W16CA-D – FID 126708

**Request to Reinstate and Extend License and Silent Authority under Section 312(g)**

A previous Request to Reinstate and Extend License and Silent Authority under Section 312(g), LMS File No. 0000059526, was granted on March 24, 2020, one week after the station was shut down.

At that time, the previous manager (Mr. Oscar Ibarra) was caught in Peru for nearly a year with return to Florida impossible because of COVID so he was unable to personally attend to problems of equipment operation, antenna placement and site leasing in the wake of hurricane damage. Soon after his return stateside, Mr. Ibarra underwent medical treatment for a leg injury, further delaying progress on getting this station back on the air. Functionally disabled by health and pandemic issues quite beyond his control, Mr. Ibarra has asked that Mr. David Drucker serve as manager of the station. In effect, an entire year was lost due to COVID.

Mr. Drucker has a long history of successfully managing LPTV stations and is now working diligently to restore W16CA-D to full operation. He has delivered a new transmitter, antenna and all hardware to Florida for immediate installation when a new tower site is secured. Indeed, Mr. Drucker has completed installation of the equipment needed to reactivate WDGT-DT (see File Nos. 0000143979 and 0000140270 for minor mod and STA, respectively) and will file the license application in coming days. He assures that W16CA-D will be built and reactivated with grant of this Request to Reinstate and Extend License and Silent Authority under Section 312(g).

The site where the station is currently located was damaged by a hurricane and is no longer usable for a tower facility. An alternative tower site (FM station) that earlier had been used by the licensee is no longer available because the tower is now only leased to hold cellular facilities.

Mr. Drucker is actively engaged in trying to find a new tower site, which when found will require submission of a minor modification application. Jim McDonald, consulting engineer, has identified 3 alternative sites. Two are local cellular tower sites that are not available, but there is a Monroe County site that has been proposed and is being pursued. There may be other possible sites, as well. But this process takes time, and now that Mr. Drucker is working to obtain a tower lease it should be no more than 3 to 6 months to finalize construction, including power and site preparation, and reactivate W16CA-D.

Accordingly, we request reinstatement and extension of license and silent authority under Section 312(g). The public interest clearly will be served by grant of this request because it will assure reactivation of W16CA-D in the most expeditious way possible.