

The applicants to this transfer of control application for Community Broadcasters, LLC (“Community”) respectfully request a waiver of the FCC’s multiple ownership limits under Rule 73.3555(1)(a)(iii) for one market in which Community exceeds the total number of stations ownership limit by one station.

Community is the licensee of 24 full-power AM and FM stations in New York (8 stations) and South Carolina (16 stations).

This long-form transfer of control application is for the purchase of LLC membership units by two individuals, who currently own a minority interest in Community, from two companies and other individuals who currently own a majority interest in Community. Community will own the same number of radio stations before and after the proposed transfer of control is completed. After the transfer of control is approved by the FCC and closed, the two current minority-interest individuals will become the joint sole owners of Community, fulfilling their long-term goal of owning 100% of the company and providing, as their company’s name implies, community-based radio programming to serve the needs of small markets in Upstate New York and mostly-rural parts of central South Carolina.

A multiple ownership compliance exhibit, separately attached to this application, describes in detail the 5 markets in which Community owns radio stations.

Community owns 8 radio stations in two markets in Upstate New York – the rated Watertown, NY market (market rank #249) and an unrated market defined by the interim contour overlap method. Community is fully in compliance with the FCC’s multiple ownership rules in this Upstate New York markets.

Community also owns 16 stations scattered across central South Carolina, in three markets – i.e. the rated Florence, SC market (market rank #207), and two unrated markets defined by the interim contour overlap method. During the preparation of the multiple ownership compliance exhibit for this transfer of control application, it was discovered that between 2016 when Community acquired all of its stations in South Carolina, and the present time, a change in the stations listed as “home” to the Florence, SC market caused Community to now exceed the total number of stations permitted in that market under the FCC’s multiple ownership rules by one station. In particular, as described in detail in the multiple ownership compliance exhibit attached separately to this transfer of control application, the Florence market contains 21 full-power stations. Under section 73.3555(a)(1)(iii) of Commission’s multiple ownership rules, an entity may hold interests in up to 6 radio stations, including 4 in the same service, if the radio market includes a total of between 15 and 29 full-power stations. As a result, the ownership of 3 AM and 4 FM stations by Community in the Florence, South Carolina market exceeds by one station the total radio station ownership cap, because Community Broadcasters, LLC owns 7 total stations in the Florence market.

Community, and the proposed transferees in this application, respectfully request a waiver of the FCC’s ownership rule to allow Community to continue ownership of all of the stations it currently owns and operates in the Florence, SC market. Such a waiver will serve the public interest by not interrupting Community’s five years of exemplary service to the communities of central South Carolina. The non-compliance occurred as a result of changes in the definition of the market and not as a result of any

purchases by Community of additional stations in the market. In other words, when Community purchased all of its stations in South Carolina in two transactions that were consummated in 2016, those acquisitions were compliant with the FCC's multiple ownership rules and approved by the FCC (See FCC File Nos. BAL - 20150910ACU and BALH - 20151215ABJ). Now, Community is out of compliance by one station in one market as a result of a change in which 2 of its stations are now considered to be in the Florence rated market.

This waiver requests is only for one station in one of the five markets that Community owns stations and is in the context of a transfer of control whereby existing minority interest owners of Community are acquiring 100% control of the company , not the purchase of additional stations.

The alternatives, if this waiver is not granted, would be for Community to sell or donate, or surrender to the FCC the license for, one station in the Florence, SC market to bring Community within the limit of 6 stations total Community is allowed in that market. The most likely options and expeditious course of action for Community would be to surrender an AM station license, because the current reality for AM stations in small markets is that there are no buyers and finding a donee qualified to operate a stand-alone AM station is very difficult. A grant of this waiver request, therefore, would serve the public by keeping all of Community's current stations on-the-air and continuing to serve the local community.

In summary, Community and the transferee applicants respectfully request a waiver, by one station, of the total number of stations limit in the Florence SC market, in the context of this multiple-market transfer of control application, to allow Community's uninterrupted service by the radio stations it currently operates in that Florence, SC market.