



## FLORIDA RELAY

The Telecommunications Access System Act of 1991 (TASA) gives the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC) responsibility for implementation and oversight of the Telecommunications System created by TASA.

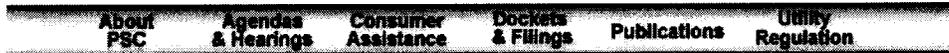
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### Florida Public Service Commission

2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850  
1-800-342-3552



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Chapter 427 of the Florida Statutes concerning the TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACCESS SYSTEM.

### DEFINITION OF TERMS AND ACRONYMS

**ADMINISTRATOR** - A nonprofit corporation [427.704(2), F.S.] created by the local exchange telephone companies pursuant to Commission Order No. 24462 dated May 1, 1991.

That nonprofit corporation was created in June of 1991 and is known as Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc. (FTRI). The Administrator has three basic roles: one is to collect the surcharge revenues from the local exchange telephone companies and pay the relay service provider [427.705(1)(d)&(g), F.S.], another is to distribute and maintain the specialized telecommunications devices [417.705(1)(a), F.S.] and the third is to provide community outreach and training on use of the relay service and specialized telecommunications devices [427.705(1)(a)-(b), F.S.] The FTRI's offices are located in Tallahassee.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE** - A group of up to ten (10) individuals recommended by various organizations representing both the telephone industry and individuals with hearing, speech, or dual sensory impairment [427.706, F.S.] The Advisory Committee's role is to provide input to both the FPSC and the Administrator on the development and operation of the Telecommunications Access System. The Advisory Committee has been actively involved in the implementation of TASA since May 1991. The Advisory Committee has met with the Commission staff on several occasions and also made presentations before the Commission.

**FCC** - Federal Communications Commission

**FPSC** - The Florida Public Service Commission, which has overall responsibility for implementation and oversight of the system [427.704(1), F.S.]

**LEC** - Local Exchange Company. These providers of local exchange telephone service have the responsibility of collecting the surcharge and submitting it to the Administrator.

**PROVIDER** - The entity that provides the relay service [427.704(3)(a), F.S.] The FPSC entered into a contract with to provide the relay service for the three-year period from June 1, 2000 through May 31, 2003. Prior to June 1, 2000, the provider was MCI Telecommunications Corporation.

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Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc.

**FTRI Online****About FTRI Equipment Florida Relay Outreach Calendar Publications Links Board & Chat AIMS**

Equipment Distribution Program

Florida Relay

**The Florida LINK**

The Florida Link is FTRI's newsletter- your source for news and information on your telephone equipment and resources. This newsletter is mailed to everyone who has FTRI equipment. If you would like to be included on our mailing list or if you have moved and need to change your home address, click [here](#) to find out more.

**Next TASA Advisory Meeting!**

The next TASA (Telecommunications Access System Act) Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Monday, October 7, 2002 at the Hillsborough County Center located at 601 E. Kennedy Blvd, Tampa, FL. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. and should end after the 1:30 p.m. Sprint Video Relay and Internet Relay presentations. This meeting is open to the public.

For more information about the meeting please refer to the [Florida Relay](#) portion of Florida Public Service Commission's website or contact

**How did you find out about FTRI?**

- Television
- Radio
- Newsletter
- Friends
- Brochures
- Physician

Submit

**Hot Topics****Coming Soon to Crystal River!**

Beginning October 1, 2002 the Citrus Hearing Impaired Program Services (CHIPS) will be a specialized telephone regional distribution center for FTRI. Individuals residing in the surrounding area will be able to go to the CHIPS office located on 105 SE Highway 19, (behind Capital City Bank) Crystal River to receive FTRI services.

To find out more about this exciting news, you may call (352) 795-5000 or (800) 801-0416.

**Tallahassee News!**

Folks living in the Tallahassee area now have a place to go to receive FTRI equipment services. Effective August 1, 2002, Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc. (FTRI), located on 1820 E. Park Avenue, Suite 101, Tallahassee, FL 32301 is equipped with telephones and ring signaling devices to serve your needs. The FTRI staff is ready to serve you with equipment distribution, equipment maintenance, equipment training, and outreach presentations, as well as instruction on how to use Florida Relay. All FTRI and Florida Relay services are provided at **no charge**.

For more information, you may contact FTRI by calling 800-222-3448 (Voice) or 888-447-5620 (TTY).

**Florida Video Relay is here!**

Florida Video Relay is now available for you to make video telephone relay calls using a camera connected to your PC. All you need to do is visit [www.flvrs.com](http://www.flvrs.com) and you're ready to go.

For more information about this new feature please contact Sprint Account Manager Ken Goulston at [kenneth.a.goulston@mail.sprint.com](mailto:kenneth.a.goulston@mail.sprint.com) or call 1-888-655-3514 (TTY).