WKAM



REMOVABLE LABEL GUIDE

Cat. No. 4550L

Patent No. 1390199

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed 12-23-49

Call letters WKAM

Station located: warrant, Indiana Goshan

Name of licensee

930 East Lincoln Av nue, Goshen, Indiana (Re-descpt. BP-1-14-64) 0.7 mi. E of Court House on Lincoln Ave., just W of NYC tracks (Michigan Branch), Goshen, Indiana (CP & MP 9-9-54) (Lic. 11-8-54) Transmitter location North Side of U. S. Highway 30, 2.8 miles East of center of Warsan Indiana (MP 5-16-49) (L.c. 12-23-49)

930 East Lincoln Avenue, Goshen, Indiana (BS 6-13-61)

X Hotel Goshen, 201 North Wain Street, Goshen, Indiana (Tele. of 3-20-57)
X 612 W. Pike Street, Goshen, Indiana (RC 8-26-55)

x 0.7 mi. E of Court House on Lincoln Ave., just W of NYC tracks (Michigan Branch), Goshen, Indiana (CP & MP 9-9-54) (Lic. 11-8-54)

Main studio location x North side of U. S. Highway 30, 2.8 miles East of center of FCC-65

46526

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

| | - Contract of the Contract of | A SEAL STATE OF THE PARTY OF TH | | and the second second | Sandy to the hard to the |
|--|---|--|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Appl. | Date | REAL PROPERTY. | | Time | Period |
| | Issued | Freq. | Power | Div. | From To- |
| No. | | The state of the s | | - | |
| BP-6174 | 12-22-48 | 1220 | 250w | | |
| | Order I | | | | on granted |
| | subj. f | iling MP | for app | roval T s | te and antenna |
| | | OND. CLA | | | |
| BP-6174 | 5-16-49 | 1220 | 250w | Daytime | 7-16 1-16-50 |
| BMP-4478 | M.d. CP | 6174) fo | r appro | al of ant | enna and |
| | The second second | | Section 19 and 1 | | D. CLAUSE) |
| BMP-4732 | 8-18-49 | Mod. C | (6174 | as mod) to | change type |
| DI-12-417- | of trans | THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN | (COND. | CLAUSE) | 7-16 1-16-49 |
| BL-3741 | 12-23-49 | NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE OWNER, WHEN | Name and Address of the Owner, where the Party of the Owner, where the Party of the Owner, where the Owner, which is | THE R. P. LEWIS CO., LANSING, MICH. | 12-23 5-1-51 |
| DD-0141 | Lic. to | cover CP | (6174) f | or a new | tation |
| | | (CONDL. | CLAUSE) | | |
| 220 020 | E-18-F0 | Vol. TC | of lic. | corp. thru | sale of 474 |
| BTC-919 | shares of | common | stock. | | |
| EFF: 6-1 | -50 | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| BR-2428 | 4-12-51 | 1220 | 250w | Daytime | 5-1-51 to |
| DIC-DIG | | | | | 5-1-4. |
| | | | | | |
| Telegra | am 3-5-54 | Silent | lo days | from_3=7-54 | |
| Control of the last of the las | 4-28-54 | Renewal | of lice | | -1 8-1-55 |
| TD_8868 | 7-21-54 | 1460 | 500w | Day | Ton Varian to |
| 1 -0000 | oP obange | STRIES | And the second | MP amproval | of site & |
| | Goshen, I | id. subj | | | |
| | | Romann B | ilent ne | riod 60 day | ys_re_move |
| Telegra | <u> </u> | World St | tion of | construction | n permit to |
| | amarata | trnsmittE | or by ren | 10 ce compres | from 612 |
| (1) | West Pil | a StreetL | Goshen. | Indiana | |
| BP-8868 | 9-9-54 | 1460 | 500w | Day 1 | 1-9 5-9-55 |
| EMP-660 | 1) | | COND eites | L CLAUSE) | proval ant., |
| | C.P. chg | irei. | 310 | | |
| T&S 8 | 22 0 51 | 1460kc | 500w | Day 11-8 | 3-54 8-1-55 |
| 3L-5502 | | -5/00/40 | a a mor | I TO CHARGE | 10160 |
| | power; ty | pe trans. | and chan | ige trans. 6 | studio loca. |
| | | | - | | |

Form BC-126 June 1954 #2

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

| ate first licensed | Call letters WKAM |
|---|---|
| | Goshen, Indiana |
| | |
| name of licensee KOSCIUSKO BROADCASTING CORPORATION | <u> </u> |
| | |
| | |
| Transmitter location | *************************************** |
| | |
| | |

Main studio location

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

| | S. Called S. M. C. Co. | Some of the last | | or friends with the party of the last | STATE OF THE PARTY | THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE |
|--|---------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|
| And I | Date | | | Time | 1 | Period |
| Appl. | Issued | Freq. | Power | Div. | Fre | om- To- |
| No. | | | P. P. Co. S. C. P. Continues | | | has manual |
| BRC-791 | 8-26-55 control | Mod. of rom 612 | lic. to West Pi | operate ke Street | . Gosh | by remote en, Ind. |
| BR-2428 | 7-27-55 | THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE | THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE | | 8-1 | 8-1-58 |
| PEC 2322 | 10-3-56 10-15-56 | Vol. Tra | ns. of C iah W.Au ieth,Sr. | ontrol of tenrieth, to Nort | vr.,an | n lostan |
| BRC-1121 (2) WIRE | 4-8-57 point fro | Mod. of n 612 We hen. 201 Action pending | lic. to st Pike North M on renew further on autho | change re St., Gosh in St., l applica considera | con distriction of | Indiana leferred Continued |
| BP-11531 | 9_3_58 | 1460kc CP to ir and make ment. (C | 1kw crease p changes ond'1) 500kw (E | Day ower from in trans | 500w <u>t</u> nitting | equip- |
| BL-7358 | an increase to mitting e | o cover se in pow quipment. | c.p. (BF er and m | aking char | which a | trans- |
| | 10-2-59 CP to ins | stall new | transmi | ter (GATE | S BC-1F |). |
| (2) (3) (3) (3) (3) (3) (3) (3) (3) (3) (3 | 5-17-60 installat 6-13-61 | lic. to lon of a lod. li studio. | cense to | p (BP-13) mitter_ change la to remote astern _ = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = | control indated on rene | ich auth. |
| BR-242 | 8 9-28-61 | 1460kc | 1kw | Day 9 | <u>-28 8</u> | -1-64 |

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

| Date first licensed | Call letters WKAM |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| | Station location |
| | |
| | |

| Traine of Freeholds | Name | of | licensee | See Card #1 |
|---------------------|------|----|----------|-------------|
|---------------------|------|----|----------|-------------|

Transmitter location

Main studio location

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

| | | | | | and the same of th |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Appl. | Date | | | Time | Period |
| No. | Issued | Freq. | Power | Div. | From To |
| BP-15863 | | nge hour | DA-N s of ope | ration t | 3-14 9-14-64 o Unlimited stall |
| | direction | al anten | na syste | ■ (DA-N) | (Cond'1), |
| BP-15863 | 7-1-64 CP to che | 1450kc inge hour er of 50 | 500w,1ke s of ope Ow-1kwL | -LS U eration t | 9-1 3-1-65 o Unlimited tall di- |
| BR-242H | 7-35-64 | Renewal . | of Lice | ise to | 1 -1-67 |
| BL-10,764 | | 1460kc | 500w, DA-N | 1kw-LS U | 3-4 8-1-65 |
| | which au using po | thorized | change 00w,1kw- | hours of | mit (BP-15863) operation, nstall direct- |
| bR-2428 | 7-18-07 | | | ise | 8-1 8-1-70 |
| TELEGRAM | 10-17-6 | PSA | 500w | | |
| The second second second second | 12-29-67 | PSA (Rev | ised) 10 | 00w | |
| | s) 8-20-70 | | | | 8-1-73 |
| EBSA | 5-22-72 | | | | |
| | 1)7-31-73 | RENEWAL | | | 8-1-76 |
| WIRE | 8-7-74 | Authori | ty to sur | spend oper otember 15 | ation , 1974. |
| BS-242 | 8(L) 7-30 | 74 char | ge direc | tional ant | enna sys, (p2) |
| BR-2428(| S) 7-12-76 | | RENEWAL | | 8-1-79 |
| BZ-9504(| L) 9-30-77 | | Measureme | | 8-1-79 |
| BR790403 | ZH 7-18-79 | RENEWAL | OF LICEN | SE (S) | 8-1-82 |

Call WKAM Letters New

Name KOSCIUSKO BROADCASTING CORPORATION

| - 200 | | (PO 101 West Center Street, Warsaw, Indiana) | Ac: | tion |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|---|
| File No. | Dated | Application for | Nature | Date |
| BP-6174 Rec'd Filed | 6-20-47 6-24-47 6-24-47 | Construction Permit for a new standard broad- cast station to be operated on: Frequency: 1240ke 1230ke 1220kc Power: 250w Hours of operation: Unlimited daytime Trans. location: 119 N. Buffalo St., Warsaw, Indiana Studio location: 119 N. Buffalo St., Warsaw, Indiana | hearing Order Issu subj. to for approv antenna and located the | 12-22-48 after med filing MP 1 T site and d being so at interference cosed opr. at |
| AMENDED Recd. Filed | 9-9-47 9-11-47 9-11-47 | AMENDED to change frequency from 1240kc to 1230kc- | not be inc that propose application | |
| AMENDED Recd. Filed | 11-8-47 11-10-47 11-10-47 | AMENDED to change frequency from 1230kc to 1220kc and change hours of operation from unlimited to daytime only. | Issued vith | MP 44,78 |

Transmitter- Raytheon RA-250

WKAM

Call

Letters Unassigned

Name Kosciusko Broadcasting Comporation

| File No. | Dated | Application for | Action Nature Date |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|
| EMP-4478 Rec'd Filed | 2-16-49 2-21-49 2-23-49 | Mod. of C.P. (BP-6174, which authorized a new standard broadcast station) for approval of antenna and transmitter location at 17001 North of Warsaw City Limits 75! West of State Route 15. Warsaw, Indiana. (John C. Spearman, Atty.) | GRANTED 5-16-49 re waiver 3.30(a) to permit identification of its location as Warsaw, Indiana. |
| AMEND. Rec'd Filed | 2-25-49 3-1-49 3-1-49 | AMENDED to change studio location from 119 N. Buffalo Street, Warsaw, Indiana TO 75 foot Wast of State Route 15, 1300 foot North of City Limits of Warsaw, Indiana. | |
| AMEND. Recd. Filed | 4-18-49 4-20-49 4-20-49 | Amended to change transmitter and studio locations from 1300. North of Warsaw City Limits, 75' West of State Route 15, Warsaw, Indiana TO North Side of U.S. Highway 30, 2.8 miles East of Center of Town, Warsaw, Indiana. | |

Card # 3

Call

| | Kosci | usko E | Broadcast | ting Co | rporation | 0 |
|--------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---|
| Name . | Markey Control of | ACCRECATE VALUE OF | ************* | ARREST STREET | ************ | |

| File No. BL-3741 Rec'd Filed | 7-7-49 7-8-49 7-8-49 | Application for License to cover construction permit (BP-617) as modified, which authorized a new standard broadcast station). Walter F. Kean, Engr.; Riverside, Ill. | RATURE Fe waiv 3.30(a) identif | Date Date 12-23-49 For of Sect. to permit cation of as Warsaw. |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|--|
| BMP-4732 Rec'd Filed | 7-18-49 8-8-49 8-8-49 | Mod. of C.P. (BP-6174, as mod., which authorized a new standard broadcast station) to change type of transmitter (Raytheon RA-250-A). | re maive | |

FCC Form 94

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call

Name

| - | | | I Ac | tion |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|---|
| File No. | Dated | Application for | Nature | Date |
| BTC-919 Rec'd | 3-22-50 3-27-50 | Voluntary transfer of control of licensee Corporation thru sale of 474 shares of common | GRATT | 5-18-50 |
| Filed | 3-27-50 | stock from J. R. Boice, Wallace T. Miller, B. J. Anderson and Virgil A. McCleary to Dr. Josiah W. Authenrieth, Sr. | ZFF: | -13-50 |
| BR-2428 Rec'd | 2-22-51 3-2-51 | Renewal of license Filed by Samuel Miller atty. | GRANTED | 4-12-51 |
| BP-8868 Rec'd Filed | 1-20-53 5-12-53 5-12-53 | studio location from North side of U. S. Hwy. 3 2.8 miles E. of center of Warsaw, Indiana to To be determined, Goshen, Indiana. R. M. Booth, Jr., Atty. Robert E. L. Kennedy, Engr. | val of sit site select later. vill | ling MP appro- a antenna ted to that no be caused to ill not be gr. lic. on |
| | | | ssued with | |

FORM A-170 #4(a) FORMERLY FCC FORM 94

Call

Letters WKAM

KOSCIUSKO BROADCASTING CORPORATION Name

| File No. | Dated | Application for | Natur | ction Date Date rd #4 for action. |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--------|--------------------------------------|
| AMENDED Rec'd Filed | 10-8-53 10-20-53 10-20-53 | AMENDED to change frequency to 1460kc, power to 500w, and transmitter to COMPOSITE RCA MI-7165, Modified. Dontingent on grant of BML-1489 | | |
| BR-2428 Rec'd Filed | 2-11-54 2-15-54 2-15-54 | Renewal of License Filed by H. Donald Kistler, Atty. | ranted | 4-28-54 |

FORM A-170 FORMERLY FCC FORM 94

Call

WKAM

KOSCIUSKO BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Name ROSSIOSRO ERCADORSITAS CONTENENTAL CO

| | | | Act | 1on |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--|------------|---------------|
| File No. | Dated | Application for | Nature | Date |
| BMP-6601 | 7-22-54 | Modification of construction permit (BP-8868 | GRANTED | 9-9-54 |
| Rec'd | 7-23-54 | which auth, change in frequency; change in pot | er Cond !] | re before un |
| Filed | 7-23-54 | change in type transmitter and change keases | DEUX testa | are author. |
| | | in transmitter and studio location) to change | permitted | submit suffic |
| | | transmitter and studio location from To be | ent data | e Sec. 3.47 & |
| | | determined, Goshen, Indiana to 0.7 mis. E. of 1 | 2 of Stan | dards |
| | 1 | Court House on Lincoln Ave., just W. of NYC | | |
| | | tracks (Michigan Branch), Goshen, Indiana, and | | |
| | | Bingham, Collins, Porter & Kistler, Attys. | | |
| | | E. Harold Munn, Jr., Engr. | | |
| | | E. Harold Mann, or., 200 | | |
| AMENDED Rec'd Raled | 8-10-54 8-13-54 8-13-54 | AMENDED to delete request to change type of transmitter. | | |
| BRC-534 | 9-14-54 | Modification of construction permit to operate | | |
| Rec'd | 9-16-54 | transmitter by remote control from 612 West GRA | NTED 9- | 21-54 |
| Filed | 9-16-54 | Pike Street, Goshen, Indiana | | |
| | | Robert M. Booth , Jr , Atty. | | |

FORM A-170 6 FORMERLY FCC FORM 94

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call

Letters WKAM

KOSCIUSKO BROADCASTING CORPORATION Name Goshen, Indiana

| | The state of the s | A | ction |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Dated | Application for | Natur | e Date |
| 10-6-54 10-8-54 10-8-54 | License to cover construction permit (RP-886) as modified) which authorized change freq; potype transmitter and change transmitter and studio location. Robert M. Booth, Atty. | GRANT | ED 11-8-54 |
| 6-15-55 6-17-55 6-17-55 | Renewal of license | GRANTED | 7-27-55 |
| 8-17-55 8-22-55 8-22-55 | by remote control from 612 West Pike Street, Goshen, Indiana. E. R. Schneider, Jr., Atty. | GRANTED | 8-26-55 |
| 8-21-56 8-27-56 8-27-56 | Jr., and Josiah Autenrieth, Sr., to Northern Indiana Broadcasters, Inc. | THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE OWNER. | 10 -3-56 10 -1 5-56 |
| | 10-6-54 10-8-54 10-8-54 10-8-54 6-15-55 6-17-55 6-17-55 8-22-55 8-22-55 8-21-56 8-27-56 | License to cover construction permit (EP-8868 10-8-54 as modified) which authorized change freq; potype transmitter and change transmitter and studio location. Robert M. Booth, Atty. 6-15-55 6-17-55 6-17-55 8-22-55 8-22-55 8-22-55 8-21-56 8-27-56 Voluntary transfer of control of licensee corporation (100%) from Josiah W. Autenrieth, and studio location. E. R. Schneider, Jr., Atty. 8-21-56 8-27-56 Voluntary transfer of control of licensee corporation (100%) from Josiah W. Autenrieth, and studio location. 8-21-56 8-27-56 Renewal of license to operate transmitter by remote control from 612 West Pike Street, Goshen, Indiana. F. R. Schneider, Jr., Atty. | Dated Application for Nature 10-6-54 10-8-54 10-8-54 10-8-54 10-8-54 10-8-55 C-17-55 6-17-55 8-22-55 8-22-55 8-22-56 8-27-56 8-27-56 8-27-56 8-27-56 Northern Indiana Broadcasters, Inc. |

Call Letters

WKAM

Name KOSCIUSKO BROADCASTING COR O. TION

Goshen, Indiana

| | | | Ac: | tion |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|----------------|--|
| File No. | Dated | Application for | Nature | Date |
| BRC-1121 Rec'd Filed | 4-2-57 +-4-57 4-4-57 | Modification of license to change remote control point from 612 West Pike Street, Goshen, Indiana to Hotel Goshen, 201 North Main Street, Goshen, Indiana | GRANTED | 4-8-57 |
| BP-11,531 Rec'd Filed | 8-10-57 8-14-57 8-14-57 | Construction permit to increase power from 500w to lkw and make changes in transmitting equipment. Engr E.H. Munn, Jr., Coldwater, Mich. | trans. to show | 9-3-58 e diagram of a meas. data trans. satisfor lkw requestance of |

Call

Letters X K A M

Name KOSCIUSKO BROADCASTING CORPORATION

| File No. | Dated | Application for | Natu | Action re Date |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--|----------------|-------------------|
| BR-2428 R. & F. | 5-8-58 5-16-58 | Renewal of License Robert M. Booth, Jr., Atty. | GRAI | |
| BI-7358 R. & F. | 12-13-58 12-15-58 | license to cover construction permit (P-11,531) which auth. an inc. in power and changes in transmitting equipment. | GRAN | TE) 4-20-59 |
| BP-13,419 R. & F. | 9-3-59 9-8-59 | Construction permit to install new transmit (GATES BC-1F). Atty- Robert M. Booth, Jr. | ter GRANTED | 10-2-59 |
| BL-7740 Rec'd Filed | 11-5-59 11-17-59 11-17-59 | License to cover construction permit (HP-13419) which authorized installation of a new transmitter. Robert M. Booth, Jr., Attv. | GRANTED | 5-17-60 |
| HR-2428 Rec'd&Filed | 5-6-61 5-19-61 | Renewal of License John L. Tierney, atty. | GRANTED | 9-28-61 |

Call Letters WKAM

Name KOSCIUSKO BROADCASTING CORPORATION GOSHEN, INDIANA

| File No. | Dated | Application for | Nature | Date |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---|-----------|--|
| BP-15,863 Rec'd & F | 2-8-63 2-8-63 | CP to change hours of operation from Daytime to Unlimited using power of 500w-lkwLS and install directional antenna system (DA-N) | Field mea | -1-14-64 e: Phase Mon., as. equip., -DA proof. ASIDE 5-13-64 |
| | | Eng. Robert A. Jones | | 7-1-64 |
| PETITION OF Midlen for W | LARENCE C. MR & WXAX (| MOORE FOR RECONSIDERATION OF GRANT OF APPLICAT FM) - GRANTED IN PART & DENIED IN PART Memo Opt | ION filed | 2-14-64 by der 5-13-64 |
| Booth for an | olicant OSITION TO | F CLARENCE C. MOORE FOR RECONSIDERATION OF GRAPE PETITION OF CLARENCE C. MOORE FOR RECONSIDERATION | | |
| APPLICATION BR-2428 R & F | filed 3-16- | S4 by Midlen | RANTED | 7-15-64 |
| | | F.C.C. WARRINGTON, D.C. | | |

FORM BC-121 Aug. 1955

Call Letters WKAM

| Name KO | SCIUSKO BRO GOSHEN. I | ADCASTING CORPORATION | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--|------------------------|-----------|
| File No. | Dated | Application for | Act Nature | Date Date |
| Beath for | R RECONSIDE | RATION re action of 5-14-64 setting aside gran | | |
| BL-10,764 R. &F. | | License to cover construction permit(BP-15,86) which authorized change hours of operation, using power of 500w,lkw-LS, and install directional antenna nighttime. Atty- Booth and Lovett |) GRANTED | 3-4-65 |
| BTC-4955 R & F | 10-26-65 10-29-65 | Voluntary transfer of control of licensee corporation from Northern Indiana Broad- casters, Inc. to Roper-Wright Manufacturing Co., Inc. Atty. Booth and Lovett | DISMISSED (Mutual c | |
| | | F.C.C WASHINGTON, D. C. | | |

Call Letters .W.K.A.M.....

| | Goshen, Indiana | | Action | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|-----------|----------|--|
| File No. | Dated | Application for | Nature | Date | |
| -2428 k F | 4-26-67 5-3-67 | Renewal of License Atty: Joseph F. Hennessey | GRANTED | 7-18-67 | |
| R-2428 & F 601270\$75 | 5- 4-70 5-13-70 5-13-70 4-20-70 | Renewal of license Robert M. Booth, Jr. Engineering | GRANTED | 8-20-70 | |
| | | notified WKAN of apparent liability for \$25.00 | for viola | ition of | |
| Section 1. R-2428 R & F | 39(<u>a) of</u> t <u>h</u> 4-20-73 4-26-73 | DENEUAL OF LICENSE | RANTED 7 | -31-73 | |
| PN Recd. PRESS | 1973 | AMENDED 5-29-73 re: programming; emp. policy | | | |

| Form BC-121 September 1969 8-49 Name KOSCI | #12 | APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING ASTING CORPORATION | | all ters W.K | 1460 A M |
|---|--|--|---|-------------------------|-------------|
| | Dated 3-19-76 | Application for RENEWAL OF LICENSE | | Ac Nature GRANTED | <u>tion</u> |
| R & F PN Recd. PRESS | 4-1-76 MAY 26 197 | R.M.Booth.Jr.Atty. | | | 7-12-70 |
| Z-9504 R & F , DM PRESSSEP 26 | 12-2-76 12-23-76 9-14-77 197 7 | Direct Measurement Atty: Robert M. Booth, Jr. | | RANTED | 9-30-77 |
| BR 790403 ZH | Control of the little of the l | RENEWAL OF LICENSE | G | RANTED | 7-18-79 |
| | | F.C.C WASHINSTON, D. C. | | | |

B

Call Letters: WKAM

Nome: KOSCIUSKO BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Station Location: GOSHEN, INDIANA

| File No. | Date | Description | Action and Date |
|--|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| EZ-9845 R & F DM ltr. PRESS APR 0 7 19 | 5-17-78 4-15-80 5-15-80 | DIRECT MEASUREMENT Atty: Robert M. Booth, Jr. (Booth & Freret) | Form BC-121 March 1979 |

About the History Cards ...

History Cards were first used by the Department of Commerce to keep track of applications filed by, and changes to, the earliest AM broadcast stations in the early 1920s. The records were subsequently transferred to the Federal Radio Commission in 1927, and after that to the Federal Communications Commission when that agency was created in 1934. These cards gradually grew into a large card file. History Cards remained in use until the creation of the first computerized database in 1980 to track broadcast applications, the Broadcast Application Processing System (BAPS). However, the Commission did not transfer the data from the History Cards to the new system. Instead, it retained the History Cards in their original form – 3" by 5" filing cards – for reference.

In 1999, the Commission moved to a new location (445 12th Street SW), and also at that time created the successor database to BAPS, the Consolidated DataBase System (CDBS). The History Cards were transferred to microfiche by a contractor (only a few sets of microfiche exist), and the original paper cards were destroyed. The History Cards were stored on the microfiche as negative images, like those you see above. Generally, they have been left as negatives as those are often easier to read.

History Cards contain very brief entries and notes about station facilities, applications, and ownership. They are not, and never were intended to be, a comprehensive record of a station's operations. Nevertheless, they can be useful to help determine, for example, when a station first went on the air and its call letters at that time. History Card comments were generally typed onto the cards, and thus some records will show more faintly or with more smudging than others, depending on the quality of typewriter and ribbon then used. Occasional handwritten comments, corrections, and strikeouts may also be found. Cards may be incomplete, missing, or occasionally out of sequence.

The History Cards are presented here as they were copied to microfiche, to preserve this record for public use, and with the hope that they will be of value to future researchers of radio station history.

