

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION**

Illinois Bell Telephone Company)
) **Docket No.** _____
**Petition to Modify Order in Docket Nos. 90-0465/
90-0466, Consol., Regarding Caller ID Service**)

PETITION TO MODIFY ORDER

Illinois Bell Telephone Company (“AT&T Illinois” or the “Company”) , by its attorney, hereby petitions the Commission to modify the Order in Docket Nos. 90-0465/90-0466 regarding AT&T Illinois’ Caller ID service, if required, to permit the offering of a new Caller ID blocking option.¹ 83 Ill. Adm. Code § 200.900. In support whereof, AT&T Illinois states as follows:

THE ORIGINAL CALLER ID ORDER

1. On October 2, 1991, the Commission entered an order in the Docket Nos. 90-0465/90-0466 proceeding involving Caller ID service. Caller ID service allows customers with appropriate display devices to view the telephone number of another customer who is calling them before answering the telephone.² At that time, the service was new and there was substantial disagreement between the parties as to how the service should be offered. The principal debate was over whether per-line or per-call blocking should be required as a service option. Under the per-line blocking option, customers could elect to have their telephone number blocked (*i.e.*, not displayed to the called party) on all outgoing calls. Per-call blocking requires the calling party to decide at the outset of each call whether or not to block it and enter *67 before dialing if they want to block it. The parties’ proposals ranged from no blocking at all (*e.g.*, AT&T Illinois, GTE, pre-merger AT&T), to per-call blocking (*e.g.*, Centel), to per-line

¹ AT&T Illinois has filed this Petition as a new docket to allow use of the e-Docket system.

blocking (*e.g.*, the Illinois Attorney General, OPC, ACLU). A range of social service agencies and other parties expressed concern that the Caller ID service could be abused.

2. The Commission ultimately adopted a middle ground between these positions. The Commission concluded that Caller ID service would provide benefits to telephone users and that free per-call blocking would allow customers to prevent the display of their telephone numbers without cost and with a minimum of inconvenience in those circumstances which would call for them to remain anonymous. *Order in Docket Nos. 90-0465/90-0466*, adopted October 2, 1991, at 25. AT&T Illinois has been offering Caller ID in a manner consistent with the terms of the Commission's Order since its adoption in 1991.

AT&T ILLINOIS' CALLER ID PROPOSAL

3. AT&T Illinois has now had substantial experience with Caller ID service since its introduction 16 years ago. Over this period of time, based on input from customers and the experience of other states, the Company has concluded that there is an appropriate role for both per-call and per-line blocking. Some customers have a legitimate need for per-line blocking. Both per-call and per-line blocking have been available in other states for years without diminishing the value of Caller ID service to customers (*e.g.*, Ohio). *Id.* at 24. Based on past experience in Illinois and elsewhere, AT&T Illinois has concluded that the addition of a per-line blocking option to its Caller ID offering would improve the value of the service overall to customers. This represents a change in the "conditions of fact" required by Section 200.900 and warrants modifying the Commission's Order, if required.³

² The original Caller ID service only displayed the calling party's telephone number. Caller ID has since been enhanced to include the calling party's name.

³ AT&T Illinois does not believe that the Commission's Order prohibits the offering of per-line blocking. In concluding that free per-call blocking would be superior to AT&T Illinois' original "no blocking" position, the Commission did not preclude AT&T Illinois from changing its views later and expanding the blocking options available to customers. However, to avoid any uncertainty in this regard, AT&T Illinois is filing this Petition.

4. AT&T Illinois is attaching a copy of the revised tariff it would intend to file if the Petition is granted. Pursuant to this tariff, both business and residence customers would have the option of subscribing to per-line blocking for a monthly fee. In addition, certain organizations and individuals would be entitled to per-line blocking at no charge (*e.g.*, victims of domestic abuse, domestic abuse shelters, and law enforcement and social service agencies). Per-line blocking would not be available to businesses whose primary use of the feature is to make telephone solicitation calls. No changes are being made to the tariff in connection with per-call blocking, which will continue to be available for no charge to all customers as required by the Commission's Order.

WHEREFORE, in view of the foregoing, the Commission's Order in Docket Nos. 90-0465/90-0466 should be modified, if required, to permit the offering of per-line blocking as described in the proposed tariff attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

ILLINOIS BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY


One of Its Attorneys

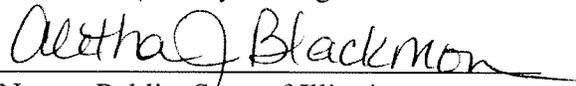
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VERIFICATION

I, Louise A. Sunderland, on oath, state that I am one of the attorneys for AT&T Illinois, that I have reviewed the foregoing **PETITION TO MODIFY ORDER**, and that, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, the statements contained therein are true and correct.


Louise A. Sunderland

Subscribed and sworn to before
me this 6 day of August 2007


Notary Public, State of Illinois

