## **BELISLE LAW FIRM P.A.**

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October 9, 2017

Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission 9300 East Hampton Drive Capitol Heights, MD 20743

> RE: Station WFFY, San Carlos Park, FL Facility ID No. 58276 Request for Tolling Construction Period

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Transmitted on behalf of Sun Broadcasting Inc. please find and original and two copies of a Request for Tolling Construction Period for Station WFFY, San Carlos Park, Florida.

If you have any questions concerning this request, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph A. Belisle Counsel for Sun Broadcasting, Inc.

Mr. James W. Schwartzel cc: for the public file

# Before the Federal Communications Commission Washington, DC 20554

In re :	)
Sun Broadcasting Inc.	) FCC File No. BMPED-201500702AAK
Station WFFY(FM)	)
San Carlos Park, FL	)

To: The Commission

#### **Request for Tolling Construction Period**

Sun Broadcasting Inc. ("Sun") requests that the period to construct the facilities of Station WFFY, San Carlos Park, Florida, authorized by the above-captioned construction permit be tolled pursuant to FCC Rule 73.3598(b).

In support of this request, Sun submits that it is the licensee of the following broadcast

stations located in the Fort Myers-Naples-Marco Island Florida radio market:

Call Sign	Community
WXCW(TV)	Naples, FL
WARO(FM)	Naples, FL
WNOG(AM)	Naples, FL
WFSX(AM)	Fort Myers, FL
WXNX(FM)	Sanibel, FL
WFFY(FM)	San Carlos Park, FL
W290DB	Naples, FL
W231DC	Fort Myers, FL
W277AP	Bayshore, FL

On September 10, 2017, Hurricane Irma struck the Fort Myers-Naples-Marco Island market, coming ashore at Marco Island as a category three hurricane. In the days preceding landfall, Irma had been as strong as a category five hurricane, precipitating mandatory evacuation orders all along the Florida coast, including coastal Collier and Lee Counties, Florida. Ultimately 6.5 million Floridians participated in this evacuation which, along with associated hurricane preparations, triggered widespread fuel shortages throughout Lee and Collier Counties and the State of Florida as a whole.

Lee County and Collier County public schools closed September 7, 2017, as the storm approached and were not able to re-open until September 25. In the immediate aftermath of the hurricane, news reports were that 2.6 million homes had lost electric power, statewide. This included approximately 580,000 customers of Florida Power and Light and of the Lee County Electric Cooperative in the Fort Myers-Naples-Marco Island radio market. As of September 11, 2017, the Federal Communications Commission reported the following Public Safety Answering Points for 911 service in Lee and Collier Counties were "Down with no re-routes:" Collier County EOC, Fort Myers Police Department, Lee County Emergency Dispatch Center EOC and Naples Police Department. This same report indicated that 75% of the cellular telephone sites in Collier County and 54% of the cellular telephone sites in Lee County were not operating.

Sun Broadcasting Inc. and its personnel have suffered from the impact of Hurricane Irma and its aftermath. On a personal level, management and staff endured hurricane preparations, destruction of property, power outages, fuel shortages, communications outages, flooding, school and government closings, and the general loss of services associated with the hurricane. Sun's counsel evacuated from coastal Miami-Dade County, which was also under mandatory evacuation orders, returning on September 18. These types of personal impacts of hurricanes and their aftermath are often physically exhausting.

Several of Sun's stations were directly affected by Hurricane Irma and the engineering staff worked diligently to maintain operations. Some stations, notably WNOG, W231DC and

W290DB were off the air after the storm. In the specific case of WFFY, its transmitter site was without power from September 10 to September 20, 2017. After the hurricane, widespread flooding made the WFFY transmitter site inaccessible. This flood water receded by September 15. Other facilities at the WFFY tower site were damaged by the hurricane and emergency repairs on stations not owned by Sun were underway on September 23 and October 1, 2017. Further inspection of the WFFY tower for structural damage may be needed before installation of additional equipment on the tower.

Sun submits that the facts stated above, including those subject to official notice and those confirmed by the attached declarations, satisfy the tolling standard set out in Rule 73.3598(b). Therefore Sun requests tolling of the WFFY construction permit for a period six months from the date of this notification.

Respectfully submitted

Joseph A. Belisle Counsel for Sun Broadcasting, Inc.

October 9, 2017

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## **Declaration of James W. Schwartzel**

My name is James W. Schwartzel and I am President of Sun Broadcasting Inc. I have reviewed the foregoing "Request for Tolling of Construction Period." I declare under penalty of perjury that the facts stated therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

James W. Schwartzel

## **Declaration of John Demshock**

My name is John Demshock and I supervise the engineering services provided to Sun Broadcasting, Inc.'s stations. I have reviewed the foregoing "Request for Tolling Construction Period." I declare under penalty of perjury that the facts stated therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

John Demshock