

Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

April 29, 2020

In reply refer to: 1800B3-VM

## SENT VIA EMAIL

La Jefa Latino Broadcasting, LLC 1035 Lincoln Road Bettendorf, IA 52722

> In re: WKBF(AM), Rock Island, IL Facility ID No. 8593

> > **Operational Status Inquiry**

Dear Licensee:

It has come to our attention that Station WKBF(AM), Rock Island, Illinois (Station), licensed to La Jefa Latino Broadcasting, LLC (LJLB) may be currently off the air. However, Commission records show that LJLB has indicated that the Station is licensed and operating. Pursuant to Section 73.1740 of the Commission's Rules, LJLB is required to clarify this matter in writing within thirty days of the date of this letter.

On April 14, 2020, we received an email from a technical consultant who reported that the Station has been off the air for over a year and that the towers and station building were torn down in January and February 2020.<sup>1</sup> The complaint also alleges that the licensee abandoned the station at some unknown point years ago.

Based on this information, it appears that the Station may have been silent (or failed to operate with authorized facilities) for more than one year. Pursuant to Section 312(g) of the Communications Act, as amended, if a broadcast station fails to transmit broadcast signals with its authorized facilities for any consecutive 12-month period, then the station license granted for the operation of that broadcast station expires at the end of that period, unless extended or reinstated by Commission action.

Please provide evidence documenting the Station's operational status since September 1, 2018. This evidence must indicate the location, effective radiated power and antenna height above ground level for **all periods of operation** from September 1, 2018 to the present. Also include copies of all leases, personnel records (including payroll records appropriately redacted to protect the privacy of individual employees), engineering records, and station logs, including EAS logs, for that period of time. In addition, you must provide copies of all invoices, bills, checks written or received, credit card charges, wire transfers or deposits of funds relating to the Station's operation.<sup>2</sup> You **must also include pictures** of the Station's studio facilities and transmission facilities during this timeframe, and provide exact Station coordinates.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Email from Doug Vernier, Telecommunications Consultants, to James Bradshaw, Senior Deputy Chief, Audio Division, Media Bureau, FCC, Apr. 14, 2020 16:16 DST.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In addition, if the Station uses accounting software to maintain financial records, provide printouts of the data recorded for this period.

We also note that it is imperative to the safety of air navigation that any prescribed painting and illumination of the Station's tower shall be maintained.<sup>3</sup>

All submissions must be addressed to Marlene S. Dortch, Secretary, FCC 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Washington, DC, 20554, and sent via email ONLY, to <u>Victoria.McCauley@FCC.gov</u>.

Failure to respond to this letter within the specified time will result in adverse actions jeopardizing both the Station's license and call letters. If you have any questions concerning the content of this letter, please contact Victoria McCauley, Attorney, by phone (202-418-2136), or e-mail (Victoria.McCauley@fcc.gov).

Sincerely,

Albert Shuldiner

Albert Shuldiner Chief, Audio Division Media Bureau

Sent via email to VictoriaLynn38@hotmail.com

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See 47 CFR §§ 17.6 and 73.1740(a)(4).