

Albuquerque School District (Albuquerque)

32. Unlike Ysleta, Albuquerque states that it relied on a purchasing alliance as equivalent to an RFP when it selected IBM. In 1999, the Western States Contracting Alliance (WCSA) set out an RFP to select computer vendors for several Western states. After a competitive bidding process, the WCSA selected five computer companies with whom to enter into price agreements, effective from September 3, 1999 through September 2, 2004: Compaq, CompUSA, Dell, Gateway, and IBM. Price was factored into the selection of the five companies in a limited manner, as each vendor submitted bids with prices for three computer configurations: a server, a desktop computer, and a laptop computer. The resulting price agreements included various pricing protections for Albuquerque and the other members of WCSA, such as predetermined discount percentages that would apply to purchases after certain volume "trigger points" were reached.

33. Albuquerque's FCC Form 470 was posted on December 10, 2001. Similar to Ysleta's FCC Form 470, Albuquerque indicated in its FCC Form 470 that it was seeking services for virtually every product and service eligible for discounts under the support mechanism. Subsequently, Albuquerque began negotiating Statements of Work (SOWs) with IBM. IBM proposed five SOWs: maintenance, servers, network electronics, video systems, and web-based community interaction. Albuquerque contracted with IBM to provide services based on three SOWs—maintenance, servers, and network electronics (without cabling).

34. On March 24, 2003, SLD denied Albuquerque's request on the grounds that Albuquerque "did not identify the specific services sought—either clearly on the 470 or in the RFP—to encourage full competition on major initiatives." Albuquerque maintains that it competitively bid for eligible services, because the 1999 WCSA RFP served as the RFP for its Funding Year 2002 selection of IBM. Albuquerque also suggests that its agreement with IBM that stemmed from the WCSA RFP constituted a master contract, which is permissible under our rules.

35. Although Albuquerque maintains that it relied on a master contract, and therefore did not need to submit an FCC Form 470, the WCSA contract with IBM does not meet our requirements for a master contract, negotiated by third parties, that has been competitively bid. Master contracts subject to competitive bidding must bear a reasonable connection to the products or services for which discounts are sought. We conclude that in this instance, the WCSA contract did not have such a connection. The record does not reflect that IBM's bid on the cost of a server, a laptop, and a desktop in its 1999 bid was reasonably related to the extensive costs for maintenance and network electronics for which Albuquerque sought discounts in Funding Year 2002. Although Albuquerque argues that the 1999 master contract includes "maintenance and support services," we are not persuaded that the type of maintenance and support services sought in 2002 in the 1999 RFP are sufficiently similar to the extensive maintenance and support services

to relieve Albuquerque of its obligation to competitively bid those services in Funding Year 2002. We therefore conclude that Albuquerque's reliance on the WCSA contract in lieu of an FCC Form 470 was misplaced.

36. Albuquerque's competitive bidding without regard to costs for specific projects funded by the schools and libraries support mechanism violated section 54.504(a) of the Commission rules requiring that "an eligible school or library shall seek competitive bids * * * for all services eligible for support." We also find that because Albuquerque violated our competitive bidding rules, it violated section 254's mandate that applicants submit a bona fide request for services.

[FR Doc. 04-1366 Filed 1-22-04; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[Report No. 2641]

Petitions for Reconsideration and Clarification of Action in Rulemaking Proceedings

January 7, 2004.

Petitions for Reconsideration and Clarification have been filed in the Commission's Rulemaking proceedings listed in this Public Notice and published pursuant to 47 CFR 1.429(e). The full text of this document is available for viewing and copying in Room CY-A257, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC, or may be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, Qualex International (202) 863-2893. Oppositions to these petitions must be filed by February 9, 2004. See section 1.4(b)(1) of the Commission's rules (47 CFR 1.4(b)(1)). Replies to an opposition must be filed within 10 days after the time for filing oppositions have expired.

Subject: In the Matter of Promoting Efficient Use of Spectrum Through Elimination of Barriers to the Development of Secondary Markets (WT Docket No. 00-230).

Number of Petitions Filed: 5.

Subject: In the Matter of Digital Broadcast Content Protection (MB Docket No. 02-230).

Number of Petitions Filed: 4.

Subject: In the Matter of Implementation of Section 304 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (CS Docket No. 97-80).

Commercial Availability of Navigation Devices.

Compatibility Between Cable Systems and Consumer Electronics Equipment (PP No. 00-67).

Number of Petitions Filed: 6.

Marlene H. Dortch,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04-1409 Filed 1-22-04; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Change in Bank Control Notices; Acquisition of Shares of Bank or Bank Holding Companies

The notificants listed below have applied under the Change in Bank Control Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)) and § 225.41 of the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.41) to acquire a bank or bank holding company. The factors that are considered in acting on the notices are set forth in paragraph 7 of the Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(7)).

The notices are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notices also will be available for inspection at the office of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing to the Reserve Bank indicated for that notice or to the offices of the Board of Governors. Comments must be received not later than February 6, 2004.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond (A. Linwood Gill, III, Vice President) 701 East Byrd Street, Richmond, Virginia 23261-4528:

1. *Brian F. Thomas*, Morgantown, West Virginia, and *Roger A. Hardesty*, Kingwood, West Virginia; to acquire voting shares of State Bancorp, Inc., Bruceton Mills, West Virginia, and thereby indirectly acquire voting shares of Bruceton Bank, Bruceton Mills, West Virginia, and The Terra Alta Bank, Terra Alta, West Virginia.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, January 16, 2004.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 04-1391 Filed 1-22-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Notice of Proposals to Engage in Permissible Nonbanking Activities or to Acquire Companies that are Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The companies listed in this notice have given notice under section 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843) (BHC Act) and Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225) to engage *de novo*, or to acquire or control voting securities or