.

Name: Daniel Hickman Date: 2/25/2013

Comments: Calls are getting expensive, we cant hear, and they
cut us off before we are able to talk, and sometimes I
have to repeat myself the whole call, please help us
with this phone system thank you.

Name: Carl Claus Date: 2/25/2013

Comments: The system has several flaws, not only the cost, but
quality of the call restricts the minute from simultaneously talking or hearing. Money
is being removed and not returned - this is done when there is not enough
money to complete a call - when additional money is added - the other money
is lost.

Name: Cliff Row Date: 2-26-13

Comments: The phone service has been bad. It takes at least 4-5 attempts for
my phone call to be processed/connected. The quality of the call is not so
good. Also, I am charged for calls even though it don't get thru on my calls.
Sometimes the money is placed back on to my account, sometimes it's not.

Name: Jimmy Spardack Date: 2-26-13

Comments: The phone starts taking money off just as
soon as it starts talking, you lose time before you
get to talk to the person you call. As soon as the
person picks up it will hang up on you.

Name: George Oyle Date: 2-26-13

Comments: My issue is with the dropped calls after the first
minute or so. 60% of the price of my calls are for the first
minute. Therefore when my call is lost my family don't
get that back. I get charged the same when I call back.

Name: Ned Massey Date: 2-27-13

Comments: I feel that the service is taking too much money
for a call. Not only that the phone service does not always
connect and the money is being taken when calls are
not being connected. It's robbery at its best.

Name: Paul Hardy Date: 2-27/13

February 25th, 2013

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Comments: Phone goes in and out, either I can hear them and they can't hear me or other way around. Phone cuts off in the middle of call ect... lost lots of money using these phones here at HCC.

Name: Chris Galford Date: 2-27-13

Sincerely,

Chris Galford

Cornell F. Daye

I feel that the phone prices are too high. I am also concerned that the service cuts off frequently and I am not reimbursed for my lost call.

Christopher L Davis 31127

MARLENE H. DORTCH; DEAR SECRETARY DORTCH,

I AM INCARCERATED AT THE HUDSON CORRECTIONAL FACILITY IN HUDSON COLORADO. BEFORE THIS I WAS IN 3 OTHER PRIVATE CONTRACT PRISONS IN ARIZONA. ALL PRIVATE CONTRACT PRISONS PROVIDE THE PRISONERS WITH A PHONE SERVICE THROUGH A MAJOR CARRIER. I AM CURRENTLY PAY 25 CENTS PER CONNECT FEE AND 25 CENTS PER MINUTE. BECAUSE THIS PRISON OWNS THE MONOPOLY ON PRISONER PHONE CALLS, THE PRISON SETS THE RATES. DUE TO THIS MONOPOLY, THERE IS NO COMPETITION FROM OTHER PHONE COMPANIES SO THERE ARE NO PRICE WARS. WE CURRENTLY PAY ROUGHLY 50 TIMES WHAT A STANDARD CELL PHONE CONTRACT REQUIRES WHICH IS BETWEEN HALF TO A PENNY PER MINUTE.

UNFORTUNATELY THE QUALITY OF SERVICE WE RECEIVE IS OF NOTICEABLY POORER QUALITY THAN A CELL PHONE.

FREE CALLS AND ~~OTHER~~ OTHER SERVICES THAT LOWER THE COST OF CALLS TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS HELPS GREATLY. FOR MANY OF US, CONTACT WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS IS ~~THE ONLY~~ ONE OF TRUE BENEFIT FOR OUR POSITIVE STATE OF MIND.

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AN AVERAGE MONTHLY PHONE BILL IS 10-20 DOLLARS. RECENTLY MY COLLECT CALLS TO HOME HAVE HAD A HIGH TOLL BILLING BLOCK. THIS WAS PUT IN PLACE BECAUSE MY MOTHER REFUSED TO PROVIDE HER CREDIT CARD NUMBER. THIS FORCES ME TO SPEND MY MONEY ON PREPAID PHONE TIME. MY ONLY SOURCE OF GRATUITIES IS THROUGH FACILITY EMPLOYMENT AT 65 CENTS AN HOUR.

WE HAVE TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES AT FACILITY

MAR 13 2013

ON A WEEKLY BASIS. FOR THE AMOUNT WE PAY ^{FCC Mail Room} WE SHOULD
BELIEVE FOR DEVER SERVICE.

PHONE CALLS TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS IS PARAMOUNT TO
HELPING WITH REHABILITATION. MONOPOLIZING ONLY WHAT
WITH SOLE INTEREST BEING FINANCIALLY MOTIVATED IS
UNETHICAL AT BEST.

PHONE CALLS THAT ARE PRICED AFFORDABLY MAKES A
SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE FOR PRISONERS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

Respectfully, Morten Bygstad

MAR 13 2013

FCC Mail Room

"This is a public comment for WC Docket
Number 12-375"

Dear Secretary Dortch,

March 6, 13

I hope this finds you well. First I would like to say thank you for trying to help and I'm hopeful for the best. My name is Devin Bennett, #L4820 and I'm on Death Row in MS. All of my family lives in South Florida and it cost almost \$25.00 for a 15-20 minute call. You can go through one of these relay line companies but my experience with them is lost money, dropped calls and trouble getting through. If I was allowed to call home free once or twice a month I would definitely be able to talk to my family more than a few times a year.

To make matters worse 40% of these outrageous fees go towards educational, recreational and other incentive programs. All of which death row is excluded from. We are locked down in solitary confinement 24 hours a day. I have a spear's hearing in the Federal District Court concerning, not only the phone issues but also various other claims of violations of the constitution and due process. If there is anything you can send me to help with my claims regarding the phone issues, please send it. My hearing

is May 2 at 10 am in Aberdeen, Ms.
Again Thank you for
your help. God bless

No. of Copies rec'd 1
List ABCDE

Devin Bennett, #L4820
Unit 29J
Parchman, Ms. 38738

Respectfully,
