

MEDIA ADVISORY GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 18, 2000 CONTACT: Bill Edge, Public Information Officer

PHONE NUMBER: (404) 656-2316; EMAIL ADDRESS: BillE@psc.state.ga.us

"GEORGIA NO CALL LIST" SUBSCRIPTIONS EXCEED 200,000 IN NUMBER

(ATLANTA) – The Public Service Commission announced today that its "Georgia No Call List" database now includes the phone numbers of more than 204,032 Georgia residents. In accordance with legislation passed in 1998, these residential telephone subscribers are able to avoid receiving calls from most telemarketers because their phone numbers have been registered on the No Call List for a \$5 fee that is payable every two years.

Any telemarketer that unlawfully calls a person whose telephone number is enrolled on the No Call List is subject to a fine of up to \$2,000 per call. Since the legislation took effect on January 1, 1999, the State of Georgia has successfully prosecuted a number of telemarketers that have violated this law. Currently, over 1,600 telemarketers from 49 states, Canada and the Dominican Republican have access to the Georgia No Call List database to ensure that they do not place any telemarketing calls to registered phone numbers.

Violations should be reported to the Governor's Office of Consumer Affairs at 404-657-7544, or toll-free at 1-800-805-7544.

Georgia residents and telemarketers interested in subscribing to the No Call List may do so by calling toll free 1-877-GANOCALL (1-877-426-6225) or by contacting the administrator of the List via the Internet at www.ganocall.com. Business and cellular telephone numbers are not eligible to be placed on the No Call List under the existing law.