## WRPR-FM Mahwah, NJ FID 55029

## Online Public Inspection File During the Preceding License Term

In preparation for submission of WRPR's license renewal application, Licensee discovered that its Programs and Issues Lists ("Lists") had not been uploaded to its online public inspection file during the license period. As soon as this oversight was discovered, the station took prompt action to correct this omission.<sup>1</sup>

WRPR is a non-commercial educational FM station licensed to Ramapo College of New Jersey, a small public liberal arts college. WRPR is primarily a music station, with no formal non-music programming. It operates on an extremely small budget, and is run entirely by college student volunteers, with no full-time employees.

The station's annual budget for all license and operational needs throughout the license period has been extremely limited due to financial constraints facing the College, never exceeding \$13,000, dropping during the license period to \$10,000, and being further reduced during the Covid 19 pandemic to just \$6,000 for 2020-21.

In addition to these financial limitations, the Covid pandemic has disrupted the work of the student volunteers who run the station, limiting their and College staff's ability to be on campus at the station and to focus on station needs, including compliance with this FCC requirement. In particular, the College was entirely closed during March 2020 through August 2020, had only a few students on campus from September 2020 through May 2021, and did not have any significant number of students return to campus until September 2021, following the end of the summer 2021 recess. During much of that overall period, with few if any student volunteers on campus, the station had to suspend much or all of its live programming and resort to loops of recorded music.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> When this oversight was discovered, Licensee's counsel attempted to upload the Lists to the online public inspection file. However, it appears that in the OPIF System, WRPR is associated with an FRN that belongs to Pilati Investments, Inc., FRN 0014310874, which has made it impossible for Licensee to upload anything to the online public inspection file until this problem is fixed. Licensee's counsel called the FCC Support Line (877-480-3201) on February 1, 2022, and the Support Desk has passed this information on to the FCC section who will be able to resolve it, Case No. 972614. As soon as FCC Support resolves this issue, the Programs & Issues List will be uploaded to WRPR's online public inspection file.

Further, during the period of June 12, 2013 through February 27, 2016, the station had to be taken off the air due to major re-construction of the campus building on which the station's antenna and equipment cabinet were located, and then had to remain silent even longer due to damage to the station's antenna that occurred during the construction.

It was in such circumstances that, although public issue programming was run as part of the station's operations during non-pandemic and non-silent portions of the license period, and on a limited basis during some months of the pandemic period, the station's student volunteers omitted uploading of the Lists to the station's online file, and the College was unaware of this omission.

Licensee is committed to complying with applicable license and regulatory requirements. The station's 2022 budget has been nearly tripled, to \$16,000, to provide the station with the resources necessary to meet its responsibilities as an FCC licensee, even as the pandemic continues. With these increased resources, the station:

- will continue to run programming addressing identified issues of concern to its listeners;
- will continue to prepare the required Programs and Issues Lists, and will quarterly upload those lists to the station's online public inspection file;
- is creating a Compliance Committee, headed by the College's General Counsel, that will assist with operation of the station, including compliance with all FCC requirements;
- is appointing a faculty liaison from the Communication Arts Convening Group to assist with radio station operations and compliance with FCC requirements;
- has retained new FCC counsel to guide its compliance with all applicable regulatory requirements; and
- will provide training for the student volunteers who run the station, to reinforce the importance of not only presenting community issues programming and preparing programming/issues lists, but also of uploading such Lists in a timely fashion.

Licensee is committed to fully complying, and maintaining compliance, with its responsibilities as an FCC licensee.