

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT FILED)	ORDER FOR AND NOTICE
BY DARWIN WOLF, SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH)	OF HEARING
DAKOTA, AGAINST MATRIX TELECOM, INC.)	
REGARDING UNAUTHORIZED SWITCHING OF)	CT99-012
SERVICES)	

On July 19, 1999, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a complaint filed by Darwin Wolf, Sioux Falls, South Dakota (Complainant), against Matrix Telecom, Inc. (Matrix) regarding unauthorized switching of services. Complainant alleges that in July of 1998, Matrix, his prior provider, was billing him for 800 number charges that were not his. On October 28, 1998, Matrix determined that they had erroneously billed Complainant \$764.72. As of the date of the complaint, Complainant had not received any credit from Matrix and he is seeking this amount plus interest and damages.

Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:08.01 and 20:10:01:09, if a complaint cannot be settled without formal action, the Commission shall determine if the complaint shows probable cause of an unlawful or unreasonable act, rate, practice or omission to go forward with the complaint.

On August 17, 1999, at a duly noticed meeting, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff recommended a finding of probable cause. The Commission voted to find probable cause.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-13, including 49-13-1 through 49-13-14, inclusive, and SDCL Chapter 49-31, including 49-31-3, 49-31-7, 49-31-7.1, 49-31-7.2, 49-31-10, 49-31-11, 49-31-38, 49-31-38.1, 49-31-38.2, 49-31-38.3, 49-31-89 through 49-31-97, inclusive, and ARSD Chapter 20:10:34.

A hearing shall be held on December 1, 1999, beginning at 3:00 o'clock P.M., at the Oaks Hotel & Convention Center, 3300 W. Russell in the North Dakota Room, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. All persons testifying will be subject to cross-examination by the parties.

The issue at the hearing is whether Matrix committed an unlawful or unreasonable act, rate, practice or omission and, if so, what relief would be appropriate.

The hearing shall be an adversary proceeding conducted pursuant to SDCL Chapter 1-26. All parties have the right to be present and to be represented by an attorney. These rights and other due process rights shall be forfeited if not exercised at the hearing. If you or your representative fail to appear at the time and place set for the hearing, the Final Decision will be based solely on the testimony and evidence provided, if any, during the hearing or a Final Decision may be issued by default pursuant to SDCL

1-26-20. After the hearing, the Commission will consider all evidence and testimony that was presented at the hearing. The Commission will then enter Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and a Final Decision regarding this matter. As a result of the hearing, the Commission shall determine whether Matrix committed an unlawful or unreasonable act, rate, practice, or omission and, if so, order any appropriate relief. The Commission's Final Decision may be appealed by the parties to the state Circuit Court and the state Supreme Court as provided by law. It is therefore

ORDERED that a hearing shall be held at the time and place specified above on the issue of whether Matrix committed an unlawful or unreasonable act, rate, practice or omission and, if so, what relief would be appropriate.

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, this hearing is being held in a physically accessible location. Please contact the Public Utilities Commission at 1-800-332-1782 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing if you have special needs so arrangements can be made to accommodate you.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 2nd day of November, 1999.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.	
By:	<u>Delaine Kalbo</u>
Date:	<u>11/2/99</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner