

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of)
)
Bravo Broadcasting Company, Inc.,) Facility ID 56474
Licensee of KIRT(AM), Mission, Texas) FRN: 0008720591

ORDER TO PAY OR TO SHOW CAUSE

Adopted: March 15, 2023

Released: March 15, 2023

By the Chief, Media Bureau and the Managing Director, Office of Managing Director:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. By this Order to Pay or to Show Cause, we initiate a proceeding to revoke the license held by Bravo Broadcasting Company, Inc. (Licensee) for KIRT(AM), Mission, Texas (Station), for failure to pay delinquent regulatory fees and associated interest, administrative costs, and penalties owed to the Federal Communications Commission (Commission). For the reasons set forth below, we direct Licensee to pay the overdue regulatory fees, including any associated interest, penalties, and administrative costs, or show cause why the payment demanded is inapplicable or should otherwise be waived or deferred.

II. DISCUSSION

2. Under section 9 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (Act), and section 1.1151 of the Commission’s rules (Rules), the Commission is required to “assess and collect regulatory fees” to recover the cost of carrying out the functions of the Commission.”1 When the required payment is received late or is incomplete, the Commission must assess a penalty equal to “25 percent of the amount of the fee which was not paid in a timely manner.”2

3. For fiscal year (FY) 2012, the deadline for paying regulatory fees was September 13, 2012;3 for FY 2015, it was September 24, 2015;4 for FY 2016, it was September 27, 2016;5 for FY 2017, it was September 26, 2017;6 for FY 2018, it was September 25, 2018;7 for FY 2019, it was September 27,

1 47 U.S.C. § 159(a)(1); 47 CFR § 1.1151.

2 47 U.S.C. § 159A(c)(1); 47 CFR § 1.1164.

3 Payment Methods and Procedures For Fiscal Year 2012 Regulatory Fees, Public Notice, DA 12-1294, 27 FCC Rcd 9204 (OMD Aug. 13, 2012).

4 Payment Methods and Procedures for Fiscal Year 2015 Regulatory Fees, Public Notice, DA 15-103, 30 FCC Rcd 9941 (OMD September 11, 2015).

5 Payment Methods and Procedures for Fiscal Year 2016 Regulatory Fees, Public Notice, 2016 WL 4625515 (OMD Sep. 6, 2016).

6 Payment Methods and Procedures for Fiscal Year 2017 Regulatory Fees, Public Notice, 2017 WL 3953380 (OMD Sep. 6, 2017).

7 Payment Methods and Procedures for Fiscal Year 2018 Regulatory Fees, Public Notice (OMD Aug. 30, 2018), available at https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-353883A1.pdf.

2019;⁸ for FY 2020, it was September 28, 2020;⁹ for FY 2021, it was September 24, 2021;¹⁰ and for FY 2022, it was September 30, 2022.¹¹ When Licensee failed to pay or only partially paid its regulatory fees by these deadlines, the Commission assessed charges that included the statutory late payment penalty required by the Act¹² and section 1.1164 of the Rules,¹³ and interest, penalties, and administrative costs required by section 3717 of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (the DCIA), section 159A(c)(2) of the Act and section 1.1940 of the Rules.¹⁴

4. The Commission's records show that Licensee currently has unpaid regulatory fee debt of \$895.94 for FY 2012; \$1,772.42 for FY 2015; \$5,046.91 for FY 2016; \$6,059.15 for FY 2017; \$4,112.90 for FY 2018; \$4,424.28 for FY 2019; \$4,536.37 for FY 2020; \$4,542.26 for FY 2021; and \$4,775.00 for FY 2022. Additional charges will continue to accrue on these debts until they are paid in full. The Commission sent Licensee demand letters in accordance with the requirements of the DCIA demanding payment of Licensee's delinquent regulatory fees.¹⁵ When Licensee did not pay the regulatory fee debts for FYs 2012, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021, the Commission transferred those debts to the United States Department of Treasury for collection.¹⁶ At the Commission's request, the United States Department of Treasury has returned all of the previously transferred regulatory fee debt to the Commission for further collection.

5. The Commission has authority under section 9A(c)(4) of the Act and section 1.1164(f) of the Rules to revoke licenses and authorizations for failure to pay regulatory fees (or related interest and penalties) in a timely fashion. Accordingly, we require Licensee to file with the Media Bureau documented evidence within sixty (60) calendar days of the date of this Order that full payment of all outstanding regulatory fee debt has been made or show cause why the payment is inapplicable or should be waived or deferred.¹⁷ Licensee is hereby notified that failure to provide such evidence of payment or to show cause within the time specified may result in revocation of Licensee's license for the Station.

⁸ *Regulatory Fee Filing Window Is Extended to Friday, September 27, 2019*, Public Notice, DA 19-881, 34 FCC Rcd 7945 (OMD Sep. 5, 2019).

⁹ *Regulatory Fee Filing Window is Extended to Monday, September 28, 2020*, Public Notice, DA 20-1131, 35 FCC Rcd 10466 (OMD Sep. 24, 2020).

¹⁰ *Payment Methods and Procedures for Fiscal Year 2021 Regulatory Fees*, Public Notice, DA 21-1112, 36 FCC Rcd 13423 (OMD Sep. 7, 2021).

¹¹ *Fiscal Year 2022 Regulatory Fee Filing Deadline is Extended to Friday, September 30, 2022, for All Regulatory Fee Payors*, Public Notice, DA 22-1023, 2022 WL 4597483 (OMD Sep. 28, 2022).

¹² 47 U.S.C. § 159(c)(3) (1993); 47 U.S.C. § 159A(c)(1) (2018). The RAY BAUM'S Act, Repack Airwaves Yielding Better Access for Users of Modern Services Act of 2018, Pub. L. No. 115-141, 132 Stat. 348, 1095, modified section 9 of the Act and added a new section 9A. Prior to October 1, 2018, when the RAY BAUM'S Act became effective, section 9(c)(1) set forth the penalties for late payment of regulatory fees. As amended by the RAY BAUM's Act, section 9A(c)(1) now sets forth those penalties.

¹³ 47 CFR § 1.1164.

¹⁴ 31 U.S.C. § 3717; 47 U.S.C. § 159A(c)(2); 47 CFR § 1.1940.

¹⁵ See 31 U.S.C. § 3711; 31 CFR § 901.2. In addition to the demand letters, the Media Bureau notified Licensee of its failure to pay the Station's regulatory fees for FY 2012 and FY 2015. See Letter from Peter H. Doyle, Chief, Audio Division, Media Bureau, to Francisco R. Montero, Esq. (MB June 18, 2015).

¹⁶ See 31 U.S.C. § 3711(g); 31 CFR §§ 285.12(c), 901.1; 47 CFR § 1.1917. The Commission retained the FY 2022 regulatory fee debt owed by Licensee and did not refer it to Treasury for further collection.

¹⁷ The Commission may waive, reduce, or defer payment of fee debt where good cause is shown and where waiver, reduction or deferral would promote the public interest. The Commission interprets this provision narrowly, granting relief only when a requesting party has shown extraordinary circumstances outweighing the public interest in recovering the cost of the Commission's regulatory services. A party seeking a waiver for financial hardship must conclusively prove financial hardship, providing copies of all such financial documents as are necessary to

(continued...)

6. Under section 9A(c)(4)(C) of the Act and section 1.1164(f) of the Rules,¹⁸ an adjudicatory hearing will not be designated unless Licensee presents a substantial and material question of fact. Further, disposition of any adjudicatory hearing will be based upon written evidence only, and Licensee will bear the burden to introduce evidence and to provide proof in any such hearing.¹⁹ Unless the Licensee substantially prevails in the hearing, the Commission may assess the Licensee for the costs of such hearing.²⁰

7. To the extent that Licensee is a respondent in other administrative proceedings, both before this agency and other federal agencies, action in this proceeding is without prejudice to action in those proceedings. Further, the existence of any such proceedings and matters raised therein are not considered in this proceeding.

III. ORDERING CLAUSES

8. Accordingly, **IT IS ORDERED** that, pursuant to section 9A(c)(4) of the Act and sections 0.11, 0.61, 0.231, 0.283 and 1.1164(f) of the Rules,²¹ Bravo Broadcasting Company, Inc., is hereby **ORDERED TO PAY TO THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION** within sixty (60) calendar days of the date of this Order the outstanding regulatory fees for FYs 2012, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022, **OR SHOW CAUSE** to the Commission within sixty (60) calendar days of the date of this Order why these regulatory fees are inapplicable or should otherwise be waived or deferred.

9. **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that payment of the delinquent regulatory fee debt must be made by wire transfer and must include the FRN referenced above. Additional wire transfer instructions are as follows:

ABA Routing Number 021030004

Receiving Bank:
TREAS NYC
33 Liberty St.
New York, NY 10045

(BNF) Beneficiary: FCC
Account #: 27000001
OBI Field (skip one space between each information item)

Bravo Broadcasting Company, Inc., must provide the Payer FRN (if different than the FRN referenced above) and a contact phone number.

Bravo Broadcasting Company, Inc., must fax a copy of the wire transfer confirmation to the FCC at (202) 418-2843 or send the wire transfer confirmation copy to the FCC via email to RROGWireFaxes@fcc.gov on the same day the wire transfer is initiated.

10. **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Bravo Broadcasting Company, Inc., must submit a completed FCC Form 159 (Remittance Advice) at the time of payment. The FCC Form 159 must be faxed to the FCC at (202) 418-2843. An FCC Form 159 and detailed instructions for completing the form

show that it lacks sufficient funds to pay its regulatory fees and maintain its service to the public. *Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2019*, MD Docket 19-105, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 34 FCC Rcd 8189, 8207-08, paras. 49-51 (2019).

¹⁸ 47 U.S.C. § 159A(c)(4)(C)(i); 47 CFR § 1.1164(f)(1).

¹⁹ 47 U.S.C. § 159A(c)(4)(C)(ii); 47 CFR § 1.1164(f)(2).

²⁰ 47 U.S.C. § 159A(c)(4)(C)(ii)(iii); 47 CFR § 1.1164(f)(3).

²¹ 47 U.S.C. § 159A(c)(4); 47 CFR §§ 0.11, 0.61, 0.231, 0.283 and 1.1164(f).

may be obtained at http://www.fcc.gov/Forms/Forms_159/159.pdf. When completing the FCC Form 159, Bravo Broadcasting Company, Inc., must enter its FRN in block number 23A (call sign/other ID) and enter the following payment codes for the fiscal years involved in block number 24A (payment type code): 1227(for FY 2012); 1527 (for FY 2015); 1637 (for FY 2016); 1737 (for FY 2017); 1837 (for FY 2018), 1937 (for FY 2019); 2027(for FY 2020); 2127(for FY 2021); and 2227(for FY 2022).

11. **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that a copy of this Order shall be sent by registered mail, return receipt requested, to Bravo Broadcasting Company, Inc., 608 S. 10th Street, McAllen, TX 78501, and its counsel, Francisco R. Montero, Esq., Fletcher, Heald & Hildreth, P.L.C., 1300 N. 17th St., 11th Floor, Arlington, VA 22209.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Holly Saurer
Chief, Media Bureau

Mark Stephens,
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