

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20554**

August 18, 2020

*In reply refer to: 1800B3-KC*

Francisco R. Montero, Esq.  
Fletcher, Heald & Hildreth, PLC  
1300 North 17th Street, 11th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22209-3801

In re: **WNPZ(AM), Knoxville, TN**  
Facility ID No. 11191  
Silent since September 10, 2019  
  
Request for Special Temporary  
Authority to Remain Silent

Dear Mr. Montero:

This letter concerns the request you filed on July 10, 2020, on behalf of Metropolitan Management Corporation of Tennessee (MMCT), for Special Temporary Authority (STA) to permit AM Radio Station WNPZ to remain silent.

MMCT's request states that Station WNPZ(AM) went silent on September 10, 2019, for technical reasons. The request includes the appropriate certification regarding Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988.

MMCT's request is granted. Accordingly, Special Temporary Authority is granted to permit Station WNPZ(AM) to remain silent until September 19, 2020. **Notwithstanding the grant of this Special Temporary Authority, the broadcast license for Station WNPZ(AM) will automatically expire as a matter of law if broadcast operations do not resume by 12:01 a.m., September 20, 2020.**<sup>1</sup>

MMCT is required to notify the Commission when broadcast operations resume. If MMCT does not file the notification of resumption of operations in a timely manner, the license may be subject to cancellation pursuant to Section 312(g) of the Communications Act, as amended.<sup>2</sup>

The station's silent status does not suspend the licensee's obligation to comply with all other relevant Commission rules, including the filing, when appropriate, of applications for renewal of broadcast license. It is imperative to the safety of air navigation that any prescribed painting and illumination of the station's tower shall be maintained until removed.<sup>3</sup>

Finally, Section 73.1740(a)(4) of the Commission's Rules permits licensees to temporarily discontinue operations for good cause, and for a period not to exceed 30 days without further authority.<sup>4</sup> This rule requires that the licensee notify the Commission by letter not later than the 10<sup>th</sup> day of limited or discontinued operations, and requires a licensee to seek Commission authorization for any period of

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<sup>1</sup> See 47 U.S.C. § 312(g).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* In addition to filing a notification of resumption of operations electronically on the date operations resume, notification of resumption must also be emailed to Denise.Williams@FCC.gov.

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

<sup>4</sup> See 47 CFR § 73.1740(a)(4).

limited or discontinued operations exceeding 30 days. MMCT failed to submit a timely request for an STA to permit Station WNPZ(AM) to remain silent beyond October 10, 2019, and the action taken herein shall not be construed as authorizing the station to remain silent between October 10, 2019, and July 10, 2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Victoria McCauley". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Victoria McCauley  
Attorney, Audio Division  
Media Bureau

Sent via email only: [montero@fhhlaw.com](mailto:montero@fhhlaw.com)