



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

June 6, 2008

DA 08-1358

Small Entity Compliance Guide

Standardized and Enhanced Disclosure Requirements for Television Broadcast Licensee Public Interest Obligations

Report and Order
FCC 07-205
MB Docket No. 00-168
Released January 24, 2008

This Guide is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996. It is intended to help small entities—small businesses, small organizations (non-profits), and small governmental jurisdictions—comply with the rules established in the above-referenced FCC Order. This Guide is not intended to replace the rules, which provide the final authority in this context. While we have attempted to cover all parts of the rules that might be especially important to small entities, the coverage may not be exhaustive. This Guide may not apply in a particular situation based upon the circumstances, and the FCC retains the discretion to adopt approaches on a case-by-case basis that may differ from this Guide, where appropriate. Any decisions regarding a particular small entity will be made based on application of the statute and regulations. Interested parties are free to file comments regarding this Guide and the appropriateness of its application to a particular situation; the FCC will consider whether the recommendations or interpretations in the Guide are appropriate in that situation. The FCC may revise this Guide without public notice to clarify or update the contents. Direct your comments and recommendations, or calls for further assistance, to the FCC’s Consumer Center:

1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322)

TTY: 1-888-TELL-FCC (1-888-835-5322)

Fax: 202-418-0232

fccinfo@fcc.gov

Background.

On January 24, 2008, the Federal Communications Commission released a *Report and Order* in MB Docket No. 00-168. The Docket was established to determine whether the requirements pertaining to television stations' public inspection files are sufficient to ensure that the public has adequate access to information on how the stations are serving their communities. The *Report and Order* is intended to implement requirements to ensure that television stations are providing enhanced disclosure to the public.

Compliance Requirements.

The *Report and Order* places compliance requirements on you only if you are a full power commercial television or Class A television licensee or applicant.

Small Businesses Affected by This Rule Are Subject to the Commission's Enhanced Disclosure Requirements.

In the *Report and Order*, the Commission adopted a standardized form for the quarterly reporting of full power and Class A television programming aired in response to issues relevant to a station's community. The form requires quarterly reporting regarding the television programs aired by the station that provided significant treatment of community issues during the preceding three-month period and the station's efforts to determine the issues facing its community. The new form requires licensees to specify the average number of hours per week of programming that the station aired in specific categories, including but not limited to national news programming, local news programming produced by the station, local news programming produced by others, local civic affairs programming, local electoral programming, independently produced programming, and public service announcements. This form, once effective, will replace the current "issues/programs" list, which is required to be compiled on a quarterly basis and placed in the station's public file.

This *Report and Order* also requires that much of each station's public inspection file (but not the political file) be placed on the station's website, if it has one. Alternatively, it allows the station to place its public files on the website of its state broadcasters association as long as it has permission to do so and provides a link to that site from its own website.

Internet Link.

A copy of the *Report and Order* is available at http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-07-205A1.pdf (23 FCC Rcd 1274 (2008))