

MAIN STUDIO RULE WAIVER REQUEST

AMERICAN FAMILY ASSOCIATION, INC. (AFA), HEREBY REQUESTS A WAIVER OF THE MAIN STUDIO RULE, SECTION 73.1125, FOR STATION WAIJ, 88.1 MHZ, GRANTSVILLE, MARYLAND. IN SUPPORT OF THIS REQUEST, THE FOLLOWING IS SHOWN.

1. MAIN STUDIO LOCATION AND PROGRAM ORIGINATION: WAIJ WILL OPERATE PRIMARLY AS A SATELLITE OF WAQB, 90.9 MHZ (FAC. ID 1452), A NONCOMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL FM STATION OWNED BY AFA AND LICENSED TO TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI. THE MAIN STUDIOS OF WAIJ AND WAQB WILL BE CO-LOCATED AT AFA'S HEADQUARTERS AT 107 PARKGATE DRIVE IN TUPELO.
2. TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE NUMBER: A TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE LINE WILL BE ESTABLISHED FOR GRANTSVILLE AND NEARBY COMMUNITIES IN GARRETT COUNTY, MARYLAND. THAT LINE WILL BE CONNECTED TO AFA'S HEADQUARTERS IN TUPELO, WHICH IS THE ORIGINATION POINT FOR MOST OF THE PROGRAMMING BROADCAST ON AFA'S STATIONS, INCLUDING WAQB.
3. PUBLIC FILE: THE PUBLIC FILE OF WAIJ WILL BE LOCATED AT THE MAIN STUDIOS OF WAIJ IN TUPELO BUT AFA WILL ENTERTAIN REASONABLE REQUESTS FOR COPIES OF PUBLIC FILE MATERIALS MADE BY WAIJ LISTENERS.
4. ASCERTAINMENT OF COMMUNITY ISSUES: AFA MANAGEMENT WILL CONTACT LEADERS IN GRANTSVILLE AND THE SURROUNDING AREA TO ASCERTAIN PROBLEMS AND ISSUES THAT CAN BE INCORPORATED INTO THE PROGRAMMING OF WAIJ. SUCH CONTACTS WILL BE MADE AT LEAST QUARTERLY BY PHONE, EMAIL OR THROUGH IN-PERSON VISITS. AFA HAS EQUIPMENT TECHNICALLY CAPABLE OF PROVIDING DISCRETE LOCAL PROGRAMMING RESPONSIVE TO LOCAL ISSUES AND WILL PERIODICALLY BROADCAST SUCH PROGRAMMING ON WAIJ. WAQB'S PROGRAMMING WILL SERVE THIS PURPOSE AS WELL, AS WILL BE REFLECTED IN THE ISSUES AND PROGRAMS LISTS POSTED QUARTERLY IN WAIJ'S PUBLIC FILE.
5. COST SAVINGS: CO-LOCATION OF WAIJ'S STUDIOS WITH WAQB'S IN TUPELO WILL SAVE THE CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT UP TO NOW HAS BEEN DEVOTED TO MAINTAINING A STAFFED STUDIO IN GRANTSVILLE, A COMMUNITY IN REMOTE WESTERN MARYLAND WHICH IN 2013 HAD A POPULATION OF ONLY 762 AND A MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF \$34,293. (FIGURES FROM CITY-DATA.COM--GRANTSVILLE, MARYLAND). INDEED, THE STATION IS BEING ASSIGNED TO AFA FOR NOMINAL CONSIDERATION IN PART BECAUSE IT HAS NOT GENERATED ENOUGH REVENUE TO SUPPORT A LOCALLY-BASED, INDEPENDENT OPERATION. MOREOVER, HIGH-QUALITY LOCAL PROGRAMMING CAN BE MORE EFFICIENTLY PRODUCED AT AFA'S STUDIOS IN TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI.

BASED ON THE FOREGOING, AND THE LONG HISTORY OF APPROVAL OF SIMILAR WAIVER REQUESTS FOR NCE STATIONS, IT IS RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED THAT A MAIN STUDIO RULE WAIVER BE GRANTED FOR WAIJ UPON APPROVAL OF THE FORM 314 WHICH INCLUDES THIS REQUEST.