



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

June 15, 2020

Word of God Fellowship, Inc.
3901 Highway 121 South
Bedford, TX 76021
marcus.lamb@daystar.com

Re: Request for Reinstatement and
Extension of License and Silent
Authority Under Section 312(g)
KSUD-LP, Salt Lake City, UT
LMS File No. 0000115938
Facility ID No. 72485

Dear Licensee:

This concerns the above-referenced request to reinstate and extend silent authority and license (Request) filed on June 9, 2020, as amended, by Word of God Fellowship, Inc. (WOGF), licensee of low power television station KSUD-LP, Salt Lake City, UT (KSUD or Station). For reasons set forth below, we grant the request, reinstate and extend the Station's silent authority, waive all applicable rules, and extend the Station's license for a period of 180 days from the date of this letter.

Background. Section 312(g) of the Communications Act provides that “[i]f a broadcasting station fails to transmit broadcast signals for any consecutive 12-month period, then the station license granted for the operation of that broadcast station expires at the end of that period, notwithstanding any provision, term, or condition of the license to the contrary, except that the Commission may extend or reinstate such station license...for any reason to promote equity and fairness.”¹ In the *Incentive Auction R&O*, the Commission explained that it would be receptive to requests for reinstatement or extension of a station's license under Section 312(g), “tak[ing] into account the extent to which a station has been involuntarily forced to remain dark as a result of the repacking process and whether, in light of the facts presented, equity and fairness dictate a license extension or reinstatement and a waiver.”² Further, in the *Post-Incentive Auction Procedures PN* the Media Bureau stated that, in considering requests to extend or reinstate a stations license under Section 312(g) in order to promote fairness and equity, it “will examine whether the station has demonstrated that its silence is the result of compelling reasons beyond the stations' control, including facts that relate to the post-auction transition process.”³ Finally, in the *Special Displacement Window PN*, the Bureau permitted stations to file a displacement application on a contingent basis for channels in the repacked television band (channels 2-36) that full power and Class A

¹ 47 U.S.C. § 312(g).

² *Expanding the Economic and Innovation Opportunities of Spectrum Through Incentive Auctions*, Report and Order, 29 FCC Rcd 6567, 6806-07, para. 585 (2014) (*Incentive Auction R&O*).

³ *Incentive Auction Task Force and Media Bureau Announce Procedures for the Post-Incentive Auction Broadcast Transition*, Public Notice, 32 FCC Rcd 858, 873-74, para. 49 (IATF/MB 2017) (*Post-Incentive Auction Procedures PN*); see also *Incentive Auction Task Force and Media Bureau Remind Repacked Stations of Certain Post-Auction Transition Requirements and Deadlines*, Public Notice, 33 FCC Rcd 8240, 88243, n.25 (MB/IATF 2018) (citing *Christian Broadcasting of East Point, Inc.*, 30 FCC Rcd. 13975, 13976-77, para. 4 (2015)).

stations would be relinquishing as a result of the incentive auction and repacking process.⁴ The Bureau stated that, if a conditional grant would require an LPTV or TV translator station to be silent for a consecutive 12-month period prior to discontinuation of operation by the full power or Class A station, the Bureau would “consider a request for extension or reinstatement pursuant to Section 312(g) of the Communications Act and a request for waiver of the Commission rule.”⁵

Request. As part of the incentive auction and repacking process, KSUD’s channel 45 was reallocated for use by wireless operator T-Mobile USA (T-Mobile). KSUD subsequently went silent on December 29, 2018, as a result of notification by T-Mobile that it intended to commence operations on its 600 MHz spectrum that included KSUD’s channel 45.⁶ KSUD timely filed a displacement application requesting a construction permit for channel 33 and it was granted on August 21, 2018.⁷ Since the grant of its displacement application, WOGF reports that the equipment for the Station’s displacement facility did not arrive in time before the beginning of the Winter season in the Salt Lake City area. WOGF maintains that it is unable to undertake construction during the Winter season. Now that Winter season is complete, WOGF is confident that it will be able to complete construction of its displacement facilities shortly. WOGF requests that the Commission reinstate and extend KSUD’s license and silent authority beyond the one-year automatic expiration date.

Discussion. Upon review of the facts and circumstances presented, we find that WOGF’s request for reinstatement and extension of the KSUD’s license and silent authority for a period of 180 days from the date of this letter satisfy the requirements of Section 312(g) as described in the *Incentive Auction R&O*, the *Post-Incentive Auction Procedures PN*, and the *Special Displacement Window PN*, and is in the public interest. Consistent with the public interest, we will provide Section 312(g) relief to displaced LPTV and TV translator stations that are forced off the air by circumstances beyond their control. KSUD was displaced by the incentive auction and diligently pursued a new displacement channel. WOGF pledges to have the Station’s displacement facility completed shortly and to return the Station to the air. Therefore, due to circumstances outside its control, KSUD has been unable to return to the air prior to the one-year anniversary of going silent.

Accordingly, we find that in order to promote fairness and equity the request filed by Word of God Fellowship, Inc. **IS HEREBY GRANTED**, the applicable Commission rules **ARE WAIVED**,⁸ and

⁴ See *Incentive Auction Task Force and Media Bureau Announce Post Incentive Auction Special Displacement Window April 10, 2018, Through May 15, 2018, and Make Location and Channel Data Available*, Public Notice, 33 FCC Rcd 1234, 1237, para. 7 (IATF/MB 2018) (*Special Displacement Window PN*)

⁵ *Id.* at n.25 citing 47 U.S.C. § 312(g); *The Incentive Auction Task Force and Media Bureau Announce Procedures for Low Power Television, Television Translator and Replacement Translator Stations During the Post-Incentive Auction Transition*, Public Notice, 32 FCC Rcd 3860, 3865-66, para. 12 (IATF/MB 2017).

⁶ See LMS File No. 0000067429.

⁷ See LMS File No. 0000051700.

⁸ 47 CFR §§ 74.15(f) and 74.763(c)

the license and silent authority for KSUD-LP, Salt Lake City, Utah **ARE REINSTATED AND EXTENDED** for 180 days from the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

/s/

Barbara A. Kreisman
Chief, Video Division
Media Bureau

cc (via electronic mail): Ari Meltzer, Esq.