

# Public Service Commission

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FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

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## NEWS ADVISORY PLEASE ALERT YOUR LISTENERS/VIEWERS

### Local Telephone Dialing Pattern Will Change in New York City Per FCC Requirement

– 1+10-digit Dialing to Begin on February 1, 2003, for All Calls, Even Local Calls –

Albany, NY – 1/23/03 – Pursuant to Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules, all calls dialed in New York City beginning February 1 – including calls to another number in the same area code – must be dialed using 1+ the area code + the 7-digit local number (that is, 1+10 digits). Calls placed after February 1 using only the 7-digit local telephone number will not go through; instead, the caller will hear a recorded message stating that “1” plus the area code must be used to complete the call.

### **Alert: Automatic Dialing Devices Must Be Reprogrammed !**

It is essential that New Yorkers reprogram all automatic dialing equipment to accommodate 1+10-digit dialing. Automatic dialing equipment can include computers using dial-up services for Internet access, fax machines, automatic dialers, call forwarding services, and security alarm systems.

Although the FCC rule will change the dialing pattern for all calls throughout the City, the dialing pattern will not affect the price of the call nor a person’s local telephone number. Additionally, calls to 911 or 411 are not affected by this change.

### **Note to Broadcast Assignment Editors and Reporters:**

For more detailed information on the dialing changes for broadcast stories, you may:

access the Department of Public Service’s website at

[www.AskPSC.com](http://www.AskPSC.com)

which includes a Consumer Alert about the dialing changes.