# Commonwealth of Kentucky

Before The Public Service Commission

In the Matter of:

Associates in Dermatology, PLLC ) ) Complainant ) ) ) Case No. 2019-00047 v. ) ) BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC ) ) Defendant )

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Answer Of BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Kentucky

BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Kentucky for its answer to the

complaint of Associates in Dermatology, PLLC states:

# First Defense

1. The complaint fails to state a claim for which relief may be granted.

# Second Defense

2. AT&T Kentucky provided nonbasic service (business VoIP) to plaintiff. KRS

278.544 divests the Commission of subject matter jurisdiction in whole or part over the allegations of the complaint.

# Third Defense

3. The material allegations of the complaint lack sufficient particularity to permit AT&T Kentucky to respond with a specific admission or denial as required by 807 KAR 5:001,

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AUG 1 2 2019 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION Section 19(6)(a) and, except as expressly admitted below, AT&T Kentucky therefore denies the same in accordance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 19(6)(b).

## Fourth Defense

4. AT&T Kentucky denies that the plaintiff was subject to "faulty and deceptive business agreements" with AT&T Kentucky.

5. AT&T Kentucky denies that its customer service is "atrocious and often nonexistent."

6. AT&T Kentucky denies it owes the plaintiff "thousands of dollars in refunds."

7. AT&T Kentucky denies it failed to perform under its contracts with plaintiff.

8. AT&T Kentucky denies all other allegations that it is liable or indebted to the plaintiff.

## Fifth Defense

9. All billing by AT&T Kentucky to the plaintiff comported with the truth-in-billing regulation of the Federal Communications Commission.

#### Sixth Defense

10. The service provided by AT&T Kentucky to the plaintiff met or exceeded the accepted industry standards for the telecommunications industry.

## Seventh Defense

AT&T Kentucky states that between at least July 27, 2018 through November 28,
2018 it addressed in full each of plaintiff's claims and that it issued all appropriate bill credits,

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bill adjustments, and refunds. All identified contracts have expired by their terms or otherwise. *See* November 15, 2018 letter to Ms. Rosemary Tutt, Manager, Consumer Services Branch, Public Service Commission of Kentucky (Exhibit 1).

Respectfully submitted Mark R. Overstreet STITES & HARBISON, PLLC 421 W. Main St. P.O. Box 634 Frankfort, KY 40602-0634 Telephone: (502) 779-8349 moverstreet@stites.com

Dated: August 12, 2019

Counsel for BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC

# Certificate of Service

I certify that a true copy of the foregoing answer was served by first class mail, postage prepaid on the following this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 2019:

Patrick Schmidt 401 West Main Street, Suite 1400 Louisville, Kentucky 40202

Mark R. Overstreet



Executive Offices 308 S Akard Street, Suite 1110.E3 Dallas, Texas 75202-5315

11/15/2018

Dear Rosemary Tutt,

## Re: 2018-01905 - Associates Of Dermatology

AT&T received a notice from the Kentucky Public Service Commission on behalf of Alan Appel with Associates Of Dermatology regarding billing concerns.

On 07/27/2018, AT&T contacted Mr. Appel via voicemail to acknowledge receipt of his complaint and to confirm any additional details pertaining to his concerns.

AT&T appreciates the Commission bringing this matter to its attention. Because this complaint relates to IP-Flex service (Business VoIP), a non-regulated service, specific details of the investigation have been provided to the customer directly. AT&T has applied a sixmonth credit for the Web Hosting, as Mr. Appel stated that a request was made to disconnect previously. Mr. Appel stated that a request was made in 2015 to disconnect one of the circuits. AT&T issued an adjustment and provided instructions to Mr. Appel to initiate a refund check to be received. Mr. Appel requested to be let out any and all contracts with AT&T. AT&T verified that the accounts in question were not in contract. Therefore, Mr. Appel will not incur any fees should he disconnect or port the numbers from AT&T. Mr. Appel has expressed his dissatisfaction with this resolution because he disagreed with the refund amount. While Mr. Appel is not entirely satisfied with this outcome, AT&T has made every effort to understand his concerns and respond accordingly.

Mr. Appel's issues have been addressed and AT&T provided contact information should he have any further questions or concerns. AT&T sincerely apologizes for any inconvenience caused by this matter.

Please refer any additional questions, requests, or correspondence specific to this case to Eric Herbert at Att\_Regulatory\_Referrals@amcustomercare.att-mail.com.

Sincerely,

AT&T Office of the President