

Online Public Inspection File Certification

Ville Platte Broadcasting Company, Inc. (“Ville Platte”) is the licensee of AM radio station KVPI (FIN 70233) and FM radio station KVPI-FM (FIN 70234), each station being licensed to Ville Platte, LA. KVPI has simulcasted the public affairs programming of KVPI-FM during the entire current license term.

The Commission’s online public inspection file rules became effective for Ville Platte’s stations on March 1, 2018. Ville Platte was told by its professional broadcast consultant while preparing to implement those new rules that they required political broadcast records and quarterly issues/programs lists created after that date to be uploaded into the stations’ online public inspection files, but allowed then-existing political broadcast records and then-existing quarterly issues/programs lists to continue to be maintained in the stations’ physical public inspection files at their main studios.

Ville Platte therefore timely prepared and uploaded only its political broadcast records created during 2018 and 2019, and (subject to qualification regarding simulcasting two paragraphs below) only its issues/programs lists created during 2017, 2018 and 2019, and retained in the public file maintained at the station its physical political broadcast records and quarterly issues/programs lists for all prior periods during the current license term. The supplier of the stations’ public affairs programming began using a different format in January 2017 to report on its aired content to Ville Platte, which caused the stations to reevaluate and revise for future reporting purposes the format used for their previous quarterly issues/programs lists.

Ville Platte has recently learned that the provision of the new rules which allowed political broadcast records in existence as of March 1, 2018, to continue to be maintained in the stations’ physical public inspection files at their main studios did not apply to quarterly issues/programs lists created before that date. Accordingly, it has uploaded the quarterly issues/programs lists covering the period of June 1, 2012 through December 31, 2016 into the stations’ online public inspection files.

Further, since the stations aired identical public affairs programming as the result of their simulcasting operations, Ville Platte believed that it was sufficient to upload the quarterly issues/programs lists created after March 1, 2018, into the online public inspection file of only KVPI-FM. It has now uploaded the quarterly issues/programs lists created after March 1, 2018, into the online public inspection file of KVPI, as well.

Ville Platte has complied during the current license term with the online public inspection file rules in all respects other than as noted above.