

WTOM-TV



**REMOVABLE LABEL GUIDE**

**Cat. No. 4550L**

**Patent No. 1890129**



June 1954

COMM. TV B/C

## BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

NBSA

WTOM-TV EFF: 3-16-59

Date first licensed 6-19-59 (Official No. 480)Call letters X ~~WTOM-TV~~Station location CHEBOYGAN, MICHIGAN

WPBN-TV &amp; WTOM-TV, INC. (BALCT-626, grted. 4-14-77, EFF: 5-6-77)

Name of licensee X MIDWESTERN BROADCASTING COMPANYTransmitter location U.S. Route 23, 6.7 miles east of center of Cheboygan, nr. Cheboygan, MichiganMain studio location U.S. Route 23, 6.7 miles east of center of Cheboygan, near Cheboygan, Michigan



# CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From- To-
BPCT-1992 AH: 650'	7-23-58	CH #4 66-72	V-21.9kw A-11.2 kw	U	9-23-58 3-23-59
CP for a new Comm. TV B/C Station.					
BMFCT-5189 AH: 660'	10-13-58	CH # 4 66-72	V-21.3kw A-11 kw	U	9-23-58 3-23-59
Mod. of CP (BPCT-1992) chg. type ant. & other equip. ant. hght					
BMFCT-5272 AH: 660'	3-19-59	CH # 4 66-72	V-21.3 kw A-11 kw	U	9-23-58 9-23-59
Mod. of CP (BPCT-1992, as mod) to extend completion date and change of call letters to WTOM-TV					
BPCT-5293 AH: 620'	4-23-59	CH #4 66-72	V-26.9 kw A-16.2 kw	U	9-23-58 10-24-59
Mod. CP (BPCT-1992, as mod) to chg. ERP, Antenna system, correct geographical co-ordinates, AH.					
WIRE GR. OPR. & CP BMFCT-5293.	5-13-59	RELETATY 8	LIC. APPL. BLCT-934, AUTH. WTOM-TV ON PROGRAM TEST ACCORD. SECTION 3.629 RULE		
BLCT-934 AH: 620'	6-19-59	CH # 4 66-72	V-26.9kw A-16.2kw (MSL:1290')	U	6-19-59 10-1-61
Lic. to cover CP (BPCT-1992 as mod) Auth. a new Comm. TV. B/C Sta					
BPCT-2717 AH: 620'	12-9-59	CH #4 66-72mc.	V-100kw A-50 kw MSL:1290'	U	2-9-60 8-9-60
CP to change ERP, type transmitters & equipment					
WIRE BLCT-1047	6-28-60	RELETATY 24	AND LICENSE APPLICATION AUTHORITY GRANTED OPERATE WTOM-TV ON PROGRAM TEST ACCORDANCE SECTION 3.629 RULES AND CONSTRUCTION PERMIT BPCT-2717 AND SUBJECT TO COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 3.640 RULES. ADVISE WHEN OPERATION COMMENCES UNDER THIS AUTHOR.		
ACTION ON RENEWAL DEFERRED 9-27-61					
BTC-3920 BRCT-480	12-22-61 2-14-62	VOLUNTARY Acquisition of positive control of licensee corporation by Lew Biederman thru purchase of stock from Edward Biederman. EFF: 12-26-61.			
RENEWAL OF LICENSE					
BLCT-1047 AH: 620'	7-25-63	CH. #4 66-72	V-100 kw A- 50 kw	U	7-25-63 10-1-64
License to cover CP (BPCT-2717) which auth. an increase in ERP chg. type of transmitt.					



Form NC 126

June 1964

CARD #2

COMM. TV N/C

# BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed \_\_\_\_\_

Call letters WTOM-TV

Station location \_\_\_\_\_

Name of licensee MIDWESTERN BROADCASTING COMPANY

Transmitter location SEE CARD #1

Main studio location SEE CARD #1



# CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

WTOM-TV

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From- To-
BRCT-480	10-9-64	same	same	same	10-9-64
		RENEWAL OF LICENSE			10-1-67
BMLCT-506	2-28-66	same	same	same	2-28-66
			A-20 kw		10-1-67
Mod of Lic. to reduce rural ERP					
BRCT-480	9-15-67	CH-4	V-100 kw	U	10-1-67
AH: 620'	MSL: 1290'	66-72	A-20		10-1-70
RENEWAL OF LICENSE		RENEWAL OF NDEA			
BRCT-480	9-30-70	same	same	same	10-1-73
	NDEA	RENEWAL OF LICENSE (S)			
EBSA	5-15-72				
BRCT-480	9-27-73	RENEWAL OF LICENSE (S)			10-1-73
					10-1-76
Wire	5-22-74	Pending resolution personnel difficulties auth. grtd. WTOM-TV remain silent temp. per. end. 6-21-74, subj. to subsequent filing written certification that tower lighting is being maintained. No objection operating WPBN-TV as requested during this per. Req. for extn. this auth. if nec. should be filed in accord with requirements of Sects. 1.542 & 1.513 of Rules. Advise when normal oper. resumed. (Resumed 5-28-74 per ltr. 5-28-74)			
BRCT-480	9-22-76	RENEWAL OF LICENSE (L)			10-1-79
BAICT-626	4-14-77	Voluntary assignment of license			
BSCT-480	7-18-77	Chg. type transmitter.			10-1-79
BRCT-790601KT	9-12-79	RENEWAL OF LICENSE (S)			10-1-82



FORM A-170

## APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

FORMERLY FCC FORM 94

Call WBDQ-TVLetters WBDQName MIDWESTERN BROADCASTING COMPANY(P.O. Paul Bunyon Building, Traverses City, Michigan)Les Biederman

File No.	Dated	(Station Location: Cheboygan, Mich.) Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
SPOT-1992 Recd & filed	6-17-55 6-20-55	OP for a new comm TV b/c station; Freq: Ch # 4, 66-72 Mcs. ERP: Vis. 5.16 kw, Aur. 2.58 kw Hours of Operation: Unlimited T-L: US Route # 23, 6.7 miles East of center of Cheboygan, near Cheboygan, Michigan S-L: US Route # 23, 6.7 miles East of center of Cheboygan, near Cheboygan, Michigan (Vis & Aur. RCA-TT-2AL) (434) Filed by Alfred C. Cordon, Jr. Atty. (Dual programming with WPMI-TV)	GRANTED Bucket #	7-23-58 11508 DECISION
Amended Recd & filed	9-26-55 9-26-55	Amended to change ERP from Vis. 5.16 kw, Aur. 2.58 kw, to Vis. 21.3 kw, Aur. 11 kw, change type of transmitters and antenna, antenna height above average terrain from 434' to 652' and make other equipment changes. (RCA-TT-5A) Filed by Alfred C. Cordon, Jr. Atty.	2.58	



WALTER L. DAVIS, ENGR.



Aug. 1955

## APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMM. TV B/C

Call ~~WTOM-TV~~ off; 3-16-59  
Letters ~~WTOM-TV~~

Name MIDWESTERN BROADCASTING COMPANY

Cheboygan, Michigan

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BMPCT-5189 Recd. & filed	9-16-58 9-17-58	Mod. of CP (BPCT-1992, which auth. a new Comm TV B/C Sta.) to change type of antenna and other equipment and antenna height above average terrain to 659'. Filed by A.C. Cordon, Jr. Atty.	GRANTED	10-13-58
BMPCT-5272 Received AMENDED Rec. & filed	not dated 2-5-59 2-28-59 3-3-59	Mod. of CP (BPCT-1992, as mod., which auth. a new Comm. TV B/C Sta.) to extend completion date from 3-23-59 to 9-23-59. Filed by A.C. Cordon, Atty.	GRANTED	3-19-59
IMPCT-5293 Recd & filed	3-14-59 3-25-59	Mod. of CP (BPCT-1992 as modified, which authorized a new Comm TV broadcast station) to change ERP: from Vis. 21.3 kw, Aur. 11 kw to Vis. 26.12 kw, Aur. 15.63 kw, make changes in antenna system and other equipment, correct geographic co-ordinates and change antenna height above average terrain to 619'. Filed by Al Cordon, Atty. P.C.C. - Washington, D.C.	GRANTED	4-28-59
AMENDED Recd & Filed	4-9-59 4-10-59	AMENDED to correct geographical coordinates		



Name MIDWESTERN BROADCASTING COMPANY  
Cheboygan, Michigan

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
NPCT-934 Recd & filed	5-8-59 5-11-59	License to cover construction permit (NPCT-1993 as modified) which authorized a new comm TV B/C station Filed by Al Cordon, Atty.	GRANTED	6-19-59
NPCT-2717 Rec. & filed	11-5-59 11-10-59	Construction permit to change ERP from Vis. 26.9 kw, Aur. 16.2 kw TO Vis. 100 kw, Aur. 50 kw; and change type transmitters from RCA TT-5A TO Dumont, Series 9000 (Vis & Aur.) Al Cordon-atty George C. Davis-engr.	GRANTED	12-9-59 (Comm)
NPCT-1047 Rec. & filed	6-23-60 6-24-60	License to cover construction permit (NPCT- 2717) which authorized an increase in ERP and a change in type of transmitter Al Cordon-atty	GRANTED	7-25-63
NPCT-480 Recd. & filed	6-24-61 6-30-61	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Alfred C. Cordon, Jr.	GRANTED	2-14-62
NPCT-480 Recd & filed	3-13-64 3-16-64	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Alfred C. Cordon, Jr. Atty. a.c.	fee before GRANTED	fee req. 10-9-64



FORM BC-121 #4  
 AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMM. TV

Call Letters WTOM-TV

Name MIDWESTERN BROADCASTING COMPANY  
CHEBOYGAN, MICHIGAN

zip 49684

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BTC-3920 Recd. & Filed	12-2-61 12-8-61	Voluntary acquisition of positive control of licensee corporation by Les Biederman thru purchase of stock from Edward Biederman. Filed by Alfred C. Cordon, Jr.	GRANTED EPP: 12-26-61	12-22-61
EMCT-506 R & F	2-4-66 2-7-66	Mod. of License to reduce Aural ERP from 50 kw to 20 kw Alfred C. Cordon, Jr., Atty.	GRANTED	2-28-66
EMCT-480 R & F JUL 19 1967	6-29-67 7-3-67	RENEWAL OF LICENSE RENEWAL OF NDRA Dow, Lohnes & Albertson, atty.	GRANTED	9-15-67
Alfred C. Cordon, Jr. now atty. per ltr. 4-16-69				
Engr. data filed 6-29-70				
EMCT-480 R & F #613902 \$150 PRESS: PN REC'D:	6-2-70 7-2-70 7-2-70 JUL 20 1970 7-2-70	Renewal of license. Atty.: <u>Cordon and Jacob</u> Amended 8-13-70 re commercial practices	GRANTED	9-30-70



Form BC-121  
September 1969

## APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call Letters WTOM-TV

Name WPBN-TV & WTOM-TV, INC.  
X MIDWESTERN BROADCASTING COMPANY  
 CH 4 CHEBOYGAN, MICHIGAN zip 49684

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
10-2-70	Annual fee \$160. paid.	Only one fee required for WTOM-TV--WPBN-TV. The latter is a satellite station of WTOM-TV.		
BRCT-480 R & F PN Recd. Press: <u>MAR 19 1973</u>	6-8-73 6-29-73 6-29-73	RENEWAL OF LICENSE <u>Cordon &amp; Jacob, atty.</u> Amended 8-21-73 re other business interests	GRANTED	<u>9-27-73</u>
BRCT-480 R&F PN RECD PRESS	5-24-76 5-27-76 5-27-76 14 JUL 1976	RENEWAL OF LICENSE ( <u>Cordon &amp; Jacob</u> ) (323's & Program logs filed with WPBN-TV) Amended 9-1-76 re problems & needs Amended 9-15-76 re programming	GRANTED	<u>9-22-76</u> <u>9-22-76</u>
BALCT-626 R&F PRESS (FORM 316)	3-3-77 3-7-77 MAR 14 1977	Voluntary assignment of license to WPBN-TV & WTOM-TV, Inc. Atty.: Alfred C. Cordon, Jr. (Cordon and Jacob)	GRANTED EFF:	4-14-77 5-6-77
		<u>241.5-21-74 reg. auth. reassignment to Martin 529</u> F.C.C. - WASHINGTON, D.C.		



APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMMERCIAL TV

Call Letters WTOM-TV

Name WPEN-TV & WTOM-TV, INC.  
CH-4 CHESBOYGAN, MI

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRCTV-790507KO R & F PRESS: PN REC'D: (Form 315)	5-4-79	Voluntary transfer of control of licensee corporation from Lester M. Biederman, William H. Kiker, Drew McClay and Gertrude M. Zierle, to United States Tobacco Company.  Attys.: Transferor-Cordon and Jacob Transferee-Benjamin Griffin (Pierson, Ball & Dowd)	EFF:	1-4-80
	5-7-79			
	6-1-79			
	6-8-79			
BRCT 790601KT R & F PN REC'D PRESS	5-24-79	RENEWAL OF LICENSE ATTY: ALFRED C. CORDON (CORDON & JACOB)	9 GRANTED	9-14-79
	6-1-79			
	6-1-79			
	79 07 20			



## 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

