



PUBLIC NOTICE

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MEDIA BUREAU ACTION

Interim Policy Concerning Placement of Equal Employment Opportunity Public File Report in a Broadcaster's Public File MM Docket No. 98-204

By this Public Notice the Media Bureau establishes an interim policy concerning the enforcement of the requirement of the Equal Employment Opportunity ("EEO") rule – Section 73.2080 – that a broadcaster that is part of an employment unit with five or more full-time employees place information concerning its EEO efforts in its public file and on its web site, if it has one. *See* Section 73.2080(c)(6). Pursuant to that provision, the information is required to be placed in the station's public file on the anniversary of the date the station is due to file its renewal application. The information relates to specified EEO activities engaged in during the preceding year.

Petitions for reconsideration have been filed by two groups of State Broadcasters Associations urging, among other matters, that the requirement should be modified to allow a ten day grace period for the specified information to be placed in the public file because broadcasters may not have sufficient time to collect and review data concerning activities that occur shortly before the renewal filing anniversary. The Commission will address the merits of these requests in due course. We will, however, adopt an interim enforcement policy of allowing a ten day grace period with respect to EEO public file reports due April 1, 2003. Thus, licensees that must place an EEO report in their public files on April 1, 2003, will comply with the deadline so long as the reports are placed in the public file by April 11, 2003.

Thereafter, until such time as the Commission acts on the petitions for reconsideration, licensees should place EEO public file reports in their public files by the due date. They may, however, base their public file reports on activity that concludes up to 10 days prior to the due date. Licensees who choose to conclude their reports prior to the day before the due date should include any reportable information occurring between their cutoff date and the due date in next year's public file report.

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