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Until my retirement in May 1995, I was employed by AT&T for 28 years. My last assignment was in the area of facility placement and relocation, which included all phases of construction, such as design, permitting and excavation safety. I worked with excavators on many projects and had to deal with damage and delay claims.

In December 1991, while still at AT&T I was selected to be part of a team to develop a new education program to teach the excavating public about underground facilities and increase awareness of damage potential. As a result of this national program, damage to AT&T facilities was reduced by 78%. This assignment also gave me the opportunity to help draft Florida Statute 556, The Underground Facility Damage Prevention and Safety Act, and form Sunshine State One-Call of Florida, Inc. I was elected board chair of Sunshine State One-Call and served two terms from 1993 to 1995.

After I retired from AT&T in 1995, I was appointed as executive director of Sunshine State One-Call. As executive director, the organization grew to be one of the best centers in the Southeast. Because of my years of experience and knowledge of the one call system, locating of underground facilities and excavating, I was able to provide expert information to excavators and facility owners to resolve damage claims and other related problems.

While working with damage prevention I had the opportunity to participate with many groups. Some of the associations I became involved with were the Underground Utility Contractors, Florida Transportation Builders and Florida Utility Coordinating Committee. This participation gave me a better understanding of the challenges encountered by all.

Currently, I am employed by Innovative Data Management to develop an underground damage prevention program. This program – which is being marketed to underground facility owners – aims to reduce future damage by training excavators. I am also teaching locating techniques and underground facility damage prevention at the Public Works Academy in St. Petersburg, FL.

In 1998, I helped Ron Rosencrans, editor and publisher of Underground Focus magazine develop the Damage Prevention Convention. This national convention has now had two successful years and is planning a third.

Finally, I am a member of the Dispute Review Board Foundation and have completed their training.