COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE BLOOD-HORSE, INC.	
COMPLAINANT)
V.) CASE NO. 2002-00168
AT&T COMMUNICATIONS OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL STATES, INTER-TEL TECHNOLOGIES, INC. AND VERIZON SOUTH, INC.))))

DEFENDANTS

<u>ORDER</u>

)

The Blood-Horse, Inc. (Blood-Horse) filed a formal complaint against AT&T Communications of the South Central States, Inter-Tel Technologies, Inc., and Verizon South, Inc., alleging, primarily, inadequate service relating to its reception and transmission of facsimiles. It is unclear from the face of the complaint which of the Defendants is responsible for these problems.

Blood-Horse is a Kentucky corporation (identification number 0205357) and was authorized by the Office of the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to do business in Kentucky on August 26, 1986. Because Blood-Horse is a corporation, an attorney licensed to practice in Kentucky must represent Blood-Horse before the Commission. Kentucky s highest court held in <u>Kentucky State Bar Association v. Henry</u> <u>Vogt Machine Co.</u>, 416 S.W.2d 727 (Ky. 1967), that a corporation must be represented

by counsel before a state administrative agency. In a previous case, this Commission ordered that:

[A]ny attorney who is not licensed to practice in the State of Kentucky and who seeks to represent a client or employer before this Commission, must engage a member of the Kentucky Bar Association. It logically follows that if an unlicensed attorney may not represent a client before this Commission, neither may a layman.

Administrative Case No. 249, Practice Before the Commission by Attorneys Non-

Licensed in the Commonwealth of Kentucky (June 15, 1981) at 2.

Commission regulations concerning formal complaints incorporate, at least in

part, these sentiments. Administrative Regulation 807 KAR 5:001, Section 12(2), states

in part:

Complaints by corporations or associations, or any other organization having the right to file a complaint, must be signed by its attorney and show his post office address.

The regulation requires that a corporation or other organization, from the outset of a

complaint proceeding, be represented by an attorney.

Based on the above, the Commission finds that Blood-Horses complaint fails to

comply with Kentucky law and therefore is not accepted for filing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Within 10 days of the date of this Order, Blood-Horse, if it wishes to maintain this action, shall retain counsel and file its complaint with the Commission reflecting representation by counsel.

2. If Blood-Horse does not refile its complaint, by counsel, within 10 days of the date of this Order, this case shall be dismissed without prejudice and without further Order.

-2-

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 4th day of June, 2002.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

Deputy Executive Director