NEWS RELEASE

Office of Commissioner Brandon Presley MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION NORTHERN DISTRICT

Presley Addresses the RoboText and Spam Messages

Tupelo, MS (January 26, 2022) Today, Commissioner Brandon Presley is addresses the robocalls, texts and spam messages that have unfortunately become a daily nuisance. These messages are invasive, annoying and can even be vulgar in nature.

Please review the following methods I have prepared to help mitigate and block these:

Do not click on or respond to these messages.

- Clicking on the message could infect your phone with malware.
- Responding to the message will only serve to validate your number to the scammer.
- Only legitimate businesses have the option to reply "STOP", you are better off not to respond and delete the messages upon receipt.

Blocking and Filtering

- Individual number blocking is often not effective, most are coming from a software program that spoofs random local numbers or uses an "email to text software", the numbers can be changed infinitely.
- iPhone and Androids both offer filtering options within the phones operating system, a step by step walk through of how to enable that can generally be found online using your devices model information.
- Phone carriers have spam filtering applications and options that can be utilized, check with your provider to make sure you have the maximum filtering applied.
- Third party apps are a very effective tool, we have listed below a short list of apps that work with both iPhone and Android.
- List of recommended apps; Nomo Robo, RoboKiller and Text Killer. These apps are third party and are in no way affiliated with the PSC. However, we have tested these and found them to work well on most devices.

Reporting

- You can report spam messages to your carrier directly, if you use AT&T, T-Mobile or Verzion you can forward the message to 7726.
- You can report these to the PSC via our smart app "MSNOCALL".

