CAPITALIZING ON CUSTOMER SERVICE the defining element

By: Matt Armand

# PART 1: Customer Service

### PART 2: You

Customer Service is produced at the very instant of contact

OUR PERFORMANCE THEIR EXPECTATIONS

= THEIR SATISFACTION INDEX

## Some utilities research and explore...

- Core expectation of customers
- Service attributes and characteristics most important to customers
- General attitudes towards public utilities
- Demographics and methods of communications that are most effective
- Customer Service Surveys

### **Changing Expectations**

aware of the expectations of their customers as demands fluctuate, utilities must be ever As society progresses, as changes occur and

#### Past Expectations

- Tap water is safe to drink
- Water will come out of the tap when it is turned on
- Wall bill will be accurate

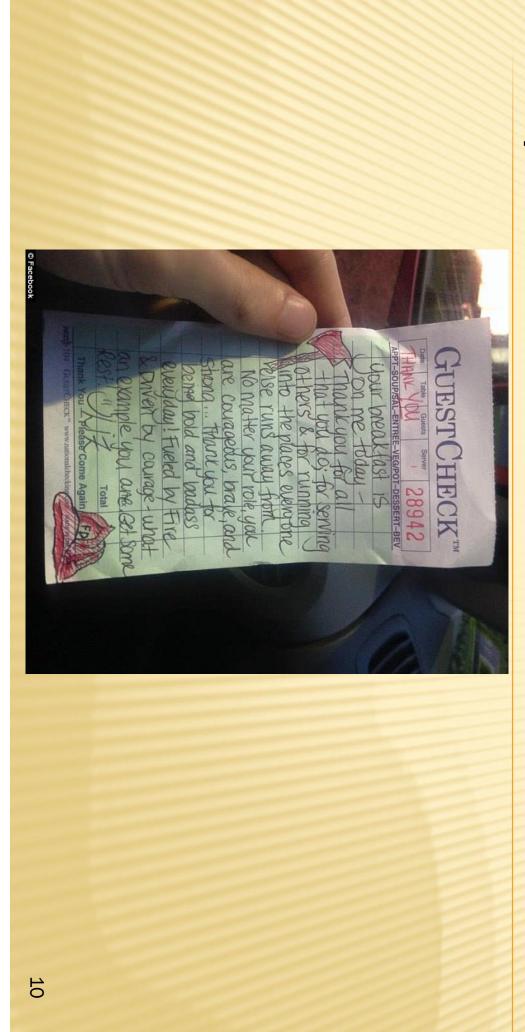
### **Current Expectations**

- Levels of chemical in the water (chromium, lead, fluoride, etc.)
- Potential issues with water (algal blooms)
- Color, taste, smell and clarity of the water
- Water pressure
- Notification about disruptions in service (newspaper, reverse calls, social media, etc.)
- Readability of the water bill
- Payment options
- Location of customer service representatives
- Website
- Average wait time when a customer calls
- Weekend hours and flexibility for those are work during the day
- Advanced notice when water bill is high
- Facility tours
- Etc.

#### ATTUDE IS A CHOIC



## The power of customer service...



# What are the benefits of excellent customer service?

- Saves time (first-call-resolution concept)
- Increases efficiency
- Develops credibility
- IT'S EASY TO BE NICE ... AND IT'S FREE

# What are the consequences of poor customer service?

- Increased time by multiple people to address a repeated concern
- Organizational and personal shame
- Embarrassment for staff and publically elected officials
- Tarnished views from the public at large
- Plummeting morale to be associated with working for "that company"
- Increased turnover
- Loss of customer confidence
- Decline in integrity



