

WPAN Currently Silent

WPAN currently is off the air and silent, pursuant special temporary authority (“STA”) to be silent granted by the FCC. Specifically, WPAN ceased operations on its pre-auction Channel 40 on October 19, 2019, due to an ongoing legal dispute with the owner of the station’s licensed tower site. Specifically, the current licensee B&C Communications, LLC (“B&C”) acquired WPAN after a collection action against the prior licensee, and the tower site owner refused to consent to an assignment of the prior licensee’s lease to B&C, or to enter into a new lease with B&C, unless B&C agreed to pay the prior licensee’s substantial past due rents, which B&C declined to do, as there was no legal basis or requirement for a senior secured creditor, such as B&C, to pay the debtor prior licensee’s obligations to a third party unsecured creditor; in the end, the tower owner locked B&C out of the site, and after a problem arose with the station’s signal, the station went off the air. B&C filed for and was granted special temporary authority (“STA”) for WPAN to be silent, as extended, through October 19 2020. See LMS File No, 0000087608, as extended by LMS File Nos. 0000099334 and 0000118273. B&C expects to return WPAN to the air with its authorized repack Channel 21 facilities by no later than October 19, 2020, and will amend this renewal application at that time to report the return to the air.