

## Request for Renewal of Silent STA for Ramon A. Hernandez LPTV Stations

### Background

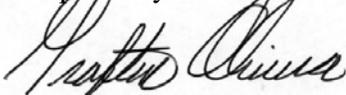
On September 2017, Hurricanes Irma and Maria hit Puerto Rico and the USVI, causing widespread devastation. Puerto Rico and the USVI suffered catastrophic losses, including the loss of cellular, radio and TV communications, and significant damages to basic infrastructure. As of the beginning of 2018 many of Puerto Rico and USVI residents remained without power, many still without reliable potable water and low on vital supplies. The President of US declared Puerto Rico a major disaster area and still many radio and TV stations remain off the air (many lost their towers) or are operating with low power, special facilities (STA's). Given the prevailing conditions, on October 2017, six months ago, Ramon A. Hernandez requested and was granted Silent STA's for all of its LPTV stations; copy of said petition is appended to this letter. Two LPTV stations have since resumed operation, WNTE-LD and WVDO-LD.

### Current Situation

It is estimated that it will still take months to fully repair the electrical grid of the USVI and PR, whose main transmission lines and generating plants were severely damaged. Puerto Rico and the USVI have suffered unprecedented devastation and losses of most of its communications systems, a Katrina-like incident that moved the FCC to create a special task force to deal with Puerto Rico and the USVI. The Chairman of the FCC, Ajit Pai, recently visited Puerto Rico, in March 2018, to personally survey the situation of the islands and the status of the communication facilities reconstruction. Chairman Pai has promised significant help from the FCC to Puerto Rican and USVI broadcasters. Given this situation, the assessment of sites where LPTV stations can move to establish temporary STA facilities has been extremely difficult. LPTV stations in addition to having to wait for three special Full Service and Class "A" TV Stations windows, are now dealing with the LPTV Displacement Window, currently in process.

***The PR and USVI Full Service and Class A TV stations have reached an agreement with the FCC and T-Mobile to transition to their post-repack channels earlier than originally scheduled, by July 2018. This puts a special burden on LPTV stations, most of which will be displaced, as it would be financially impossible for the LPTV stations now silent, to reconstruct their damaged facilities to resumed operations for a very short time and then find that they must invest in altogether new facilities, assuming they find channels to displace to.*** Given the above described circumstances, grant of an additional six-month Silent STA period for the Ramon A. Hernandez LPTV stations is hereby requested and believed to be justified - under the current circumstances and given the uncertain results of the current LPTV Displacement Window, remaining silent until the picture for LPTV clears is the only economically viable option. While this renewal request is being filed six months after the previous Silent STA request, the effective date of the previously granted STA, September 27, 2017, is slightly longer than the six month duration of the STA's; thus if a waiver of the FCC Rules and/or procedures is required, it is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of Ramon A. Hernandez,



Grafton Olivera, P.E.

Consulting Engineer

5119 60<sup>th</sup> Drive E

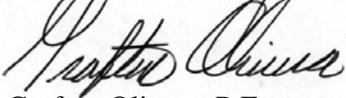
Bradenton, FL 34203

Tel. 941-323-0381

**Silent STA Requested for Ramon A. Hernandez LPTV Stations on October 2017**

On September 20, Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico, causing widespread devastation. Puerto Rico have suffered catastrophic losses, including the loss of cellular, radio and TV communications, and significant damages of ports and airports. As of September 28, the island of Puerto Rico remains without power, low on gas, potable water, food and vital supplies, to the point that the President of US declared Puerto Rico a zone of major disaster. Most radio and TV stations remain off the air and many of them lost their towers. It is estimated are that it will take about six months to a year to repair the electrical system, whose main transmission lines have been destroyed. Puerto Rico have suffered incredible, unprecedented devastation and the loss of most part of their communications systems, including cellular, radio and TV towers and access to the transmission sites, electrical power, and transportation. Given the situation of Puerto Rico, it is not possible to continue to operate this LPTV station, which have suffered major damages. It respectfully requested a six month silent temporary authorization (STA) for this station. When the situation of the island improves, we will notify the FCC when operation of the station can be resumed.

On behalf of Ramon A. Hernandez,



Grafton Olivera, P.E.  
Consulting Engineer  
5119 60<sup>th</sup> Drive E  
Bradenton, FL 34203

Tel. 941-323-0381