

Character Issues

The following matter is disclosed to ensure that full information is available to the Commission. Based on existing Commission precedent, the applicant understands that the following matter does not constitute an “unresolved character issue.”

After Roberts Broadcasting USA, LLC (“Roberts USA”), a limited liability company controlled 50 percent by Michael V. Roberts and 50 percent by Steven C. Roberts, was declared the winning bidder in the FCC’s auction for a Channel 47 television construction permit in Columbia, South Carolina, several unsuccessful bidders in the auction challenged Roberts USA’s inadvertent omission of certain information from the Roberts USA short form application. The unsuccessful bidders argued that the Roberts USA’s technical oversight was a knowing and deliberate misrepresentation that showed a lack of candor, and requested that Roberts USA be disqualified from the auction and its application for Columbia dismissed. Roberts USA has denied these allegations and believes them to be without merit. The application remains pending.

In Greater Muskegon Broadcasters, Inc., the Commission held that Question 10(d), Part II of FCC form 315 does not require the reporting of mere allegations of misconduct. As the Commission stated, “Until such allegations are determined to have merit and are designed for hearing, no ‘unresolved’ issue is pending ‘against’ the application.” (*Greater Muskegon Broadcasters, Inc.*, 11 FCC Rcd 15464, ¶22 (1996).)