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AFFILIATE OFFICE MUMBAI, INDIA

October 12, 2012

Ms. Sharla Dillon Dockets & Records Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, Tennessee 37243 via electronic filing and courier

Docket No. 10-00071

Re: Notification of Absolute Home Phones, Inc.'s Intent to Discontinue Services

Dear Ms. Dillon,

Absolute Home Phones, Inc. ("Absolute" or the "Company"), through the undersigned counsel, respectfully notifies the Authority that it intends to discontinue the provision of certain resold prepaid local exchange and interexchange services currently offered to consumers within the State of Tennessee. In response to changing market conditions, Absolute has determined that it is no longer feasible to offer these service packages. *At this time, Absolute has no customers for these services in Tennessee.* Moreover, the proposed discontinuance will not result in harm to Tennessee consumers generally as equivalent service offerings are available from other carriers, including the underlying carrier whose services Absolute resells.

In connection with this filing, Absolute submits the following information:

## I. Description of Discontinuance

The Company

Absolute Home Phones, Inc. PO Box 831327 Ocala, FL 34483

Absolute provides intrastate services in Tennessee pursuant to authority granted by the Authority. As explained below, the Company does not wish to surrender its authorization at this time.

## **Date of Proposed Discontinuance**

Subject to receipt of necessary regulatory approvals, the Company plans to discontinue the affected services on December 6, 2012.

# Services to be Discontinued & Affected Customers in Tennessee

Absolute proposes to discontinue prepaid local exchange and interexchange services currently provided to customers using AT&T as the underlying carrier. As noted above, Absolute currently has no customers for these services in Tennessee.

#### **Date and Method of Customer Notice**

On October 10, 2012, Absolute sent written notice by first-class mail to affected customers, informing them that the Company will cease providing the prepaid local exchange and long distances services that they currently receive, effective December 6, 2012. The notice clearly underscores that customers must make arrangements with another carrier to avoid loss of service and provides a toll-free telephone number that customers may call to reach Absolute service representatives for assistance with this transition. A sample copy of this notice, which also complies with the requirements of the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"), is appended as Exhibit A.<sup>2</sup>

Absolute was authorized by the Authority to provide competitive local exchange telecommunications services in Tennessee on July 26, 2010 (ID 129091).

Absolute has filed a Section 63.71 application with the FCC for approval to discontinue the domestic interstate services provided as part of these service offerings. A copy of that filing is being served on the Authority. As noted, Absolute does not provide international services.

#### II. Contacts for this Notice

Questions and correspondence regarding this Notice should be addressed to:

Winafred Brantl Kelley Drye & Warren, LLP 3050 K Street, NW #400 Washington, DC 20007 (202) 342-8819 (202) 342-8451 (fax) wbrantl@kelleydrye.com

with copies to:

Tina C. Allen Senior Compliance Manager Telecom Service Bureau, Inc 4352 SE 95th Street Ocala, FL 34480

Fax: 352-233-2724

#### III. Circumstances of Discontinuance

As discussed above, Absolute has determined that market conditions make unfeasible its continued provision of prepaid intrastate services using AT&T as the underlying carrier. Therefore, the Company proposes to discontinue these service offerings at this time. Following implementation of this decision, Absolute will reassess its best alternatives for continued operations in the intrastate and interstate telecommunications markets. Because the Company anticipates that it may continue to provide regulated intrastate services in Tennessee, Absolute does not wish to surrender its telecommunications authorization at this time.

#### IV. Public Interest Considerations

Absolute's proposed discontinuance is consistent with the public interest. There is no direct impact on Tennessee consumers as Absolute has no customers in Tennessee at this time for the services in question. Further, the services offered by Absolute are available from other providers in the Tennessee market and therefore consumers will continue to have choices available to them.

## V. Summary

Subject to any required regulatory approvals, Absolute expects to implement the proposed discontinuance on December 6, 2012. Should the Authority have any questions regarding this filing, please contact the undersigned counsel for Absolute.

Respectfully submitted,

Winafred R. Brantl

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Counsel for Absolute Home Phones, Inc.

Winaful M. Buyan

# Exhibit A

Sample Customer Discontinuance Notice





Customer Name Address Address

October 8, 2012

# Notice of Discontinuance of Your Telephone Service by Absolute Home Phones, Inc.

#### Dear Customer:

Absolute Home Phones, Inc. ("Absolute") regrets to inform you that it is preparing to cease providing prepaid local and long distance service to customers in a significant part of its service area. In order to avoid a disruption in telephone service, you must make arrangements for service with a new telephone company before the cut-off date noted below. The names and telephone numbers of local telephone service companies, which also typically provide long distance service, are listed in your telephone directory. Customer service representatives at these companies will help you to select services to most effectively replace your current Absolute service. If you arrange for new service before your Absolute service is terminated and wish to keep your current telephone number(s), please be sure to address this with your new service provider.

Subject to regulatory approvals, your service cut-off date is December 6, 2012. If you do not arrange to have your telephone service provided by a new telephone company prior to December 6, 2012, you may lose telephone service (which means that you will be unable to make local calls including 911) and you may not be able to keep your current telephone number(s) with the new service provider. Effective with this notice, Absolute will no longer make any changes to or reconnect existing service and will not accept orders for new service.

This discontinuance affects customers for Absolute's prepaid wireline local and long distance service in those parts of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee where AT&T is the incumbent local exchange carrier.

The Federal Communications Commission requires us to provide you with the following notice in connection with its review of the proposed discontinuance:

The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 15 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. Address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the § 63.71 Application of Absolute Home Phones, Inc. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

We thank you for being an Absolute customer and wish you well with your new provider. Should you have any questions, please contact Absolute at 800-495-5765.

Sincerely,

Absolute Home Phones, Inc. PO Box 831327 Ocala, FL 34483