

Dinsmore & Shohl LLP
ATTORNEYS

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October 1, 2007

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Hon. Beth A. O'Donnell
Executive Director
Kentucky Public Service Commission
211 Sower Boulevard
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615

*Re: In the Matter of: Thomas Dean Stauffer v. Brandenburg Telephone Company,
before the Public Service Commission of the Commonwealth of Kentucky,
Case No. 2007-00399*

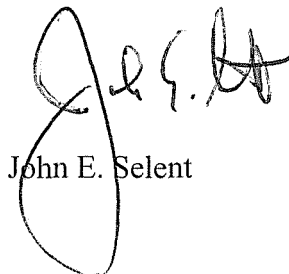
Dear Ms. O'Donnell:

I have enclosed for filing in the above-styled case the original and eleven (11) copies of Brandenburg Telephone Company's answer, filed pursuant to the Public Service Commission of the Commonwealth of Kentucky's order to satisfy or answer, dated September 19, 2007.

Thank you, and if you have any questions, please call me.

Very truly yours,

DINSMORE & SHOHL LLP



John E. Selent

Enclosures

cc: All parties of record

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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

RECEIVED
SEP 11 2007
PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THOMAS DEAN STAUFFER)
)
COMPLAINANT)
)
v.) CASE NO. 2007-00399
)
BRANDENBURG TELEPHONE COMPANY)
)
DEFENDANT)

ANSWER

Brandenburg Telephone Company ("Brandenburg"), by counsel, in answer to the Complaint of Thomas Dean Stauffer ("Complainant"), states as follows:

1. With regard to section (a) of the preamble, Brandenburg admits that Complainant's address of record with Brandenburg is 420 Blevins Road, Payneville, KY 40157.
2. With regard to section (b) of the preamble, Brandenburg admits that its corporate address is P.O. Box 599, Brandenburg, Kentucky 40108-0599.
3. Brandenburg admits that Complainant stopped payment on a check for current outstanding charges to Brandenburg. To the extent the allegations in section (c) of the preamble to the complaint allege that Complainant's wife was institutionalized for a mental breakdown, Brandenburg is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation therefore denies it. Brandenburg denies the remaining allegations contained within section (c) of the preamble to the complaint.

4. Brandenburg is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 1 of the complaint and therefore denies them.

5. Brandenburg denies the allegations contained in paragraph 2 of the complaint.

6. With regard to paragraph 3 of the complaint, Brandenburg is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations regarding the referenced individual's alleged loss of job and Complainant's alleged communications with the Public Service Commission of the Commonwealth of Kentucky ("Commission") and it therefore denies them. Brandenburg denies all other allegations in paragraph 3 of the complaint.

7. Brandenburg denies the allegations contained within paragraph 4 of the complaint.

8. Brandenburg states that the check copies attached as Exhibits D and H to the complaint are documents that speak for themselves and that no admission or denial with regard to the contents of those documents is required. Brandenburg denies the allegations in paragraph 5 of the complaint.

9. Brandenburg admits that Ilissa Stauffer was in its offices on or about August 29, 2007, and it further states that she exhibited no signs of intimidation or emotional or psychological distress, nor did she complain about any alleged intimidation or emotional or psychological distress. Brandenburg further admits that Complainant has refused to pay his current outstanding charges from Brandenburg, requiring Brandenburg to disconnect his service in order to avoid discriminatory treatment of other non-paying

customers. (Brandenburg notes, however, that in light of the Commission's informal request and the current procedural posture of this matter, it has not disconnected Complainant's service as required by Kentucky law, but it will be filing a motion to address the issue of Complainant's failure to pay for regulated services provided to him by Brandenburg.) Brandenburg denies the remaining allegations of paragraph 6 of the complaint.

10. Brandenburg denies the allegations contained in paragraph 7 of the complaint.

11. Brandenburg denies any allegations not specifically admitted.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

12. Brandenburg has the right, authority, and obligation under Kentucky law to terminate Complainant's account for nonpayment of current regulated charges.

13. Brandenburg has the right and authority under Kentucky law to demand from Complainant a deposit to secure payment for services provided to Complainant.

14. Brandenburg has the right and authority under Kentucky law to pursue collection activities with regard to Complainant's past-due balances and to notify Complainant of all such past-due balances.

15. Complainant has not been injured or harmed by application of payments to current regulated charges because such application has resulted in Complainant's services being provided without disconnection.

16. The complaint fails in whole or in part to state a claim upon which relief may be granted.

17. The Commission has no jurisdiction to award damages of any kind.

18. The Commission has no jurisdiction to rule upon the enforceability of promissory notes or otherwise render them null and void.

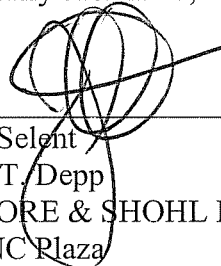
19. The damages complained of have been caused or contributed in whole or in part by the conduct of others not within Brandenburg's direction, supervision, or control, but for which said damages would not have occurred.

20. Brandenburg respectfully reserves the right to plead any and all additional defenses that discovery may reveal.

WHEREFORE, Brandenburg respectfully demands as follows:

- A. That the complaint against it be dismissed with prejudice;
- B. That it be awarded its costs expended herein, including reasonable attorney fees; and
- C. That it be awarded any and all other relief to which it may appear entitled.

Respectfully submitted,



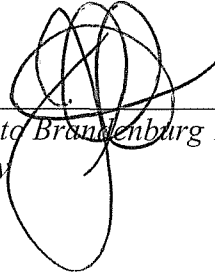
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*Counsel to Brandenburg Telephone
Company*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been filed and served via first class United States mail, sufficient postage paid on this 1st day of October upon the following:

Thomas Dean Stauffer
420 Blevins Road
Payneville, KY 40157



*Counsel to Brandenburg Telephone
Company*

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