

LLS-T-1

**BEFORE THE
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001**

**RATE AND SERVICE CHANGES TO
IMPLEMENT BASELINE NEGOTIATED
SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH
LIFE LINE SCREENING**

DOCKET NO. MC2007-5

**DIRECT TESTIMONY
OF
ERIC GREENBERG
ON BEHALF OF
LIFE LINE SCREENING**

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1 Direct Testimony

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3 1. Autobiographical Sketch

4 My name is Eric Greenberg and I am the Vice President of Marketing of
5 Life Line Screening. I have been with Life Line Screening since November of
6 2003. Prior to coming to Life Line Screening, I ran my own direct marketing
7 consulting practice. I also held a senior position at MBI's Danbury Mint, was a
8 co-founder of the Fairfield Mint, was Co-President of IntelliHealth and founder of
9 the IntelliHealth's Healthy Home Catalog. I have an undergraduate degree in
10 Economics from McDaniel College and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

11

12 2. Purpose of Testimony

13 The purpose of this testimony is as follows. First, I describe the history,
14 business model and major growth drivers for Life Line Screening. Second, I
15 describe Life Line Screening's approach to marketing and how marketing
16 decisions are made. Third, I briefly describe our mailing history and volume
17 forecasts. Finally, I describe LLS's address hygiene practices to show why the
18 Postal Service had no opportunity to demand from LLS an upgrade in address
19 hygiene as a condition of receiving discounts on its solicitation mail.

20

21 3. Background on Life Line Screening

22 Life Line Screening (LLS) is the country's largest provider of direct to
23 consumer preventive health screenings. Our screenings provide early detection

1 of one's risk of stroke, abdominal aortic aneurysms, peripheral arterial disease
2 and osteoporosis – diseases that are prevalent, detectable, and treatable. Since
3 1996, we have screened more than 5 million people in all 48 continental states.

4 In 2006, we began to offer in many states a series of finger stick blood
5 tests which measure cholesterol, glucose and C-Reactive Protein (an indicator
6 for heart disease).

7 Each of our 87 ultrasound teams are based in cities around the country.
8 They travel in a 2-3 hour radius to pre-arranged sites on a daily basis, including
9 hospitals, churches, community centers, and senior centers, to conduct the
10 screenings in a convenient and comfortable setting. In 2007 alone, we will
11 conduct screening events in more than 20,000 community locations around the
12 country. At each one-day screening event, we have a limited screening capacity.
13 Our participants experience screenings that are quick, accurate, painless and
14 cost-effective – with a package of four ultrasound screenings costing about \$129.
15 Over the last 10 years, we have helped uncover significant vascular disease in
16 otherwise asymptomatic people -- preventing disability and death in hundreds of
17 thousands of Americans.

18 Part of the company's mission, and indeed one of its biggest challenges,
19 is education. Despite the fact that cardiovascular disease is the number one
20 killer of men and women in the U.S., most Americans are unaware of the need
21 for, and availability of, vascular screenings. LLS's success is largely due to its
22 national direct marketing efforts and community outreach programs which
23 increase awareness and fuel the daily operations of the teams. Our customers

1 are typically aging baby boomers and senior citizens. Direct mail is an excellent
2 channel for us to communicate our message – although our target market is
3 rapidly becoming much more e-mail savvy.

4 There are several factors that have been, and will continue to be, key
5 drivers of the company's growth. Two growth factors that are relevant to this
6 testimony are:

7 a) Domestic ultrasound team growth. Over the last 10 years, the company has
8 grown from an organization based in Ohio with a handful of ultrasound teams
9 to one with national coverage. Adding teams means more screening
10 locations each day, which in turn means more marketing to support each of
11 those screenings – including direct mail.

12 So, for example, let's assume we mail 10,000 pieces of direct mail to
13 prospects per local screening event on any given day. If we add a new team
14 in Washington DC and they hold screening events on 20 days a month, that
15 would mean 200,000 new pieces of mail per month that would not have been
16 mailed before. As we added dozens of new teams across the country over
17 the last few years, our direct mail growth increased dramatically.

18 Now that national coverage has been achieved, domestic team growth is
19 no longer a major growth driver and incremental mail will no longer be needed
20 in those new, introductory markets.— we have territorial coverage in all the
21 places we need to be in. This means that a major direct mail growth driver is
22 no longer a factor and other variables like direct mail cost become that much
23 more important drivers of growth in the direct mail channel.

1 b) Development of new marketing channels. The company utilizes a variety of
2 marketing channels for both prospecting to new customers as well as
3 solicitation of repeat customers. Our expansion of the web, e-mail, radio and
4 other channels has helped fuel the company's growth and provided
5 alternatives to our direct mail marketing. LLS will continue to test these
6 channels to help expand its customer base and to find a higher return-on-
7 investment (ROI). Selection of marketing channels is made on a market by
8 market, screening event by screening event basis and is largely driven by the
9 ROI of one channel versus another.

10

11 **4. Marketing at Life Line Screening**

12 LLS spends a significant amount of money on marketing to educate and
13 acquire new customers as well as re-solicit existing customers. In fact it is the
14 company's largest expense. Mail is primarily used for communicating to existing
15 customers and the acquisition of new customers.

16

17 Communication to Existing Customers - Multiplier Effect

18 Mail is an easy way to communicate with our existing customers. Once a
19 customer is acquired, a series of further communications is delivered by e-mail
20 and/or direct mail (as specified) in the first 12 months including:

- 21 • screening results (month 1; via First-Class mail)
- 22 • satisfaction survey (month 1; via e-mail)
- 23 • thank you letter (month 2; via Standard Mail)

- 1 • 1-2 new product offerings (3-9 months; via Standard
2 Mail)

3 Additional mailings continue up to 18 months after a customer is acquired:

- 4 • 3 additional Standard Mail solicitations to repeat
5 preventive health screenings (12-18 months) already
6 completed.

7 Presently, e-mail is primarily utilized to supplement direct mail. However, as
8 customer preference and ROI changes, in the absence of an NSA, e-mail
9 communications are expected to increase.

10

11 Acquisition of new customers

12 LLS grows its customer base through direct marketing. As a direct marketer,
13 LLS manages a portfolio of marketing channels to communicate with existing
14 customers and solicit new ones. Direct mail (primarily Standard Mail letters),
15 newspaper inserts, national and local radio, television, e-mail, web and other
16 channels are utilized to generate sales.

17 The percentage that each media represents in our overall marketing
18 portfolio shifts, largely depending on cost and effectiveness. While direct mail
19 has a much higher cost per person targeted than other channels, we are able to
20 more effectively target our audience via the mail, and our target demographic
21 group responds well to direct mail solicitations. Nonetheless, the cost of direct
22 mail (postage being the largest component) has risen significantly over the last 2
23 years, leading us to actively pursue alternative channels. The 5.4% 2006

1 standard mail increase and the 2007 projected 9%+ increase has cost the
2 company millions of dollars and made direct mail relatively less attractive as an
3 acquisition tool. To the extent that we have choices as to how we reach our
4 customers, ROI plays a substantial role in media mix. All else being equal, as
5 costs rise in a channel, it becomes less attractive and vice versa. We want to
6 continue to use the mail, but an NSA is needed to drive continued growth.

7

8 Direct Mail Planning Process and Volumes

9 Our company's approximate historical direct mail volume by calendar year
10 is:

11	2004	51 million Standard Mail letters
12	2005	79 million Standard Mail letters (+55% over prior year)
13	2006	93 million Standard Mail letters (+18% over prior year)

14 In 2007, we will have mailed about 52 million pieces through the end of June.

15 The absolute size and growth rates of our direct mail business is affected
16 by the following factors:

17 (a) Our domestic ultrasound team growth. Over the years, we have nearly
18 completed our national expansion of ultrasound teams and have every major
19 US market covered by our screening events. From 1996 on, as we added
20 more teams, we added more screening events. As described in paragraph
21 3(a) above, more events mean more marketing and specifically more mail.
22 Each screening event is marketed to people that fall within our target
23 demographic and who live within a certain geographic radius of the screening

1 location. A large portion of our direct mail volume growth over the last few
2 years is attributable to domestic team growth. As new teams were formed,
3 we marketed the new teams' events to our targeted demographic, and our
4 mail volume grew significantly. This year, the number of screening events
5 continued to grow over 2006 as we added new teams in new locations around
6 the country. Very little growth in screening events is expected to take place in
7 2008 and beyond because we will already have teams in all 48 continental
8 US states. In other words, now that our teams cover the entire country, direct
9 mail growth will no longer be driven by introducing more ultrasound teams
10 and more events. Thus, in the absence of this NSA, significant direct mail
11 volume growth is not anticipated, as the number of our screening events each
12 year are not expected to increase substantially. Rather, as explained above,
13 after 2007, in the absence of an NSA, our mail volume per event is expected
14 to decline as customer preference and ROI changes. An NSA, however,
15 would allow LLS to send more direct mail to advertise each existing screening
16 event because an NSA would lower marginal costs and increase ROI on
17 marginal prospect lists.

18 (b) Response rates. LLS uses many direct mail lists. The response rate, cost,
19 and profitability of each list are measured for each and every marketing
20 campaign that is executed. Higher response rates mean we can mail deeper
21 into mail files and expand the number of lists and still generate acceptable
22 profitability. When response rates fall or cost rise, fewer lists make the

1 economic cutoff required to mail profitably. Changes of even a few basis
2 points have significant impact on the company's profitability and growth rates.

3 (c) Mail costs. While our printing costs have remained relatively stable, postage
4 costs have gone up substantially over the last 2 years...costing us millions of
5 dollars per year. Postage costs represent our largest single marketing
6 expense and about 60% of our mailing costs. There was a postal increase of
7 5.4% in 2006, and again as of May 2007, we are expecting another 9%
8 increase. Even small increases or decreases in costs can have significant
9 impacts on both volume and profitability. In 2007, the number of LLS
10 screening events will increase and even though our mail volume will continue
11 to grow, our volume of mail per screening event is predicted to decline by 7%
12 due in part to these postage cost increases. This NSA provides us incentives
13 at the margin to increase both the absolute and relative dollars spent on direct
14 mail.

15 (d) Growth in our affinity partners. A large number of third party organizations
16 partner with us, requesting us to offer our screenings to their customer base.
17 While this is a growth business for us, it is difficult to forecast and volume is
18 highly sensitive to changes in cost and response rates.

19 (e) Alternative media channels. Direct mail was introduced as a channel in 2003.
20 As we learned more and our modeling became more sophisticated, our direct
21 mail growth was substantial over the following 2 years. As direct mail has
22 become less profitable and other new channels have tested well, we have

1 invested substantially in those other channels – including radio, e-commerce,
2 e-mail and print media.

3 (f) Changing target demographics. As the population continues to age, the use
4 of technology will become more prevalent -- making other means of
5 communication less responsive to people's needs. E-mail and the Internet
6 will have a stronger ROI for communicating with existing customers. Our
7 tests have shown that in some cases it carries a higher ROI than direct mail
8 today. The NSA will be used to help us acquire new customers through
9 expanding our lists by mailing deeper into them and/or buying additional
10 ones.

11 As each of the above factors is subject to change on a monthly basis, our
12 ability to accurately forecast revenues, costs and volumes beyond the near term
13 is always a challenge.

14

15 Volume Forecast

16 While the Postal Service may project its future mail volumes based on
17 historical growth rates, Life Line Screening must forecast in light of the factors
18 noted above. Given the caveats noted, I have attempted to provide the Postal
19 Service with our best estimate of our standard mail volumes for the next four
20 fiscal years with and without an NSA (see below).

1

	Without NSA	With NSA
Total 2007 FY	96,000,000	100,000,000
Total 2008 FY	90,000,000	104,000,000
Total 2009 FY	87,000,000	110,000,000
Total 2010 FY	87,000,000	110,000,000

2

3 Since we have not executed our direct mail campaigns past June 2007, I
4 have used our marketing results for prior years, our current cost and response
5 rate experience and applied our best estimate of future profitability to arrive at
6 our mail volume over the next few years. Without an NSA I would expect a
7 continual decline in our mail volumes per screening event since postage costs
8 will continue to rise and direct mail will lose attractiveness relative to other
9 marketing channels.

10 Without an NSA, as we complete the roll-out of new teams this year, mail
11 volume is forecast to increase by 3% in 2007 vs. 2006. Increases in our affinity
12 marketing programs will be partially offset by reductions in mail volume per
13 screening. Furthermore, in 2008 and 2009, I am forecasting 6% and 3% declines
14 in Standard Mail volume, respectively, as the 2007 postage increase is fully
15 realized (reducing the volume of eligible lists for each campaign) and statistical
16 suppression models are implemented to reduce unprofitable mail volumes. I also
17 am expecting more of the company's marketing dollars to be transferred to
18 alternative channels such as e-mail, the web, radio and television. In 2010 I am

1 forecasting no change in mail volume over 2009 as no new domestic team/van
2 growth is expected.

3 I have also provided a forecast associated with the implementation of an
4 NSA. The proposed NSA provides significant incentives to increase mail volume
5 beyond the current and minimum threshold levels. Volume in excess of the
6 minimum threshold would be mailed at the equivalent of pre-2007 rates, allowing
7 LLS to mail additional volume that might not otherwise meet our profitability
8 criteria.

9

10 **5. Address Hygiene at Life Line Screening**

11 A brief discussion of LLS's address hygiene practices is included here to
12 describe our state-of-the art practices: unlike some of the other NSA discounts
13 selected First Class mailers have negotiated, the Postal Service had no
14 opportunity to demand from LLS an upgrade in address hygiene as a condition of
15 receiving discounts solicitation mail.

16 Life Line Screening engages Knowledge Base Marketing ("KBM") to
17 perform the latest in USPS certified address correction and standardization
18 services and proprietary services to ensure the deliverability of our mailings LLS
19 utilizes the following systems and software with each prospect mailing that it
20 sends:

- 21 a. Address Correction and Standardization: LLS uses KBM's
22 DynamACS CASS certified processing to correct and
23 standardize address information and perform USPS ZIP + 4[®]

1 coding. USPS licensed products including DPV™ and DSF²™
2 augment KBM's Cass certified processing and are a component
3 of KBM's processing. Essentially, these tools provide additional
4 information about each address that enables LLS to decide how
5 to handle the particular address.

6 b. Merge Purge: All of LLS's solicitation mailing lists are screened
7 through a proprietary and proven system to avoid duplicate mail
8 pieces by matching names and addresses from multiple
9 sources. USPS return codes are used to eliminate substandard
10 or undeliverable addresses.

11 c. LACS^{Link}™: Locatable Address Conversion System is a USPS
12 licensed product that converts a former rural style address to a
13 street style address, correcting delivery points that are altered
14 when local governments rename or renumber streets, typically
15 as part of the conversion to the 911 emergency system style
16 addresses; KBM processing also utilizes this USPS licensed
17 product.

18 d. NCOA Link: NCOALink is a USPS licensed product that applies
19 the USPS National Change of Address database to update a
20 mailing list with address changes provided to the postal service
21 by postal customers. KBM is a licensed, full service provider of
22 NCOALink processing. LLS applies NCOALink weekly files to
23 update its mailing lists.

1 e. DCOA (Proprietary Dynamic Change of Address): LLS
2 supplements the updates performed using the NCOALink
3 service by utilizing a KBM proprietary service to match non-
4 NCOALink matched records to KnowledgeBase Marketing's
5 proprietary file of approximately 125 million potential movers,
6 which includes people who move but never submit a change of
7 address form to the USPS. The Dynamic Change of Address
8 file is compiled from over a dozen different sources, such as
9 magazine subscriptions, catalog companies, and insurance
10 companies; many of these sources are exclusive to KBM.

11 f. Suppression Services: LLS's solicitation mailing lists are
12 screened through a comprehensive suite of suppression
13 services that suppresses names and addresses of deceased
14 individuals, prison addresses, and other names and addresses
15 that should not receive LLS solicitations.

16 LLS intends to continue to utilize these services, or comparably effective services
17 for the duration of this NSA and beyond. These services enable LLS to achieve
18 maximum deliverability of our mail with minimal redundancy: results which
19 enhance LLS's returns on investment in prospecting.

20 21 **6. Conclusion**

22 The NSA offers tremendous potential to increase Life Line Screening's
23 direct mail solicitation efforts and to pursue our goal of increasing consumer

1 awareness of the value of vascular screenings. The postage discounts under the
2 proposed NSA will encourage mail volume growth by encouraging the mailing of
3 marginal lists. Furthermore, by improving the relative profitability of mail versus
4 other marketing channels, it encourages us to expand our direct mail volume. As
5 a result of this NSA, the Postal Service will also benefit from significant additional
6 mail volume that otherwise would not have materialized.