COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ADVANTAGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORP.

CASE NO. 2000-215

)

ALLEGED VIOLATION OF KRS 278.535

<u>ORDER</u>

Advantage Telecommunications Corporation ("ATC") is a communications provider as defined in KRS 278.535(1)(a) subject to the Commission's jurisdiction. ATC is a foreign corporation (identification number 0461934) authorized by the Office of the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to do business in Kentucky as of September 11, 1998.

KRS 278.535(1)(a) prescribes statutory procedures for the proper changing of any Kentucky customer's primary telecommunications carrier.

<u>COUNT I</u>

On or about June 18, 1999, Carla Easterling, 512 Alexa Drive, Apartment A, Mount Sterling, Kentucky 40353, reported to Commission Staff by telephone that her long-distance carrier had been changed from AT&T to ATC without her authority or permission. Ms. Easterling's telephone number is 606-498-9756.

After investigation, Commission Staff has been unable to obtain or secure any written authorization or electronically recorded authorization of Ms. Easterling by which she properly authorized the carrier change.

<u>COUNT II</u>

On or about March 2, 1999, Gail Jackson, 107 Patrick Henry Court, Danville, Kentucky 40422, reported to Commission Staff by telephone that her long-distance carrier had been changed from AT&T to ATC without her authority or permission. Ms. Jackson's telephone number is 859-236-1318.

After investigation, Commission Staff has been unable to obtain or secure any written authorization or electronically recorded authorization of Ms. Jackson by which she properly authorized the carrier change.

COUNT III

On or about April 29, 1999, Ray Hamilton, 5234 Winchester Avenue, Ashland, Kentucky 41101, reported to Commission Staff by telephone that his long-distance carrier had been changed from AT&T to ATC without his authority or permission. Mr. Hamilton's telephone number is 606-324-6698.

After investigation, Commission Staff has been unable to obtain or secure any written authorization or electronically recorded authorization of Mr. Hamilton by which he properly authorized the carrier change.

COUNT IV

On or about October 5, 1999, Pickerill Motor Company, Inc., 108 North Depot Street, Lebanon, Kentucky 40033, reported to Commission Staff by telephone that its

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long-distance carrier had been changed from Qwest to ATC without its authority or permission. Pickerill Motor Company's telephone number is 270-692-2126.

After investigation, Commission Staff has been unable to obtain or secure any written authorization or electronically recorded authorization of Pickerill Motor Company, Inc. by which it properly authorized the carrier change.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing allegations and on the results of the investigations by the Commission Staff, the Commission, on its own motion, HEREBY ORDERS that:

1. Within 30 days of the date of receipt of this Order, ATC shall submit to the Commission a response to the allegations stated above.

2. ATC shall appear on October 20, 2000 at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, in Hearing Room 1 of the Commission's offices at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky for the purpose of showing cause why it should not be subject to penalties, pursuant to KRS 278.990(1) and KRS 278.535(6), for the alleged violations of law described herein.

3. Any request for an informal conference with the Commission Staff to consider any matter which would expedite the handling or disposition of this proceeding shall be filed with the Commission no later than 30 days from the date of receipt of this Order.

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Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 25th day of August, 2000.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

1)2) ~ Executive Director