


WTRF-TV

 SPERRY RAND

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CATALOG NO. 4550L 1/3

Form BC 126
June 1954

First CO Auth. 10-20-53
Started 10-24-53

CH 7

COMM. TV

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

NDEA

Date first licensed 2-9-55 (Off. No. 127)

Call letters WTRF-TV

Station location WHEELING, WEST VA.

STATION ID: Wheeling, West Virginia-
Steubenville, Ohio (5-6-64)

Name of licensee FORWARD TELE-PRODUCTIONS, INC. (BALCT-361 2-28-69 EFF: 4-8-69)

Transmitter location RD #1, Kirkwood Heights, Near Bridgeport, Ohio (BPCT-3111 1-4-63)

96-16th Street, Wheeling, West Virginia (Lt. dated 11-28-69 fr. Atty)

Main studio location Ogden Bldg., 1329 Market St., Wheeling, West Va. (BPCT-3111 1-4-63)

First C.O. Authority 10-20-53 (Started 10-24-53)

Date first licensed Feb. 9, 1955 (Off. No. 127)

CH 7

Call letters

STATION LOCATION; WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA
Waiver Sec. 73.652(a) GR. 1-3-55, to identify
as "Wheeling, W. Va. - Steubenville, Ohio" stationFORWARD TELE-PRODUCTIONS, INC. (BALCT-361 2-28-69 EFF: 4-8-69)
XWTRF-TV, INC. (BALCT-80 2-20-59 EFF: 2-28-59)

Name of licensee X TRI-CITY BROADCASTING COMPANY

R.D. 1, Kirkwood Heights, Near Bridgeport, Ohio (BPCT-3111 1-4-63)

Kirkwood Heights, Nr. Bridgeport, Ohio (LCT-222 2-8-55) not a
HOWE)

X 1.7 miles SW of City of Wheeling, West Virginia

Transmitter location Near Wheeling, West Virginia

Ogden Building, 1329 Market St. Wheeling, West Va. (BPCT-3111 1-4-63)

8-19-53)

Main studio location X 1329 Market Street, Wheeling, West Virginia (BPCT-1276, /
X 2000 Water Street, Wheeling, West Virginia

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed _____

Call letters WTRF-TV

Station location Wheeling, W. Va.

Name of licensee WTRF-TV, INC.

Transmitter location SEE CARD # 1

Main studio location SEE CARD # 1

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From- To-	
BALCT-80	2-20-59	Voluntary assignment of license to				
WTRF-TV, INC.	EFF: 2-28-59					
ACTION ON RENEWAL DEFERRED 9-28-60						
BRCT-127	12-7-60	CH #7	V-309kw	U	12-7-60	
		174-180	A-155kw		10-1-63	
RENEWAL OF LICENSE						
BPCT-3111	1-4-63	CH #7	V-306.2 kw	U	3-4-63	
AH: 960'		174-180	A-153.1 kw	MSL:2025ft.	9-4-63	
GP to change ERP, type of antenna, AH, antenna system,						
WIRE	7-1-63	RE TENDERED LIC. APPL. AUTH. GR. OPERATE				
WTRF-TV ON PROGRAM TEST ACCORD. SECTION 3.829 RULES & CP						
BPCT-3111	ADVISE / WIRE FROM APPLICANT COMMENCED 7-7-63					
BRCT-127	10-15-63	CH.#7	V-309 kw	U	10-15-63	
AH: 590'		174-180	A-155 kw		10-1-66	
RENEWAL OF LICENSE						
COMMISSION LETTER ADOPTED 5-6-64: WAIVER OF SECTION 73.652(a) OF COM. RULES GRANTED TO PERMIT IDENTIFICATION AS A "WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA-STEUBENVILLE, OHIO" STATION						
BLCT-1238	9-15-64	CH.#7	V-306.2	U	9-15-64	
AH:960' MSL:2025'		174-180Mc	A-153.1		10-1-66	
License to cover GP(BPCT-3111)						
BMLCT-236	2-10-65	CH.#7	V-306.2kw	U	2-10-65	
AH:960' MSL:2025'		174-180	A-30.9kw		10-1-66	
Mod. of License to reduce Aural ERP						
BRCT-127	9-1-66	same	same	same	10-1-66	
					10-1-69	
RENEWAL OF LICENSE						
BALCT-361	2-28-69	VOL. AL				
BRCT-127	9-25-69	RENEWAL OF LICENSE & NDEA (L)				10-1-72
BTC-6699	12-6-71	Vol. T/C				
EBSA	5-15-72					
BRCT-127	10-27-72	Renewal of License (f)				10-1-75
BRCT-127	9-12-75	Renewal of license (S)				10-1-78

Call

WTRF - TV

Letters

N-E-W

(U)

Name TRI-CITY BROADCASTING COMPANY

~~(P.O. Box 567 Bellairs, Ohio)~~

9035

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BPCT-437 Rec'd Filed	4-13-48 4-26-48 4-26-48	Construction permit for a new commercial television broadcast station. Frequency: Ch. #12, 204-210 mcs. ERP: Vis. 27.0 kw; Aur. 13.5 kw Hours of Operation: Unlimited S & T Location: 2.1 mi. N.W. of Center Bellairs, Ohio (Vis. G. E. TT-7-B) (Aur. G. E. TT-8-B) Filed by Maurice R. Barnes, Atty.	GRANTED	4-22-53
AMENDED Rec'd Filed	12-8-50 12-11-50 12-22-50	AMENDED TO change S-L from 2.1 mi N. W. of Center Bellairs, Ohio to 4000 Water Street, Wheeling, W.Va.		

CONTINUED ON CARD #2

Cas E. Robinson, Engr.
Charleston, W. Va.

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMM. TV B/C

FORMERLY FCC FORM 94

Call WTRF - TV
Letters ~~WTRF~~ (II)

Name TRI-CITY BROADCASTING COMPANY
(P. O. Box 567, Bellaire, Ohio)

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BPCT-437 Rec'd. Filed AMENDED	6-12-52 6-24-52 6-24-52	(PURSUANT TO SIXTH REPORT & ORDER-4-11-52) FREQ: Ch. #7, 174-180 Mcs. ERP: Vis. 316 kw., Aur. 158 kw. Hours of operation: unlimited S-L: 4000 Water Street, Wheeling, W. Virginia T-L: Near Wheeling, West Virginia in Belmont County, Ohio. (Vis. & Aur. RCA TT-50-AH) (5841) Filed by Maurice R. Barnes, Atty.	SEE CARD # 1 FOR ACTION	
Amended Recd. Filed	4-14-53 4-15-53 4-15-53	Amended to make changes in Stockholders.		

FORM A-170

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

FORMERLY FCC FORM 94

Call Letters WTRF - TVName TRI-CITY BROADCASTING COMPANY
Wheeling, W. Va.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BPCT-1276 Rec'd Filed	7-23-53 7-24-53 7-24-53	Mod. of construction permit (BPCT-437, which authorized a new comm'l TV B/C station) to change S-L from 4000 Water Street, Wheeling, W. Va. to 1329 Market St., Wheeling, W. Va., change ERP from Vis-316kw and Aur-160kw to Vis-309.7kw and Aur-154.9kw, make antenna and other equipment changes. (591') Filed by Maurice R. Barnes, Atty.	GRANTED	8-19-53
BPCT-1825 Recd. Filed	1-29-54 2-1-54 2-1-54	Mod. of CP (BPCT-437, as mod., which authorized a new Commercial TV B/C Station) to extend completion date from 2-19-54 to 8-19-54. Filed by Maurice R. Barnes, Atty.	GRANTED	2-4-54
BPCT-222 Recd & filed	7-20-54 7-21-54	License to cover construction permit (BPCT-437 as modified) for a new commercial TV broadcast station. Filed by Maurice R. Barnes, Atty.	GRANTED	2-9-55

Aug. 1955

Call

Letters WTRF-TV

WTRF-TV, INC. (2-20-59)

Name TRI-CITY BROADCASTING COMPANY

Wheeling, W. Va. (P.O. 1329 Market Street, Wheeling, West, Va. Ltr. 9-24-57)

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
NRCT-127	6-11-57	Renewal of license	GRANTED	9-19-57
Recd & filed	6-18-57	Filed by Maurice R. Barnes, Atty for licensee corporation		
NRCT-2970	11-18-58	Voluntary transfer of control from Thomas M. Bloch & Betty Bloch Harris, Trustees, under will of Jesse A. Bloch, Thomas M. Bloch, Betty Bloch Harris and News Publishing Company to WTRF-TV, Inc.	GRANTED	12-17-58
Recd & filed	11-25-58	Filed by Maurice R. Barnes, Atty for transferor and transferee	EFF:	1-9-59
BALCT-80	2-4-59	Voluntary assignment of license to WTRF-TV, Inc.	GRANTED	2-20-59
Recd & filed	2-6-59	Maurice R. Barnes, Atty.	EFF: 2-28-59	
LETTER	9-25-59	DON, LOHMEYER AND ALBERTSON is now counsel for WTRF-TV		
NRCT-127	6-27-60	RENEWAL OF LICENSE		
Recd. & Filed	7-5-60	Filed by Alfred C. Cordon, Jr. Atty.	GRANTED	12-7-60

CARD #5

Form BC-121

Aug. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMM. TV B/C

Call
Letters WTRF-TVName WTRF-TV, INC.
Wheeling, West Virginia

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BPCT-3111 Rec. & filed	10-5-62	GP to change ERP from Vis. 309 kw, Aur. 155 kw to Vis. 296.5 kw (Hor.), Aur. 248.3 kw (Hor); type of antenna to RCA TF-22H make changes in antenna system; and change AH above average terrain to 969 ft. Dow, Lohnes & Albertson, -atty: John A. Moffett - engr.	GRANTED	1-4-63
	10-8-62			
AMENDED R & F	11-19-62	Amended to change RP to Vis. 306.2 kw (Horiz), Aur. 153.1 kw (Horiz); install a new antenna, RCA RCA TW-9A7; make changes in the antenna system and change antenna height above average terrain to 962 feet. John B. Jacob - atty: John A. Moffett - engr.		
	11-21-62			
BRCT-127 Recd. & Filed	6-20-63 6-24-63	RENEWAL OF LICENSE John B. Jacob, Atty.	GRANTED	10-15-63

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMM.TV

Call
Letters WTRF-TVName WTRF-TV, INC.WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA (P.O. 96-16th St. Wheeling, West Va. 26003) 11-28-69)

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BLCT-1288 Recd. & Filed	6-28-63 6-28-63	License to cover CP (BPCT-3111) which authorized changes in existing station. John B. Jacob, Atty.	GRANTED	9-15-64
PETITION (Orig & 19) Rec.	4-15-64 4-15-64	REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF SECTION 73.652(a) OF COMMISSION'S RULES to permit station WTRF-TV to identify its location as "Wheeling, West Virginia-Steubenville, Ohio". Filed by John B. Jacob-atty	GRANTED	May 6, 1964 COMM. LTR. ADOPTED
BMLCT- 236 Recd. & FILED	1-4-64 1-7-65	Mod. of License to reduce Aural ERP from 153.1 kw to 30.62 kw (Horz.). John B. Jacob, Atty. (DOW, LOHNES, ALBERTSON)	GRANTED	2-10-65

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Form BC-121
Aug. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMM. TV

Call
Letters WTRF-TV

FORWARD TELE-PRODUCTIONS, INC.

Name WTRF-TV, INC.
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRCT-127 R & F	6-21-66 6-29-66	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Dow, Lohnes & Albertson, Atty.	GRANTED	9-1-66
BRCT-361 R & F Press	8-9-68 8-12-68 AUG 20 1968	Voluntary assignment of license to Forward Tele-Productions, Inc.	GRANTED Commission Action EFF: See condition on back	2-28-69 4-8-69
BRCT-127 R & F \$150 #526002 PH Recd. PRESS	6-26-69 7-1-69 " " JUL 16 1969	RENEWAL OF LICENSE D. Dwight Perry, atty. (Dow, Lohnes, Albertson)	GRANTED	9-25-69
ENGR. DATA FILED 5-25-70				
3-25-71 Annual filing fee \$340.00 paid 9-30-70. #633333.				
By Comm. ltr. granted waiver "One to a Market Rule" 8-4-71				

BALCT-361 Condition: If the acquisition by the assignee of license for Stations WTRF-TV and WTRF-FM is inconsistent with the resolution of the rule making proceeding in Docket No. 18110, the licensee will surrender or dispose of one of such licenses upon notification by the Commission.

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMMERCIAL TV

Call
Letters WTRF-TV

Name **FORWARD TELE-PRODUCTIONS, INC.**
CH-7 **WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA**

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BTC-6699 R & F #011991 AC: 055 PRESS	10-8-71 10-14-71 10-14-71 OCT 26 1971	Voluntary transfer of control of Forward Communications Corporation (parent corporation of licensee) from The Record Herald Company, O. C. Lemke, et al, to John C. Sturtevant, William F. McCormick and Stanley F. Staples, Jr., Voting Trustees. Atty.: Thomas N. Frohock (McKenna & Wilkinson)	GRANTED EFF:	12-6-71
BRCT-127 R & F PN REC PRESS	6-1-72 6-30-72 6-30-72 JUL 10 1972	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Thomas N. Frohock (McKenna, Wilkinson & Kittner)	GRANTED	10-27-72

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMMERCIAL TELEVISION

Call Letters WTRF-TV

Name FORWARD TELE-PRODUCTIONS, INC.
CH-7 Wheeling, West Virginia

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRCT-127 R & F PN Rec'd: PRESS:	5-20-75 6-2-75 6-2-75 15 JUL 1975	RENEWAL of License Annual Report Filed	GRANTED	9-12-75
BRCT-127 R&F PN RECD PRESS	5-18-78 6-1-78 6-1-78 JUN 15 1978	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Atty.: Thomas Frohock	GRANTED CONDITIONAL	1-15-79
BRCCT-800821KE R&F PRESS	8-21-80	Request authority to operate trans. by remote control from 96-16th Street, Wheeling, West Virginia. Thomas N. Frohock, Atty. (Mckenna, Wilinon, & Kittner)		

Renewal grtd. 1-15-79 - condition:

The authority granted herein is subject to the condition that the licensee submit on or before March 1, 1980 and with the station's next renewal application: (a) a list of employees as of February 1, 1980 and May 1, 1981 by job title with part-time or full-time status indicated (ranked from highest paid to lowest paid), date of hire, sex and race or national origin; (b) a list of persons hired from the date of this grant to February 1, 1980, and from February 1, 1980 to May 1, 1981, indicating their job title and part-time or full-time status, date of hire, sex and race or national origin; and (c) details concerning the station's efforts to recruit for each position filled during the periods noted in (b) above, including identification of sources used for the purpose of increasing the station's pool of minority applicants.

CARD NO. 10

APPLICATION RECORD-BROADCASTING
COMMERCIAL TELEVISION

Call Letters: WTRF-TV

Name: FORWARD TELE-PRODUCTIONS, INC.

CH-7

Station Location: WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA

File No.	Date	Description	Action and Date
BRCT-810601LH	5-29-81	RENEWAL OF LICENSE	
R&F	6-01-81	ATTY: THOMAS N. PROHOK	
PN REC'D	6-01-81	{MCKENNA, WILKINSON AND KITTNER}	

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.

