

Online Public Inspection File Certification

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board is the licensee of AM radio station KBRH (FIN 18184) and FM radio station WBRH-FM (FIN 18185)(collectively, the “Stations”). They are both licensed to Baton Rouge, LA, and operate non-commercially. No political programming has been aired over either of the Stations during the current license term and identical public affairs programming is aired, but at different times, on the Stations.

The Commission’s online public inspection file rules became effective for the Stations on March 1, 2018. Their then-existing quarterly issues/programs lists were timely uploaded into the their online public inspection files. Although they sought to comply with the new rules thereafter, a recent audit of the online public file of WBRH-FM revealed that while the records for 4Q2015, 2/3Q2018 and 3/4Q2019 were contained in the stations’ physical public inspection files kept at its main studio, copies of them had not been uploaded into its online public file. The records at issue were then promptly uploaded into the station’s online public inspection file.

The audit further revealed that the online public file of KBRH did not include issues/programs lists for 1-4Q2018 or 3/4Q2019. Upon inquiry, it was learned that station staff believed that uploading the lists into the KBRH online public file was unnecessary, since the stations aired identical public affairs programming which was reported in the WBRH-FM online public file. This misunderstanding was immediately corrected and those records were likewise promptly uploaded into the station’s online public inspection file.

Written procedures have now been adopted to ensure future compliance of the Stations with the quarterly issues/programs lists requirement of the Commission. The licensee has complied in all other respects with the online public inspection file requirements since their effective date.