

KHIP, Gonzales, CA (Fac. Id. 9858)
Renewal Application
Public File

SMG Monterey, LLC acquired and became licensee of this station on September 30, 2019. The completeness of the KHIP public file or the timeliness of any uploads or documents placed in the public file prior to September 30, 2019 are therefore not attributable to the current licensee.

The station's Q1 2021 issues/programs list shows an upload date of April 13, 2021 but the public file history tab shows that the list was originally uploaded on April 1, 2021 and later removed and replaced.

With respect to the station's uploads of political ad materials in its political file, SMG Monterey discovered in early 2020 that station employees retained from the prior licensee had not been properly trained in the timeliness of political ad request uploads. At that time, SMG Monterey conducted employee training on the FCC political ad rules, documentation, and OPIF posting responsibilities. Thereafter, compliance was only hindered by interruptions and access issues due to COVID-19 stay-at-home mandates in California, and any late uploads were only slightly longer than the FCC's standards.

Upon careful review in preparation for license renewal, SMG Monterey concluded that a substantial majority of political file uploads, and all other (non-political) public file uploads were timely completed. However, the review revealed that there were five or more late political file uploads during the period from September 30, 2019 until the filing of this renewal application. SMG Monterey has continued ongoing training and implemented corporate office cross-checks for political file items to ensure full compliance with the rules going forward.