

WCFT-TV

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CATALOG NO. 4550L 1/5

June 1954

33

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed 5-8-67 (Official No. 615)Call letters WCFT-TVStation location TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMAName of licensee SERVICE BROADCASTERS, INC. (AL 9-18-78; Eff:
X CHAPMAN TELEVISION OF TUSCALOOSA, INC.Transmitter location 41st Avenue and 35th Street East, Tuscaloosa, AlabamaMain studio location 41st Avenue and 35th Street East, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period	
					From	To
BPCT-3309	4-28-65	CH#51	V-21.4kw	U	6-28-65	
AH: 460' MSL: 745ft.		692-698mc.	A-4.27kw		12-28-65	
CP for new Commercial TV station: CONDITIONAL						
CP NOT ISSUED: see below						
SUPPLEMENT #4 TO FOURTH REPORT AND ORDER adopted 7-7-65 in DOCKET 14229, CP of WCFT-TV MODIFIED TO SPECIFY CH#33 INS TEAD OF CH#51: CONDITIONS: On or before 8-9-65 permittee shall furnish Engr. Technical Data for modified instrument of authorization on Channel 33.						
DOCKET NO.	14229	CH. 33	V-15.1 kw	U		11-13-65
ENGR. DATA APPROVED		584-590	A-3.02 kw			5-13-66
BPCT-3309	9-13-65	AH: 560'	MSL: 848'			
CP for Modification for new Commercial TV Broadcast Station						
WIRE	10-18-65	REURTEL	14.	NO OBJECTION	CONDUCTING WCFT-TV EQUIP. TESTS ACCORD. SECTION 73.628 RULES AND	
BPCT-3309						
WIRE	10-28-65	RE TENDERED LICENSE APPL., AUTH.			GRANTED OPER. WCFT-TV ON PROGRAM TEST ACCORD. SEC. 73.629 RULES & CP BPCT-3309. ADVISE WHEN OPER. COMMENCES UNDER THIS AUTH. BEGAN 10-28-65	
BLCT-1516	5-8-67	CH. 33	V-15.1 kw	U		5-8-67
AH: 560' MSL: 848'		584-590A	-3.02 kw			4-1-70
LICENSE to cover CP (BPCT-3309, as mod) which auth. a new sta.						
BTC-5382	8-23-67	Voluntary transfer of control of licensee corporation from Lewis N. Manderson, Jr. R.S. Holifield, C.H. Armstrong, Edwin L. Minges, C.J. Hartley and James D. Kincaid to S.A. Rosenbaum, W.S. Smylie, Marvin Reuben, Jerry P. Keith, Margaret G. Smylie and W.S. Smylie, III. EFF: 9-6-67				
BPCT-4055	4-29-68		V-182 kw	U		6-29-68
AH: 560' MSL: 848'			A-36.3 kw			12-29-68
CP to Chg. ERP; & type of transmitters						
WIRE	8-6-68	NO OBJECTIONS CONDUCTING WCFT-TV EQUIP. TESTS ACCORD. SEC. 73.628 RULES. PROGRAM TEST AUTH. CONTINGENT ON FILING LICENSE APPL. ACCORD. SEC. 73.629.				

Form BC 126

June 1954

#2

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed

Call letters WCFT-TV

Station location Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Name of licensee * CHAPMAN TELEVISION OF TUSCALOOSA, INC.

SEE CARD #1

Transmitter location

Main studio location

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From - To
WIRE WCFT-TV ON CP BPCT-4055	8-29-68	RE TEND.	LICENSE	APPL. AUTH.	GR. OPER.
		PROG. TEST	ACCORD. SEC.	73.629	RULES AND
BRCT-615	4-1-70	RENEWAL	OF LICENSE (S)		4-1-73
RENEWAL	RESCINDED	4-24-70			
BRCT-615	2-18-71	RENEWAL	OF LICENSE (S)		4-1-73
BLCT-1814	2-24-71	Lic. (BPCT-4055)	chg.		4-1-73
EESA	5-15-72				
BRCT-615	3-30-73	Renewal	of license(s)		4-1-76
Wire	8-2-73	pending comp.	trans. repairs, auth.		
	11-2-73	gtd. oper.	at reduced power temp. per. end.		
BPCT-4613	12-19-73	Ch. 33	V. 525 kw)	U	2-19-74
AH: 550' MSL: 844'	584-590	A. 95.5 kw			6-19-75
CP to chg.	ERP, trans.,	HAA & ant.			
Wire	5-21-74	Pending filing	lic. appl., auth. grtd.		
oper. temp. per. end.	6-21-74	accord. BPCT-4613.	Advise		
when operation commences	under this	auth.			
WIRE	5-5-75	Re tendered lic. appl.,	auth. grtd.		
oper WCFT-TV on program	test accord. Sect. 73.629	rules			
and CP BPCT-4613.					
BLCT-2400	7-11-75	Ch. 33	V. 525 kW	U	4-1-76
AH: 550' MSL: 844'	584-590	A. 95.5 kW			
Lic. (BPCT-2612)	for	chgs.			
Wire	9-24-75	Pending trans. repairs	auth. grtd.		
oper. with 1 vis. Klystrom	& diplexer bypassed	temp. per.			
end. 12-23-75.	Advise when	normal oper. resumes.			
BLCT-2400	4-9-76	Ch. 33	V-525kW	Unl.	4-9-76
AH: 550' MSL: 300'	584-590	A-95.5kW			4-1-79
Renewal of License	(Correct coordinates,	HAG & MSL,			

BC-126
June 1975

#3

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed

Call letters WCFT-TV

Station location

Name of licensee * CHAPMAN TELEVISION OF TUSCALOOSA, INC.

Transmitter location

Main studio location

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From To
WIRE	9-15-77	Pend.	submission and commission action on license appl., auth. grtd. oper. of NCFT-TV in accord. BPCT-5009 temp. per. end. 10-17-77. This auth. subject of the filing of properly executed request in accord. with the provision of Sec. 1.542 of Commission rules.		
BPCT-5009	8-15-77	Ch. 33	V. 525 kW	U	10-15-77
AH: 550' MSL: 380'		584-590	A. 95.5 kW		2-15-79
CP to make chgs in trans. equip					
BALCT-7808211B	9-18-78	Vol. A/L			
BRCT_781201	KK_ 3-22-79	RENEWAL OF LICENSE (S)			4-1-82
BPCT-781113KH	4-3-80	Ch-33	Unl.		
AH: 540' MSL: 328' ERP:		Vis. 1000kW, Aur. 182kW	10-3-81		
CP to chg. ERP and type trans.					
BLCT-2627	11-18-80	Ch-33	Unl.		11-18-80
AH: 550' MSL: 380' ERP:		Vis. 525kW, Aur. 95.5kW	4-1-82		
Lic. to cover (BPCT-5009) for chgs. in transmitting equip.					

AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMM. TV

Call
Letters ~~WCTV~~ WCFT-TV

CHAPMAN TELEVISION OF TUSCALOOSA, INC.

Name WILLIAM A. CHAPMAN AND GEORGE K. CHAPMAN d/b as CHAPMAN RADIO AND TELEVISION COMPANY
c/o William A. Chapman, P. O. Box 3297, Birmingham, Alabama

PO

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BPCT- 3309 Rec. & filed	3-4-64	Construction permit for a new Commercial Television broadcast station: Channel #51, 692-698 mcs. ERP: Vis. 25.13 kw , Aur. 15.10 kw Unlimited hours Transmitter location: 2209 9th. Street (on top of Stafford Hotel) , Tuscaloosa, Alabama Studio location: same as above STATION LOCATION: TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA (RCA TTU-1B) AH: 181.6 feet applicant filed	GRANTED	4-28-65
	3-5-64		CP NOT ISSUED: ON 7-7-65 Supplement #4 to Fourth Report & Order in Docket 14229, CP Modified to specify Ch#33 instead of Ch#51:COND: Permittee shall file by 8-9-65 Engr. Data for Modified Authorization on CH#33.	
AMENDED R & F	5-19-64	Amended to change Aural ERP from 15.10 kw	ENGR. DATA GRANTED	9-13-65: for channel 33
	5-21-64	to 13.58 kw	CONSTRUCTION PERMIT and Modification ISSUED	

FORM BC-121

AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call Letters ~~WED~~ - WCFT-TV

CHAPMAN TELEVISION OF TUSCALOOSA, INC.

Name ~~WILLIAM A. CHAPMAN AND GEORGE K. CHAPMAN d/b as CHAPMAN RADIO AND TELEVISION COMPANY~~

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BPCT-3309 AMENDED Received Filed \$100.00 Fee Paid	11-2-64 11-6-64 11-10-64	Amended to change from a partnership to a Corporation; change name to Chapman Television of Tuscaloosa, Inc.; ERP from Vis. 25.13kw, Aur. 13.58 kw to Vis. 21.43 kw, Aur. 11.56 kw; change both transmitter and studio locations from 2209 9th. Street, Tuscaloosa, Alabama TO 41st. Avenue at 35th. Street East, Tuscaloosa, Alabama; make changes in antenna structure and equipment and increase antenna height above average terrain to 455 feet.	GRANTED NOT ISSUED; SEE CARD #1 SEE CARD #1	4-28-65 BUT
ENGR. DATA(3) Recvd.	7-22-65 7-26-65	ENGINEERING DATA submitted pursuant to Supplement #4 to Fourth Report and Order, Docket #14229, adopted 7-7-65, for modified instrument of authorization to specify Channel #33 instead of Channel #51 (Revised Table of Assignments); with ERP Vis. 17.26 kw, Aur. 9.31 kw; modify antenna structure; type of antenna RCA TFU-24-DM; and antenna height above average terrain to 556 feet.	<p>GRANTED</p> <p>SEP 13 1965</p> <p>ISSUED WITH CP BPCT-3309</p>	

AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters WCFT-TVName CHAPMAN TELEVISION OF TUSCALOOSA, INC.City Tuscaloosa, Alabama zip 35401

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BLOT-1516 R. & F.	10-25-65 10-28-65	License to cover CP (BPCT-3309, as modified by Docket 14229) which authorized a new Comm. Television broadcast station.	GRANTED	5-8-67
BTC-5382 R & F	6-27-67 6-30-67	Voluntary transfer of control of licensee corporation from Lewis N. Manderson, Jr., R. S. Holifield, C.H. Armstrong, Edwin L. Minges, C.J. Hartley and James D. Kincaid to S.A. Rosenbaum, W.S. Smylie, Marvin Reuben, Jerry P. Keith, Margaret G. Smylie and W.S. Smylie, III. McKenna & Wilkins, Esq	GRANTED EFF:	8-23-67 9-6-67
BPCT-4055 R & F NUW 3 AMENDED R & F Press	10-17-67 10-17-67 1967 4-12-68 4-15-68 APR 25 1968	Construction Permit to make the following changes: ERP Vis. 207 kw, Aur. 41.5 kw; change type of transmitters to G.E. TT25A REQUEST WAIVER OF SECTION 73.636 OF RULES. Robert W. Coll, Atty. (McKenna & Wilkinson) AMENDED to change ERP to Vis. 183 kw, Aur. 36.6 kw and delete request for Waiver of Sec. 73.636 of Comm's Rules.	GRANTED	4-29-68

FORM BC-121

AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMM. TV

Call
Letters WCFT-TVName CHAPMAN TELEVISION OF TUSCALOOSA, INC.
TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA

CH. 33

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BLCT-1814 R & F PRESS	8-17-68 8-28-68	License (BPCT-4055) for changes. Carl R. Ramey, Atty. (McKenna & Wilkinson)	\$30.#455151 GRANTED	8-28-68 2-24-71
SEP 4 1968				
BRCT-615 R & F \$150 #566075 PRESS PN Recd. Engr. data filed	12-16-69 12-30-69 " 12-30-69 6-26-70	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Robert W. Coll, Atty. (McKenna & Wilkinson) AMENDED 1-23-70 re staffing. AMENDED 2-16-70 re financial & programming.	GRANTED RESCINDED GRANTED	4-1-70 4-24-70 2-18-71
BRCT-615 R & F PN REC'D PRESS:	12-1-72 1-2-73 1-2-73 JAN 31 1973	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Atty: Jonathan Schochor (McKenna, Wilkinson & Kittner) Amended 2-26-73 re equal employment	GRANTED	3-30-73

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMM. TV.

Call Letters WCFT-TV

CHAPMAN TELEVISION OF TUSCALOOSA, INC.

Name
CH-33 TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BPCT-4613 R & F #181498 \$50 AC: 062 PRESS:	4-16-73	CP to change ERP Vis. 596KW, Aur. 107.3KW, type transmitter RCA TTU-60-A; type antenna RCA TFU-24J; antenna structure (decr hght) and HAAT: 553.5ft. ATTY: Robert W. Coll (McKenna, Wilkinson & Kittner)	GRANTED	12-19-73
	5-3-73			
	5-3-73	Request waiver of Section 73.636 of the Rules		
	MAY 31 1973	Amended 11-16-73 re waiver of Section 73.636 for proposed overlap.		
BLCT-2400 R & F #415398 \$100. AC: 058 PRESS:	4-10-75	License to cover (BPCT-4613) for changes. Atty: Robert W. Coll (McKenna, Wilkinson & Kittner)	GRANTED	7-11-75
	4-16-75			
	4-16-75			
	17 JUN 1975			

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call Letters WCFT-TV

SERVICE BROADCASTERS, INC.

Name xCHAPMAN TELEVISION OF TUSCALOOSA, INC.
CH-33 Tuscaloosa, Alabama

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRCT-615 R & F PN Rec'd: PRESS:	10-30-75 11-25-75 12-1-75 30 JAN 1976	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Annual Reports Filed Contours Filed Atty: Robert W. Coll (McKenna, Wilkinson & Kittner) Amended 2-3-76 re equal employment. Amended 3-23-76 re Annual Report and programming.	GRANTED	1-4-9-76
BPCT-5009 R&F PRESS \$595814 \$100 AC: 001	6-18-76 7-21-76 FEB 24 1977 7-21-77	CP to make chgs. in transmitting equipment. Atty.: Robert W. Coll (McKenna, Wilkinson & Kittner)	GRANTED	8-15-77
BALCT-780821IB (Form 316) PRESS	SEP 3 1978	Vol. AL to Service Broadcasters, Inc.	GRANTED EFF:	9-18-78

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

#7

Call
Letters WCFT-TVName SERVICE BROADCASTERS, INC.
CH-33 TUSCALOOSA, AL

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRCT-781201KK R&F PRESS	10-25-78 12-1-78 79 0123	RENEWAL OF LICENSE ROBERT W. COLL, ATTY	GRANTED	3-22-79
BPCT-781113KH R & F PRESS:	11-8-78 11-13-78 5-31-79	CP to chg. ERP to Vis. 1125kW, Aur. 203kW; and chg. type trans. to RCA TTU-60A Atty.: R. Wilson Coll (McKenna, Wilkinson & Kittner)	GRANTED	4-30-80
BLCT-2627 R & F PTA	9-29-77 10-25-77 12-14-77	Lic. to cover (BPCT-5009) for chgs. in transmitting equipment. Atty.: R. Wilson Coll (McKenna, Wilkinson & Kittner)	GRANTED	11-18-80

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 radio 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.

TV History Cards were initiated in the early 1940s, with the authorization of the earliest TV stations. 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 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). Prior to that move, 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.

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 television station history.

