

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

In re Applications of)	
)	
WORD OF LIFE MINISTRIES, INC.)	FCC File No. BNPL-20000608AFN
New FM Station, Channel 247, Shreveport, LA)	
)	
BLACKS UNITED FOR LASTING LEADERSHIP, INC.)	FCC File No. BNPL-20000605ALU
New FM Station, Channel 247, Shreveport, LA)	
)	

To: The Chief, Mass Media Bureau

JOINT PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Word of Life Ministries, Inc. (“WORD”) and Blacks United For Lasting Leadership, Inc. (“BULL”), pursuant to the procedures set forth 47 C.F.R. §73.3525, hereby jointly request the Commission to simultaneously (a) dismiss the applications of WORD with prejudice, and (b) grant the BULL application.

The captioned applications are mutually exclusive and constitute low power FM closed MX Group 49, as provided in Attachment A to DA 03-2755, August 28, 2003. The applications are the only applications which the Commission found to be mutually exclusive within MX Group 49.

Attached is the Settlement Agreement between WORD and BULL providing for the dismissal of WORD’s application. As set forth in the Settlement Agreement, BULL is to reimburse WORD for its actual expenses as consideration for dismissal of its application on grant of the BULL application. WORD and BULL have also entered into a separate Tower Option & Non-competition Agreement. That Agreement stands on its own and provides that WORD, an experienced broadcaster, will not compete with BULL’s LPFM and provides for the

assignment of WORD's exclusive rights for use of the proposed tower for LPFM service. As part of the Settlement Agreement, BULL desires to use the facilities proposed by WORD in its application. Simultaneous with the filing of this Joint Petition, BULL will file a modification application to amend its proposed facilities to reflect those in WORD's application.

Approval of the Settlement Agreement will resolve the mutual exclusivity among the captioned applications and will effect the complete settlement of this MX group. The public interest will be served by conserving the resources of the Commission and the parties and by facilitating the commencement of a new low power broadcast service at Shreveport, Louisiana.

Also submitted herewith are the declarations of the parties required by Section 73.3525 of the Commission's rules. The declarations attest to the public interest benefits of the instant settlement and further demonstrate that none of the applications was filed for the purpose of reaching or carrying out the settlement. They further note that no consideration is being paid other than as is expressly disclosed in the Settlement Agreements.

WHEREAS, it is respectfully requested that the applications of WORD be dismissed with prejudice and that the application of BULL for a new low power station on Channel 247 in Shreveport, Louisiana be granted.

[SIGNATURES ON NEXT PAGE]

The parties respectfully submit that the Settlement Agreement should be approved and that the relief requested herein with respect to this MX group be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

WORD OF LIFE MINISTRIES, INC.

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**BLACKS UNITED FOR LASTING
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By: _____
James Pannell, President

February 25, 2004