



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

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MEDIA BUREAU ANNOUNCES PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING COMMISSION APPROVAL FOR NCE STATION FUNDRAISING TO AID OKLAHOMA TORNADO RELIEF EFFORTS

The Commission generally prohibits noncommercial educational (“NCE”) stations from engaging in on-air fundraising activities on behalf of any entity other than the station itself. *See* 47 C.F.R. §§ 73.503(d), 73.621(e). *See also Commission Policy Concerning the Noncommercial Nature of Educational Broadcast Stations*, 90 FCC 2d 895, 907 (1982). The Commission, however, has granted rule waivers for such fundraising appeals to support relief efforts following disasters of historic proportions or magnitude, such as Hurricanes Andrew, Katrina, and Sandy, the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York City, the January 2005 tsunami in Southeast Asia, and the January 2010 Haiti earthquake. These waivers have been issued for a specific fundraising program or programs, or for discrete and limited station appeals for periods which generally do not exceed several days.

The Commission has already received and granted one waiver request related to relief efforts for the devastation caused by the May 20, 2013, tornado to and around Moore, Oklahoma. This *Public Notice* provides further information for other NCE stations that wish to solicit funds from viewers or listeners for relief efforts. Licensees may file an informal request for a Section 73.503(d) or 73.621(e) waiver, whichever is appropriate, as follows:

- 1) The licensee may submit an electronic mail request to Barbara Kreisman (barbara.kreisman@fcc.gov), if the request involves a television station, or to Peter Doyle (peter.doyle@fcc.gov) and Michael Wagner (michael.wagner@fcc.gov), if the request involves a radio station.
- 2) The request should provide basic details of the fundraising activity:
 - a. the nature of the fundraising effort;
 - b. the proposed duration of the fundraising effort;
 - c. the organization(s) to which funds will be donated; and
 - d. whether the fundraiser will be part of the licensee’s regularly scheduled pledge drive or fundraising effort.

For additional information, please contact the television or radio contacts provided above.

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