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Federal Communications Commission
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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ENFORCEMENT BUREAU IMPOSES \$88,000 FINE AGAINST SBC FOR FAILING TO COMPLY WITH MERGER CONDITIONS

Washington, DC – Today, the Enforcement Bureau of the Federal Communications Commission announced that it has imposed an \$88,000 fine against SBC Communications, Inc. (SBC) for violating reporting requirements that the Commission imposed pursuant to its approval of the merger application of SBC and Ameritech Corp.

In the *SBC/Ameritech Merger Order*, the Commission required SBC to file detailed monthly reports reflecting its performance in responding to requests for facilities and services from its rivals and end-user customers.

An audit report issued by SBC's independent auditor, along with the underlying data in SBC's monthly filings, revealed that SBC used incorrect benchmarks and excluded key data from the reports for a period of up to 13 months. The Bureau issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture relating to this matter on December 20, 2000 (DA 00-2858). In its forfeiture order announced today, the Bureau rejected several defenses asserted by SBC and imposed the full amount of the fine it proposed in December. In imposing the fine, the Bureau noted that the Commission's ability to detect possible discriminatory conduct by SBC against its competitors depends upon SBC's strict compliance with the approved terms and conditions of the Carrier-to-Carrier Performance Plan.

Action by the Chief, Enforcement Bureau, March 14, 2000, Order of Forfeiture (DA 01-680).

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