



NEWS RELEASE

Tennessee Regulatory Authority

Media Contact:

Greg Mitchell, 741-2904 ext. 131
Email: greg.mitchell@state.tn.us

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Consumer Advisory

10-Digit Dialing Will Be Necessary for Tennessee Border Counties Calling Into North Georgia

Nashville, Tennessee – On September 1st persons living in the Tennessee border areas of Hamilton and Polk counties can begin 10-digit dialing when calling into North Georgia. The Georgia Public Service Commission ordered a new area code for North Georgia due to an increase in demand for telephone numbers.

To complement the region's existing 706 area code, 762 will be introduced as an alternative area code to accommodate the region's surge in population and telecommunications technology demands. As a result, Tennessee residents that make local calls into the North Georgia area will be required to dial the customer's area code in addition to the 7-digit number. *Mandatory* dialing of the 762 and 706 area code's will begin after April 3, 2006.

The dialing change will not affect the rate for the call as telephone calls that are considered local calls will remain as local. Local calls within Tennessee will still only require 7-digit dialing.

For more information about area codes, visit www.state.tn.us/tra or www.bellsouth.com

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