

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In re Application of
Town of Coulee City
For Renewal of License for
Stations K10RA-D, K11WY-D, and K12RD-D
Coulee City, Washington
Facility ID Nos. 198094, 198096, 198095
NAL/Acct. No. MB-202341420021
FRN: 003768173
File No. 0000205717

FORFEITURE ORDER

Adopted: November 2, 2023

Released: November 2, 2023

By the Chief, Video Division, Media Bureau:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In this Forfeiture Order, we issue a monetary forfeiture in the amount of four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500) to Town of Coulee City (Licensee), licensee of TV translator stations K10RA-D, K11WY-D, and K12RD-D, all licensed to Coulee City, Washington (Stations). We find that the Licensee willfully violated section 73.3539(a) of the Commission’s rules (Rules) by failing to timely file license renewal applications for the Stations.1

II. BACKGROUND

2. Section 73.3539(a) of the Rules requires that applications for renewal of license for broadcast stations must be filed “not later than the first day of the fourth full calendar month prior to the expiration date of the license sought to be renewed.”2 Applications for renewal of the Stations’ licenses should have been filed by October 3, 2022, the first day of the fourth full calendar month prior to the Station’s license expiration date of February 1, 2023.3 The Application was not filed until December 19, 2022. The Licensee provided no explanation for its untimely filing of the Applications.

3. Accordingly, on June 21, 2023, we released a Memorandum Opinion and Order and Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL) that proposed a forfeiture of four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500).4 The NAL gave the Licensee thirty days to pay the full amount of the proposed forfeiture, or file a written statement seeking reduction or cancellation of the proposed forfeiture.5 To date, the Licensee has neither paid the proposed forfeiture nor filed a written statement in response to the

1 Application of Town of Coulee City for Renewal of License, LMS File No. 0000205717 (filed Dec. 19, 2022) (Application). K10RA-D, K11WY-D, and K12RD-D are each digital television translators. In this case, as is permitted, the Licensee filed for renewal of the licenses of the Stations in a single renewal application.

2 Id.

3 See 47 CFR §§ 73.1020, 73.3539(a); Media Bureau Announces Procedures for 2020-2023 Television License Renewal Cycle, Public Notice, 35 FCC Red 3656 (MB 2020). Because the first day of the month was Saturday, October 1, 2022, the application was not due until the next business day, which was Monday, October 3, 2022. See 47 CFR § 1.4(j) (permitting the filing of documents the next business day if the filing date falls on a holiday, which includes weekends).

4 Town of Coulee City, Memorandum Opinion and Order and Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture, DA 23-535 (MB June 21, 2023) (NAL).

5 Id. at para. 9.

NAL. A copy of the *NAL* was received by the Licensee on July 18, 2023.⁶

III. DISCUSSION

4. The forfeiture amount proposed in this case was assessed in accordance with section 503(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the Act),⁷ section 1.80 of the Rules,⁸ and the Commission's Forfeiture Policy Statement.⁹ In assessing forfeitures, section 503(b)(2)(E) of the Act requires that we take into account the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the violation, and, with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history of prior offenses, ability to pay, and such other matters as justice may require.¹⁰

5. The Application was due on October 3, 2022, but was not filed until December 19, 2022 – over two months late. The Licensee was afforded an opportunity to either pay or respond to the *NAL* pursuant to section 1.80 of the Rules,¹¹ but has neither paid the proposed forfeiture or sought reduction or cancellation of it within the time period set forth in the *NAL*. Accordingly, we conclude that the Licensee willfully violated section 73.3539(a) of the Rules and we issue a forfeiture in the amount of \$4,500, as proposed in the *NAL*.¹² This amounts to \$1,500 per station.¹³

IV. ORDERING CLAUSES

6. **IT IS ORDERED**, pursuant to section 503(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. § 503(b), as amended, and sections 0.283 and 1.80 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR §§ 0.283 and 1.80, that Town of Coulee City, **IS LIABLE FOR A MONETARY FORFEITURE** in the amount of four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500) for its apparent willful violation of section 73.3539(a) of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 73.3539(a).

7. Payment of the forfeiture must be made by credit card, ACH (Automated Clearing House) debit from a bank account using the Commission's CORES (the Commission's online payment system),¹⁴ or by wire transfer. The Commission no longer accepts forfeiture payments by check or money order. Upon payment, Licensee must send notice that payment has been made to VideoNAL@fcc.gov. Below are instructions that payors should follow based on the form of payment selected:¹⁵

⁶ A copy of the signed delivery receipt can be found under LMS File No. 0000205717.

⁷ 47 U.S.C. § 503(b).

⁸ 47 CFR § 1.80.

⁹ *Forfeiture Policy Statement and Amendment of Section 1.80 of the Rules to Incorporate the Forfeiture Guidelines*, Report and Order, 12 FCC Rcd 17087 (1997), *recon. denied*, 15 FCC Rcd 303 (1999).

¹⁰ 47 U.S.C. § 503(b)(2)(E).

¹¹ 47 CFR § 1.80(g)(3).

¹² We reaffirm our prior statements in the *NAL* relating to the Stations' Applications and will proceed with grant by separate action upon the conclusion of this forfeiture proceeding if there are no issues other than those set forth in this *Forfeiture Order* that would preclude grant of the Applications. See *NAL* at para. 8.

¹³ See e.g., *Tutt Media Group, Inc.*, Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture, 36 FCC Rcd 9038 (13) (MB 2021) (assessing a forfeiture of \$4,500 for a late filed renewal application that covered three stations) (paid Jun. 4, 2021); *Full Gospel Outreach, Inc.*, Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture, 37 FCC Rcd 6381 (8) (MB 2022) (assessing a forfeiture of \$6,000 for a late filed renewal application that covered four stations) (paid Jun. 10, 2022).

¹⁴ Payments made using the Commission's CORES system do not require the submission of an FCC Form 159.

¹⁵ For questions regarding payment procedures, please contact the Financial Operations Group Help Desk by phone at 1-877-480-3201 (option #6), or by e-mail at ARINQUIRIES@fcc.gov.

- Payment by wire transfer must be made to ABA Number 021030004, receiving bank TREAS/NYC, and Account Number 27000001. A completed Form 159 must be faxed to the Federal Communications Commission at 202-418-2843 or e-mailed to RROGWireFaxes@fcc.gov on the same business day the wire transfer is initiated. Failure to provide all required information in Form 159 may result in payment not being recognized as having been received. When completing FCC Form 159, enter the Account Number in block number 23A (call sign/other ID), enter the letters “FORF” in block number 24A (payment type code), and enter in block number 11 the FRN(s) captioned above (Payor FRN).¹⁶ For additional detail and wire transfer instructions, go to <https://www.fcc.gov/licensing-databases/fees/wire-transfer>.
- Payment by credit card must be made by using the Commission’s Registration System (CORES) at <https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do>. To pay by credit card, log-in using the FCC Username associated to the FRN captioned above. If payment must be split across FRNs, complete this process for each FRN. Next, select “Manage Existing FRNs | FRN Financial | Bills & Fees” from the CORES Menu, then select FRN Financial and the view/make payments option next to the FRN. Select the “Open Bills” tab and find the bill number associated with the NAL/Acct. No. The bill number is the NAL Acct. No. (e.g., NAL/Acct. No. 1912345678 would be associated with FCC Bill Number 1912345678). After selecting the bill for payment, choose the “Pay by Credit Card” option. Please note that there is a \$24,999.99 limit on credit card transactions.
- Payment by ACH must be made by using the Commission’s Registration System (CORES) at <https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/paymentFrnLogin.do>. To pay by ACH, log in using the FRN captioned above. If payment must be split across FRNs, complete this process for each FRN. Next, select “Manage Existing FRNs | FRN Financial | Bills & Fees” on the CORES Menu, then select FRN Financial and the view/make payments option next to the FRN. Select the “Open Bills” tab and find the bill number associated with the NAL/Acct. No. The bill number is the NAL/Acct. No. (e.g., NAL/Acct. No. 1912345678 would be associated with FCC Bill Number 1912345678). Finally, choose the “Pay from Bank Account” option. Please contact the appropriate financial institution to confirm the correct Routing Number and the correct account number from which payment will be made and verify with that financial institution that the designated account has authorization to accept ACH transactions.

8. Requests for full payment of the forfeiture proposed in this *Order* under an installment plan should be sent to: Associate Managing Director-Financial Operations, 45 L Street, NE, Washington, DC 20554.¹⁷ Questions regarding payment procedures should be directed to the Financial Operations Group Help Desk by phone, 1-877-480-3201 (option #6), or by e-mail at ARINQUIRIES@fcc.gov.

9. **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that a copy of this *Forfeiture Order* shall be sent by First Class and Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, to Town of Coulee City, c/o 501 W. Main, P.O. Box

¹⁶ Instructions for completing the form may be obtained at <https://www.fcc.gov/Forms/Form159/159.pdf>.

¹⁷ See 47 CFR § 1.1914.

398, Coulee City, Washington 99115, and to its contact representative, Susan Hansen, by e-mail to stcl@comcast.net.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Barbara A. Kreisman
Chief, Video Division
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