

Decision 98-06-061 June 18, 1998

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

C. David Stephan,

Complainant,

vs.

Pacific Bell (U 1001 C),

Defendant.

ORIGINAL

(ECP)

Case 98-01-031

(Filed January 20, 1998)

C. David Stephan, for himself, complainant.
Douglas Phason, for Pacific Bell, defendant.

OPINION

C. David Stephan, (complainant) alleges that Pacific Bell (Pacific) has violated its tariff provision for residential number referral service. Complainant seeks an extension to his residential number referral service. Public hearing was held May 1, 1998.

Complainant testified that for over 20 years he resided in Pacific's territory and had the residential telephone number 213-655-5556. In 1994, he moved into GTE California Incorporated's (GTE) territory and requested Pacific to refer 655-5556 to his GTE number. Pacific did so. Pacific provided residential referral service to complainant from October 1994 through December 1997 (with the exception of five months due to an error on Pacific's part). In December 1997, Pacific terminated complainant's referral service.

Pacific's witness testified that complainant is not entitled to the requested relief because Pacific acted in compliance with a Commission order. The

C.98-01-031 ALJ/RAB/sid *

Commission directed Pacific to implement an area code and number conservation policy in its Decision 96-06-062, dated June 19, 1996 (Decision). In the Decision, the Commission directed all carriers to reduce the number referral service period from three months to no more than two months for residential customers. Pacific complied. Complainant had over two years of referral service.

This complaint concerns complainant's dissatisfaction over correctly enforced area code and number conservation efforts ordered by this Commission and implemented by Pacific. Complainant's request to extend his residential number referral service does not qualify under the Decision and Pacific's number conservation policy. Telephone numbers are a limited resource; they should not be hoarded. We recognized this most recently in D.96-06-062 when we concluded that carriers should limit their intercept periods to no more than two months for residential customers. (Conclusion of Law 4, mimeo. p. 32.)

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The relief requested in the complaint is denied.
2. Case 98-01-031 is closed.

This order is effective today.

Dated June 18, 1998, at San Francisco, California.

RICHARD A. BILAS
President
P. GREGORY CONLON
JESSIE J. KNIGHT, JR.
HENRY M. DUQUE
JOSIAH L. NEEPER
Commissioners