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**RIC**

Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

In re Application of )

RAMA COMMUNICATIONS, INC. )

File No. BR-20110929AES  
Facility ID No. 73913

For Renewal of License of )  
AM Broadcast Station WQBQ )  
Leesburg, Florida )

**FILED/ACCEPTED**

JAN 26 2012

To: Marlene Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Attn: Audio Division

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

**OPPOSITION TO PETITION TO DENY**

Comes now, Rama Communications, Inc., ("RCI") by its counsel, hereby respectfully opposes the Petition to Deny ("Petition"), filed in this proceeding by Robert E. Boris ("Boris"). As shall be demonstrated below, the accusations of Boris lack merit and must be denied.

1. On September 29, 2011, RCI timely filed its renewal of license application for Radio Station WQBQ (AM), Leesburg, Florida (the "Station" or "WQBQ"). A Petition to Deny was filed with the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC" or "Commission") by Boris on December 27, 2011<sup>1</sup>.

2. Boris, in his Petition, alleges among other things, that he was denied access to the WQBQ public file and that there were multiple items missing from the file. He goes on to conclude that because of these alleged failures, the FCC should "take

<sup>1</sup> Public Notice Report 27654, released 1/17/2012.

serious consideration of the disappointing and on-going issues presented here.”<sup>2</sup> As will be detailed below, the allegations of Boris are false and an abuse of FCC Process.

#### Background Facts

3. To see what “really” is going on here, one only need to look at the Declarations of Ms. Shanti Persaud-Hernandez, President of RCI (“Exhibit 1”) and Station Engineer Frank Strnad, (“Exhibit 2”).

4. In late November, Mr. Strnad was contracted by Joe McNair who was the former Station Manager of WLBE (AM), Leesburg-Eustis, Florida. Mr. McNair told Mr. Strnad that he had a fellow, Bob Boris, who had previously been on the air at WLBE and who was now looking for employment at another local station. Discussing this matter with Ms. Persaud-Hernandez, Mr. Strnad was directed to interview him. A lunch interview was setup and Mr. Strnad and Boris met on November 30, 2011. As a result of the interview, Mr. Strnad did not feel Boris would be a good fit for WQBQ and reported this to Ms. Persaud-Hernandez. On or about December 1, 2011, RCI contacted Boris and informed him they would not be hiring him.<sup>3</sup>

5. On December 5, 2012, Boris barged his way into the WQBQ control room demanding to see the Public File<sup>4</sup>. The operator on duty, Ms. Bobbie DePew was on the air. Ms. DePew told Boris, (who gave her the false name of “John”)<sup>5</sup> that she would make it available, but since she still live on the air, she asked if he could possibly come back at the end of the shift. He was more than willing to do so. When he came back, he

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<sup>2</sup> See Petition at Page 11.

<sup>3</sup> See Exhibit 2

<sup>4</sup> See Exhibit 2

<sup>5</sup> See Exhibit 2

became argumentative and belligerent with Ms. DePew and the secretary who was then there at the time, Ms. Willow Scott (resulting in bringing Ms. Scott to tears).

6. Shortly after the visit of Boris, Ms. Persaud-Hernandez received a menacing Letter from a "resident of Lake County" (of course unsigned) (Copy attached as Exhibit 3). About a week after receipt of the Letter, RCI received a copy of the Petition to Deny.

#### Argument

7. First, the Public File is in order and the statements of Mr. Boris are false. This fact is confirmed by the declarations of Ms. Persaud-Hernandez and Mr. Frank Strnad. Moreover, the Staff should note that Mr. Strnad was hired by RCI to, among other things, assist Rama ownership in keeping the Station in compliance with FCC Rules. Second, the Petitioner alleges he did not have access to the file, however, he was provided access. The Petitioner even admits his access (Petition at Page 6).

8. Third, Boris states on his Affidavit that "I never worked for WQBQ or solicited for work at the station." (Petition at Page 4). We know this to be absolutely false. Boris met with Frank Strnad on November 30, 2011 to discuss possible employment (See Exhibits 1 & 2).

9. The truth is crystal clear. Boris wished to "stir things up" at WQBQ or somehow bully RCI into offering him a job. When he was not offered a position, he became angry and filed this Petition as "payback". His activity is certainly an abuse of process and the Commission cannot allow such an abuse and must take appropriate action against this meritless Petition.

Conclusion

10. For the reasons set forth above, the Commission must DISMISS the Petition to Deny and APPROVE the Station License Renewal.

Respectfully submitted,

RAMA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

By: 

John C. Trent, Esquire  
Its Counsel

January 26, 2012  
Putbrese Hunsaker & Trent, P.C.  
200 S. Church Street  
Woodstock VA 22661

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Sharon L. Hinderer, a legal assistant in the law offices of Putbrese Hunsaker & Trent, P.C., do hereby certify that copies of the "Opposition to Petition to Deny" have been sent via first class, U.S. mail, postage prepaid, this 26<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2012, to the following:

Robert E. Boris  
1011 Lake Gracie Drive  
Eustis, FL 32726

\*Peter H. Doyle, Chief  
Audio Division  
Media Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
445-12th St., S.W.  
Room 2A-320  
Washington, DC 20554

Sharon L. Hinderer  
Sharon L. Hinderer

\*By Hand and U.S. Mail

**EXHIBIT 1**

**DECLARATION OF SHANTI PERSAUD HERNANDEZ**

I, Shanti Persaud Hernandez, declare under the penalty of perjury that the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

1. I am the President of Rama Communications, Inc., ("RCI") the licensee of Radio Station WQBQ (AM), Leesburg, Florida (FCC Facility ID No. 73913) ("the Station" or "WQBQ").

2. On November 30, 2011, my engineer Frank Strnad met with Robert Boris to discuss possible employment at WQBQ. The interview did not go well, so I made the decision to not hire Mr. Boris.

3. On December 5, 2012, Mr. Boris barged into the control room demanding access to the Station the Public Inspection File. Bobbie DePew, our talk show operator, was on the air. Ms. DePew ask him, under the circumstances, to please a bit later so she could be off air and free to provide him the files he request. He agreed and then came back at the time selected.

4. At the time he came back, Bobbie requested his basic information (his name and address). He refused to do so. He had given a false name earlier of "John".

5. While at the Station he became belligerent with the staff which resulted in bringing our secretary Willow Scott to tears.

6. Approximately a week after this "visit", I received a threatening letter for a "resident of Lake County". Then I received the Petition to Deny.

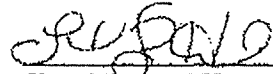
7. To sum up the Petition, Mr. Boris (assuming that is not yet another false name), said that I have no Public File. This is patently false. And since I have no public file, I should not have the WQBQ license renewed.

8. While it is true that WQBQ was cited some time ago for issues with public files. We were fined and I have personally seen that these issues were corrected and that the imposed fines addressed.

9. Further, to insure rule compliance, I hired engineer Frank Strnad. Frank has been in the broadcast industry for over 25 years and is well known and respected by the Florida broadcasting community. Frank has my Station operating pursuant to the Rules.

10. I believe that this Petition filed by Mr. Boris is to simply get back at me because we did not hire him, nothing more, nothing less.

The foregoing was signed this 26 day of January, 2012.



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Shanti Persaud Hernandez  
President



**EXHIBIT 2**

DECLARATION OF FRANK STRNAD

I, Frank Strnad, declare under the penalty of perjury that the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

1. I am a broadcast engineer with over 29 years of experience with radio stations. I became affiliated with Rama Communications, Inc., in the late 1990's. About 2005 brought on as a part time engineer. Within the last but 4 years have been the main contract engineer for Rama Communications, Inc., ("RCI") the licensee of Radio Station WQBQ (AM), Leesburg, Florida (FCC Facility ID No. 73913) ("the Station" or "WQBQ"), to assist RCI with FCC Rule compliance.

2. I was contacted in late November, 2011 by Joe McNair, the former station manager at WLBE (AM) in Leesburg-Eustis. He said that he'd like for me to meet with a gentleman by the name of Bob Boris. Joe told me that Mr. Boris had been doing a show on WLBE and was interested in moving his show over to WQBQ and if we were interested. I responded by asking Joe to please set up a meeting at Denny's (in Eustis, FL) the following week for lunch. I called RCI's President, Shanti Persaud-Hernandez and asked if she would like to meet with him too. She was unable to do so, but directed me to interview the gentleman to see if he might be a good fit for Station. I met with Mr. Boris on Wednesday November 30, 2011. This meeting ran for about 30 minutes. After the meeting I immediately called the owner and explained to her that Mr. Boris's attitude and demeanor at our meeting did not make me feel comfortable with his possibly working at WQBQ. On or about December 1, 2011 I contacted Mr. Boris with RCI's decision not to hire him.

2. December 5, 2011, I was running the board for Bobbie DePew Show because her board was taking a leave of absence. Around 10:00 a.m., Mr. Boris entered straight into the control room like he owned the place and states directly to me "Surprise Surprise". I then ask "what are you doing here?" immediately thereafter our operator Bobbie comes out of her talk studio and asked "can I help you?" Mr. Boris replied "My name is John and I would like to see the public files". Because we were live on the air, Ms. DePew asked Mr. Boris if he could "come back at the end of the live air shift at noon and she'd make sure to have it available" for him. Mr. Boris agreed and said, "Sure I will see your then." I didn't take part in the conversation because I was on the board and pre-occupied. At noon I was leaving the studio

when Mr. Boris reappears. Strangely I noticed he did not park in the station park lot rather he parked his car across the street on the dirt road. As he approached me I ask him "why did you park across the street?" He said he had a dog or cat with him and he wanted to keep it in the shade. I then asked him why he lied to Bobbie by giving a false name? He then in a threatening manner that she will find out soon enough his name then proceeded into the building. I went in to make sure that my board op duties were completed because I did have a prior appointment that I needed to get to. As I proceed to the control room I did observe him looking at the public files and heard his abrasive cold tone toward our secretary Willow Scott and Bobbie. After I finished my work in the control room I proceeded to the door to leave, I stopped and poked my head in to see what was going on then asked Mr. Boris if all was ok and he stated to me that the public files were missing some items. I then looked at him directly and stated that he's wrong.

4. While reviewing the file, Mr. Boris refused to ever give Willow or Bobbi his contact information. It is standard practice recognized by the FCC that it is reasonable for a licensee to require members of the public to provide personal information as a prerequisite to granting access to the public file.

5. While at the Station he became belligerent with the staff which resulted in bringing secretary Willow Scott to tears.

6. Approximately a week after this "visit", we received a threatening letter for a "resident of Lake County" (no name given). Then shortly thereafter we received a Petition to Deny.

7. Mr. Boris makes all kinds of claims to missing documents, and cites documents (like EAS Logs ...which don't even need to be in the Public File). The fact is, the Station Public File is in good shape. I maintain the Public File along with owner Ms. Persaud-Hernandez and her other staffers.

8. I believe this Petition is nothing more than a spiteful document meant to injure my employer because it did not hire him, nothing more.

The foregoing was signed this 26 day of January, 2012.

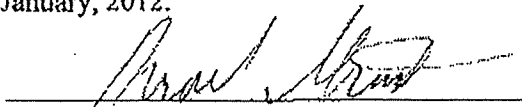
  
Frank Strnad, WQBQ Station Engineer

EXHIBIT 3

Rama Communications, Inc.  
ATT: Mrs. Shanti Persaud-Hernandez and/or  
Licensed owner of Radio Station WQBQ  
3765 North John Young Parkway  
Orlando, Florida 32804

Dear Mrs. Persaud-Hernandez,

I am a resident of Lake County, Florida and I am offended at Ms. Bobbi DePew's treatment of me at your Radio Station, WQBQ, on December 5, 2012 after requesting to see your Public Inspection File.

To be sure, I was uncomfortable about identifying myself and I chose not to reveal my name. It is not essential in order to examine these public files to surrender identification.

Ms Depew's curious attitude (and Ms. Willow Scott's questioning of me as to what I specifically wanted with the information,) was uninviting to my general right of examining the station's Public Inspection File and, when, after awhile, I asked to see some associated information, Ms. DePew spoke to me in an unfriendly manner, and then proceeded to gather my personal papers, escorted me to the exit of the building *"and told me not to come back."*

This is an unsociable attitude from a radio station general manager. It is objectionable for any executive to act this way in any business involving the public. I very much resented being treated that way. And it is the reason for my letter to you.

I came to your station seeking answers to specific questions regarding the operation of WQBQ, information that the FCC warrants is available to *everyone* of the public. I have the right to examine WQBQ's Public Inspection File without surrendering my business to Ms. DePew (or anyone else).

For a station that purports so much professionalism "on the air" the behavior of your management "off the air" is both disappointing and deeply disturbing.

I hold no anger against any of you. We don't know each other. But, why would Ms. DePew treat anyone this way? Her behavior against me was unprofessional. It may also have been contrary to appropriate business practices, but that's up to you.

It is again only reasonable that I not give you my name. I represent a member of the listening public, no more and no less. I could have been anyone at your station's door last Monday, just another citizen held to your personnel's questioning, and when they were unsatisfied with the answers, banished off the premises with a threat not to come back.

Is something wrong here? Am I missing something? Is that the way things are now? It says a lot about why America is having such a hard time getting back on its feet. Don't you think?

A resident of Lake County.