

## **BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD**

Date first licensed May 6, 1980

Call letters WRSM

Station location Sumiton, Alabama

Name of licensee SUMITON BROADCASTING CO., INC.

Transmitter location & mi. N. intersection Old Dora Rd. & U.S.Rt. 78, Sumiton, Alabama

Main studio location . Same as transmitter

## CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No. BP-17108 EBSA	Date Issued 10-27-77	CP for	a new s		Period From To 10-27-78
BL-14,49	(L)XIXXX 5-6-80	Lic. to	cover B	P-17,108 f	or NEW AM 4-1-82

## APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call WRSM

Name Sumiton Broadcasting Co., Inc.
Sumiton, Alabama (PO % C. F. Ballenger, Sumiton, Alabama 35148)

m		tention to a	Act 1	
File No.	Dated	Application for	Nature	Date
BP-17,108 R&F	1-21-66 1-24-66	Type trans: Gates BC-1G  Trans loc: .25 mi N of intersection of Old  US Route 78, Sumiton, Ala.  Studio loc: same as trans location  Atty: Prince & Paul	RANTE	
Amended 1- Amended Amended	5-70 re fina 1 3-17-70 re 1 5-24-71 re	community survey		
Amended Amended	6-30-72 re	hange address of Dr. Chapman. Section II, Table Flag. WASHINGTON. D. C.	1	

C.F. Ballenger Or J.L.Fowler 205; 648-2971 Sumiton, Alabama

Call Letters: WRSM

Name: SUMITON BROADCASTING CO., INC.

Station Location: Sumiton, Alabama

File No. Date		Description	Action and Date
L-14,493 R & F PRESS	6-16-78	Lic. to cover BP-17,108 for NEW AM STATION Atty: Ray R. Paul	GRANTED 5-6-80
			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 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

