



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street NE
Washington, DC 20554

News Media Information 202-418-0500
Internet: www.fcc.gov
TTY: 888-835-5322

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MEDIA BUREAU REMINDS BROADCASTERS OF UPCOMING WINDOW FOR FILING BIENNIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTS

Filing Window Opens on October 2, 2023

By this Public Notice, the Media Bureau reminds commercial and noncommercial broadcasters of their upcoming obligation to file 2023 biennial ownership reports on FCC Form 323 or 323-E, respectively. The broadcast ownership report filing window will open on October 2, 2023, and all reports must be submitted by December 1, 2023.¹

Pursuant to the Commission's rules, licensees of commercial and non-commercial full power television, Class A television, low power television, AM radio, and FM radio stations must file biennial ownership reports with the Commission in odd-numbered years.² Information contained in this year's biennial ownership reports must be current as of October 1, 2023.³ Reports must provide all information required by, and comply with all requirements set forth in, the current version of the relevant broadcast ownership report form (FCC Form 323 or 323-E).⁴

We remind stations that reporting ownership information has long been a fundamental obligation of broadcast licensees.⁵ The accurate and timely filing of such information is critical to ensuring that the Commission and the public know who owns, operates, and controls broadcast stations. Additionally, such ownership information is crucial to an understanding of the broadcast industry as a whole, including an understanding of the diversity and multiplicity of owners. Given the importance of the biennial ownership reporting requirement, we encourage licensees to prepare accordingly and to file their reports during the designated window. Commission staff may pursue enforcement action against licensees that fail to file their biennial ownership reports in a timely or complete manner.

Further information about biennial ownership reports, including answers to frequently asked questions and links to replays of past ownership report information sessions, is available on the Commission's web page at www.fcc.gov/media/ownership-report-commercial-broadcast-station-form-323.

¹ See 47 C.F.R. §§ 73.3615(a), (d); 73.6026; 74.797.

² *Id.* §§ 73.3615(a), (d); 73.6026; 74.797.

³ *Id.* §§ 73.3615(a), (d); 74.797.

⁴ *Id.* §§ 73.3615(a), (d); 74.797.

⁵ We note further that a licensee must maintain its current ownership report in the station's Online Public Inspection File, which is intended to "encourage a continuing dialogue between broadcasters and the public to ensure stations meet their obligations and remain responsive to the needs of the local community." Media Bureau, FCC, *The Public and Broadcasting* 28 (2021).

For additional information, please send an email to form323@fcc.gov.

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