

Station WSYM-TV Public Inspection File Documents

Station WSYM-TV's online public inspection file is complete and it timely complied with the online file posting requirements except as follows:

Political File:

Scripps makes extraordinary efforts to ensure that its stations comply with the FCC's directive that political purchase orders be uploaded to its stations' online political files in an easily accessible fashion "as soon as possible." Senior corporate staff are tasked with training local station sales personnel in Scripps' practices, and during times of significant political buying, Scripps hires additional corporate employees who are dedicated to monitoring its local stations' practices in real time and assisting them with compliance.

While a review of Station WSYM-TV's online file suggests that sometimes an order's posting was not timely, review of the history of the station's political file activity shows that the station was often in fact adding material related to that order and deleting its previous filings documenting that order--as required to update or otherwise supplement the original order.

Nevertheless, Scripps is unable to certify that all of the many postings to the station's political file were originally made within a day of the order's receipt. Review of the past two years, including the history file, shows that in a relatively small percentage of the cases, reports were posted late. The majority of these late-filings were posted within a few days of receipt; a very small number appear to have been posted a matter of weeks after receipt. These late uploads could have been due to issues such as delayed purchaser approval of a final order, Internet connection problems-- including difficulties accessing the FCC's online public file, or staff processing errors, and the station did not believe it necessary to make a contemporaneous note of such occurrences.

When Scripps discovers through its compliance and review processes that political file uploads at a station did not occur promptly under the circumstances, it has taken corrective action to ensure timely uploads going forward. Scripps certifies that it will continue to work with and monitor Station WSYM-TV's political file practices to ensure that the station meets the FCC's political public file requirements.

EEO Public File Reports

The Station's EEO Public File Report covering 2015-2016 was posted one day late. WSYM-TV believes that the EEO Public File Reports for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 were originally posted in a timely manner, but subsequently were removed and replaced with amended reports April 1, 2019.

Issues and Programs Lists:

WSYM-TV's issues and programs list for the second quarter of 2016 was posted to the online public inspection file late, on October 5, 2016. Issues and programs lists for a total of five other quarters were posted between one and four days late.

Children's Programming Reports/Commercial Limits Documentation:

Documentation of WSYM-TV's compliance with the commercial limits in children's programming for were posted between one and four days late for a total of five quarters during the license term. Quarterly children's programming reports also were filed between one and three days late for a total of three quarters.