

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
**445 TWELFTH STREET SW**  
**WASHINGTON DC 20554**

**MEDIA BUREAU**  
**AUDIO DIVISION**  
**APPLICATION STATUS:** (202) 418-2730  
**HOME PAGE:** [www.fcc.gov/media/radio/audio-division](http://www.fcc.gov/media/radio/audio-division)

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September 6, 2017

Delmarva Educational Association  
3780 Will Scarlett Road  
Winston-Salem, NC 27104

Re: Delmarva Educational Association  
WONA(AM), Richmond, VA  
Facility Identification Number: 21434  
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed August 25, 2017, on behalf of Delmarva Educational Association ("DEA"). DEA requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WONA(AM) with temporary facilities from an alternate AM transmitter site.<sup>1</sup>

In support of the request DEA states that the station has lost its transmitter site and wishes to resume operation at reduced power from a temporary location. The site is the same as that currently licensed for AM station WCLM(AM), Highland Springs, Virginia and is a 30.5 meter tall insulated guyed tower. Station WONA(AM) has been silent since November 21, 2016 and thus needs to resume broadcast operations by 12:01 a.m., November 22, 2017 or the station's license will automatically expire as a matter of law.

Specifically, WONA(AM) requests STA to diplex from the WCLM(AM) site. It is proposed to operate non-directionally during daytime hours with a power of 700 watts. No nighttime operation is proposed.

STA requests which involve a change in transmitter site must include four critical elements: (1) Loss of the licensed site must be beyond the licensee's control; (2) STA facilities must continue to provide service to the licensed community; (3) STA facilities must maintain, as closely as practicable, the licensed service area<sup>2</sup> without extending it; (4) STA facilities cannot involve the construction of towers intended for permanent use by the station requesting the STA.

Our review indicates that the proposed STA operation complies with the foregoing criteria. Therefore, we believe an STA is warranted.

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<sup>1</sup> WONA(AM) is licensed for operation on 1540 kHz with a daytime power of 10 kilowatts and a nighttime power of 0.007 kilowatt, employing different directional antenna patterns (DA2-U).

<sup>2</sup> For AM - 0.5 mV/m contour; for FM - 1.0 mV/m contour.

Accordingly, the request for STA is GRANTED. Station WONA(AM) may operate with the following facilities:

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Geographic coordinates | 37° 32' 39" N, 77° 20' 47" W (NAD 1927) |
| Frequency              | 1540 KHz                                |
| Hours of operation     | Daytime only                            |
| Operating power        | Not to exceed 0.7 kW                    |
| Antenna type           | Existing WCLM(AM) tower                 |
| Antenna efficiency     | 283.89 mV/m/kW at 1 km                  |
| Overall height         | 30.8 meters                             |

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WONA(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. WONA(AM) 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 **March 5, 2018**.

Notwithstanding the grant of this STA or the expiration date specified herein, the station's license will expire as a matter of law if broadcast operations do not commence by 12:01 a.m., November 22, 2017. *See* Pub. Law No. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56, Section 403(1)(1996) and *Order, Silent Station Authorizations*, FCC 96-218 (released May 17, 1996). *See also Public Notice, Expedited Processing of Applications Filed by Silent Stations*, DA 96-818 (May 22, 1996). The licensee must notify the Audio Division immediately upon resumption of broadcasting.

**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: Davina Sashkin, Esq. (via email only)