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June 11, 2013

Gary S. Smithwick, Esq.
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5028 Wisconsin Ave., N.W.
Suite 301
Washington, DC 20016

Re: Saga Communications of Iowa, LLC
KRNT(AM), Des Moines, IA
Facility Identification Number: 58534
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed June 7, 2013, on behalf of Saga Communications of Iowa, LLC ("SCI"). SCI requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate with parameters at variance from license values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within license limits.¹

In support of the request, SCI states that due to lightning damage, the existing KRNT(AM) Potomac Instruments AM-1901 antenna monitor has been rendered inoperative. The antenna monitor has been removed and is awaiting repairs off-site. Thus, SCI requests STA to operate with parameters at variance by temporarily operating without a calibrated antenna monitor. SCI states that the antenna monitor will not affect the licensed daytime non-directional operation, and the nighttime field monitor point readings remain within the licensed parameters.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station KRNT(AM) may operate with parameters at variance from licensed values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. An informal letter request for modification of license shall be submitted to the FCC, within 30 days of the date of monitor replacement.² If it cannot be established by the observations required in Section 73.69(d)(2) of the Commission's rules that the common point current reading and the monitoring point values are within the tolerances or limits prescribed by the rules and the instrument of authorization, or if the

¹ KRNT(AM) is licensed for operation on 1350 kHz with a daytime and nighttime power of 5 kilowatts, employing a directional antenna pattern during nighttime hours (DAN-U).

² See 47 CFR §§ 73.69(d)

substitution of the new antenna monitor for the old results in changes in these parameters, a partial proof of performance shall be executed and analyzed in accordance with Section 73.154. SCI must use whatever means are necessary to protect workers and the public from exposure to radio frequency radiation in excess of the Commission's exposure guidelines. *See* 47 CFR § 1.1310.

This authority expires on **December 8, 2013**.

STA Advisory: Section 309(f) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, authorizes the Commission to grant STA in cases of "extraordinary circumstances requiring temporary authorizations in the public interest and when delay in the institution of the temporary operations would seriously prejudice the public interest." However, Section 309(f) is not a means by which a licensee/permittee may circumvent established processing procedures which require the filing of an application, nor is it a means by which a broadcaster may enhance his facility or make operation more convenient for the broadcaster. Stations operating with less than licensed facilities under temporary authorities can be viewed as receiving the benefit of a larger protection area than that in which they are currently providing service.

Accordingly, Special Temporary Authorities by nature are to be temporary and are not intended for extended use. Licensees of stations operating under temporary authorities are reminded that timely restoration of permanent facilities is the responsibility of the licensee and should be undertaken expeditiously. Any request for extension of special temporary authorities carries an increased burden with each subsequent request.

Therefore, requests for extension of STA will be granted only where the licensee can show that one or more of the following criteria have been met:

- Restoration of licensed facilities is complete and testing is underway;
- Substantial progress has been made during the most recent STA period toward restoration of licensed operation; or
- No progress has been made during the most recent STA period for reasons clearly beyond the licensee's control, and the licensee has taken all possible steps to expeditiously resolve the problem.

Sincerely,



Jerome J. Manarchuck
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Saga Communications of Iowa, LLC