



PUBLIC NOTICE

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WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU ACTION

WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU RELEASES COMMERCIAL OPERATOR LICENSE EXAMINATION (COLE) QUARTERLY STATISTICAL REPORTS AND ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2002 & 2003

By this action, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau's Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Division¹ releases the 2002 and 2003 Quarterly COLE Statistical Reports (Statistical Reports) and the 2002 & 2003 Annual COLE Financial Reports. On January 14, 1993, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) privatized the examination of applicants for commercial radio operator licenses, and subsequently authorized COLE managers to prepare and administer commercial radio operator license examinations that must be passed by persons in order to be eligible to obtain certain FCC licenses. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 13.209.

The COLE manager system was intended to meet the needs of applicants for frequent examination opportunities at convenient locations and of industry for examinations that reflect state of the art technology and contemporary operating conditions. Each COLE manager is authorized to administer examinations nationwide and, in some instances, at foreign

¹ The Commission reorganized the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, effective November 13, 2003, and the relevant duties of the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division were assumed by the Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Division. *See* Reorganization of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, *Order*, 13 FCC Rcd 25414, 25414 ¶ 2 (2003).

sites, and is required to report to the FCC on a quarterly basis the results of the examinations administered.

The Statistical Reports summarize information received from each of the nine COLE managers authorized by the Commission to administer Commercial operator examinations. A list of the current COLE managers is attached as Appendix A. (This information is also available on the FCC Commercial Radio Operator website at: <http://wireless.fcc.gov/commoperators/testing.html>.) The Statistical Reports show that a total of 18,338 examinations were administered to 10,079 individuals during 2002, and that 15,212 examinations were administered to 8801 individuals during 2003. A composite statistical profile and individual statistical profiles for each COLE manager, based on data submitted in their submissions, is attached as Appendix B.

The 2002 & 2003 Annual COLE Financial Report indicates that examinations administered by COLE managers generated \$497,724.00 in revenue during 2002, and \$438,141.00 during 2003; with examinations prepared and administered at a cost (to examinees) of \$487,273.22 during 2002 and \$441,742.60 during 2003. The resulting net profit ("distributed" among COLE managers) was \$10,450.78 during 2002. The report also indicates that COLE managers operated at a net loss of

\$3,601.60 in 2003. A composite analysis indicating the costs incurred by COLE managers in preparing and administering the examinations, as well as the cost to examinees, is attached as Appendix C.

Questions regarding this public notice may be directed to Ms. Joy Alford, Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau at (202) 418-0694, Joy.alford@fcc.gov.

Action by the Chief, Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

Appendix A

Commercial Operator License Examination (COLE) Managers

BFT Training Unlimited

P. O. Box 2677, Santa Rosa, CA 95405 Contact: J. David Byrd (800) 821-0906 or (707) 792-5678.

Electronic Technicians Association International, Inc.

5 Depot Street, Greencastle, IN 46135 Contact: Richard Glass (800) 288-3824 or (765) 653-4301.

Elkins International, Inc.

P. O. Box 797666, Dallas, TX 75379 Contact: Laura Elkins (888) 621-8876.

International Society of Certified Electronics Technicians (ISCET)

3608 Pershing Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76107-4527 Contact: Ed Clingman (817) 921-9101.

LaserGrade Computer Testing, Inc.

16821 SE McGillivray, Suite 201, Vancouver, WA 98683 Contact: Linda Small (800) 211-2753.

Marine Technical Institute

1915 S. Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316 Contact: David Greenspan (954) 525-1014.

The National Association of Radio Telecommunications Engineers, Inc. (NARTE)

167 Village Street, Medway, MA 02053 Contact: Sandy Felone (800) 89-NARTE.

National Radio Examiners

P. O. Box 565206, Dallas, TX 75356-5206 Contact: Larry Pollock (817) 860-3800.

Sea School

8440 4th Street, N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702 Contact: Mary Foster (800) 237-8863.