FILED
09/08/2026
Executive Secretary G.P.S.C.

Docket 19553-U:

In Re: Implementation of Senate Bill 147, the Family Violence Shelter Confidentiality Act of 2004 (O.C.G.A. § 46-5-7)

ORDER

I. Background

At its September 21, 2004 Administrative Session, the Georgia Public Service Commission ("Commission") voted to establish this docket for the implementation of the 2004 Family Violence Shelter Confidentiality Act ("Act"), O.C.G.A. § 46-5-7, passed by the General Assembly. The Act requires all telephone companies and directory listing providers to file plans with the Commission prior to January 1, 2005 setting forth in detail how the companies will protect the confidentiality of the location and address of family violence shelters in the state. O.C.G.A. § 46-5-7(a). Per the Act, these plans should describe the manner in which providers will identify family violence shelters in the state and keep confidential the location and address of such shelters. *Id.*

On September 24, 2005, the Commission Staff issued a letter to all certified incumbent local exchange carriers and facilities-based local exchange carriers. The letter sought comment on the format and criteria for the evaluation of compliance plans and encouraged interested parties to work towards consensus. Responses were filed by Southeastern Competitive Carriers Association and Qwest Communications Corporation, SBC Telecom, Inc. Joint comments were filed by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., Georgia Telephone Association, AT&T Communications of the Southern States, LLC and MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC. In the closing weeks of 2004, numerous providers filed plans in order to comply with the Act.

Pursuant to the Act, the Commission must approve the plans within a reasonable time. O.C.G.A. § 46-5-7(c). In order to be approved, a plan must be found to be "reasonably effective in identifying the family violence shelters in the state and in maintaining the confidentiality of the location and address of such family violence shelters." *Id.* The Staff reviewed the plans filed by each local exchange carrier and recommended to the Commission that it not approve any of the plans at this time. The Staff further recommended that the Commission approve minimum requirements for all telephone companies and directory listing providers as set forth below. All parties are required to file their plans incorporating the minimum requirements within 30 days from the date of the Commission order. O.C.G.A. § 46-5-7(c).

II. Minimum Requirements

The Staff recommended that the Commission approve the following minimum requirements for the determination of whether a plan is compliant:

A. Identification of Shelters

1. Georgia Commission on Family Violence- Maintained List of Shelters

Approved "Family Violence Shelters": The Georgia Department of Human Resources ("Department") is responsible for posting a current, accurate, updated list of approved "family violence shelters" on a quarterly basis. This list is posted at http://gadfcs.org/familyviolence/. A specific company employee(s) should be responsible for obtaining the periodically updated list of approved "family violence shelters" on the designated date for list update. This list should be distributed to designated personnel who are responsible for checking this list against their own records to confirm that all the current approved "family violence shelter" accounts are properly marked and protected. All telephone companies and directory listing providers will utilize this database in cooperation with Georgia Commission on Family Violence only.

2. Shelter Self-Identification. In addition to the use of Official Lists, each telephone provider should rely on self-identification by the shelters.

(a) *Telephone Provider's Service Customers*. Shelters of this nature are included primarily within the Small Business Services segment of the retail operations. When a customer or potential customer orders new or additional services, the SBS Sales Associate asks a series of questions intended to elicit the nature of the customer's business, including its identity as a shelter. The types of questions that might be asked include:

FAMILY VIOLENCE SHELTER CONFIDENTIALITY PROTECTION AFFIDAVIT

OFFICER OR ATTORNEY/ AGENT: President & CEO					
COMPANY	Georgia Business Net Telecommunication, LLC.				
NAME	Clay Colvin				
TITLE	President & CEO				
ADDRESS 1	118 Commercial Blvd				
ADDRESS 2					
CITY	Martinez	STATE	GA	ZIP CODE	30907

THE INDIVIDUAL NAMED ABOVE (HEREINAFTER, "AFFIANT") PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE THE UNDERSIGNED, AN OFFICER DULY AUTHORIZED TO ADMINISTER OATHS. THE AFFIANT, AFTER FIRST BEING DULY SWORN, DEPOSES AND CERTIFIES THAT HE OR SHE HAS READ COMMISSION RULE 515-12-1-.37 FAMILY VIOLENCE SHELTER CONFIDENTIALITY PROTECTION AND WILL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED THEREIN.

THIS AFFIDAVIT SHALL CONSTITUTE THE PLAN FOR PROTECTION OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF FAMILY VIOLENCE SHELTERS REQUIRED BY COMMISSION RULE 515-12-1-.37 FAMILY VIOLENCE SHELTER CONFIDENTIALITY PROTECTION AND O.C.G.A. § 46-5-7

SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT

9-2-26

DATE

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO ME THIS

2 DAY OF September , 20 26

Trevor Kerr

NOTARY PUBLIC

(SEAL)

