



PUBLIC NOTICE

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DA 15-80
January 21, 2015

INCENTIVE AUCTION TASK FORCE ANNOUNCES FEBRUARY DESTINATIONS AND DATES FOR BROADCASTER INFORMATION SESSIONS

GN Docket No. 12-268

As a part of the Commission's ongoing outreach effort to broadcasters regarding the upcoming incentive auction of television broadcast spectrum, the Incentive Auction Task Force will conduct information sessions in cities around the country between February and May to provide broadcasters with the opportunity to learn more about the auction. The broadcaster information sessions follow the October 2014 release of the information package "Incentive Auction Opportunities for Broadcasters," available at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/incentiveauctions/learn-program/docs/ia-opportunities-book.pdf>.

The schedule of visits for February is set forth below, beginning on February 9. The schedule for future visits will be announced in subsequent Public Notices. Broadcasters in markets where we have not scheduled an information session are encouraged to attend the closest session.

In each city, Task Force members, along with representatives from the investment banking firm Greenhill & Co., will hold a general session to present information and address questions on the auction and the repacking process. Members of the Task Force and Greenhill representatives will also be available to meet with individual broadcasters on a confidential basis.

Broadcasters interested in attending the general session or scheduling a confidential meeting should contact Mary Margaret Jackson at MaryMargaret.Jackson@fcc.gov or 202-418-3641 prior to the applicable information session.

February Broadcaster Information Session Locations and Dates

- February 9, 2015: **Philadelphia, PA (also covering Harrisburg, PA)**
- February 10, 2015: **Wilkes Barre-Scranton, PA**
- February 11 (general session), 12, and 13, 2015: **New York, NY (also covering Tri-State Area and Albany, NY)**
- February 24, 2015: **Nashville, TN**
- February 25, 2015: **Atlanta, GA**
- February 26, 2015: **New Orleans, LA (also covering Hattiesburg, MS)**

Given the educational and informational purposes of the general sessions, including the provision of information relevant to potential participation in the auction, attendance at the general sessions will be

limited to broadcasters and their representatives.¹ Additionally, with the limited exception described below, attendance at a general session or individual meeting and discussions with Commission personnel at the meetings regarding such matters as how the auction will work, bid options, and opening bid prices using the methodology proposed by the Commission in the recent Comment Public Notice,² will not require a filing under the Commission's rules governing *ex parte* communications.³

Presentations to Commission personnel directed to the merits or the outcome of the matters raised in the Comment Public Notice or other pending proceedings will require the filing of an *ex parte* notice, but any broadcaster that must make such a filing need not disclose its identity.⁴

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¹ We note that the Spectrum Act imposes a duty on the Commission to keep broadcaster participation in the auction confidential. Spectrum Act § 6403(a)(3).

² Comment Sought on Competitive Bidding Procedures for Broadcast Incentive Auction 1000, Including Auctions 1001 and 1002, FCC 14-191, *Public Notice*, GN Docket No. 12-268 (Dec. 17, 2014).

³ See 47 C.F.R. 1.1200 *et seq.*

⁴ See "Media Bureau Issues Limited Modification To *Ex Parte* Requirements For Broadcasters Filing Notices In The Expanding The Economic And Innovation Opportunities Of Spectrum Through Incentive Auctions Proceeding," *Public Notice*, DA 14-268 (Feb. 28, 2014). If a broadcaster attends a meeting without counsel or is otherwise unable to make a filing without disclosing its identity, Commission staff will file the *ex parte* notice in order to preserve the broadcaster's anonymity.