



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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DA 26-540

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FCC'S MEDIA BUREAU ESTABLISHES PLEADING CYCLE AND EX PARTE PROCEDURES FOR THE EARLY RENEWAL APPLICATIONS OF BRIDGE NEWS, LLC'S LICENSES

MB Docket No. 26-130

Petition to Deny Date: June 29, 2026

Opposition Date: July 29, 2026

Reply Date: August 5, 2026

On April 27, 2026, the Video Division of the Media Bureau issued an Order directing Bridge News, LLC (Bridge) to file license renewals for all of its licensed TV stations.¹ On May 27, 2026, Bridge filed renewal applications for its 83 television licenses.² By this Public Notice, we accept Bridge's renewal applications for filing and announce procedures related to their consideration.³

The FCC licenses that the agency grants to broadcast TV stations like those granted to Bridge authorize them to operate for 8 years.⁴ Generally speaking, upon expiration of their 8-year license term, broadcast TV stations are allowed to continue operating while the FCC determines whether or not to renew their license for another term of years.⁵ While none of Bridge's licenses would ordinarily be due for renewal until 2028, at the earliest,⁶ the FCC is permitted under section 73.3539 of its rules to call for the early renewal of licenses when the agency determines that doing so is essential to the proper conduct of an investigation.⁷ As stated in the *Early Renewal Order*, "the FCC has been investigating Bridge News, LLC, for possible violations of the FCC's prohibition on unauthorized transfers of control of the station licenses."⁸ In the course of conducting that investigation, the FCC determined that calling in Bridge's licenses for early renewal was necessary to the proper conduct of that ongoing investigation.⁹ Calling the licenses in now for early renewal also provides the FCC the opportunity to determine whether

¹ *Bridge News, LLC*, Order, DA 26-413 (MB Apr. 27, 2026) (*Early Renewal Order*).

² A list of the applications is included in the Appendix.

³ The license renewal applications referred to in this Public Notice have been accepted for filing upon initial review. The Commission reserves the right to return any application if, upon further examination, it is determined to be defective and not in conformance with the Commission's rules or policies.

⁴ 47 U.S.C. § 307(c)(1).

⁵ 47 U.S.C. § 307(c)(3).

⁶ The Commission staggers license expiration dates based on the state where the station is licensed. 47 CFR § 73.1020 (Station license period).

⁷ 47 CFR § 73.3539.

⁸ *Early Renewal Order* at para. 1.

⁹ *Id.* at para 2.

Bridge has been operating in the public interest, as required by its FCC licenses.¹⁰ As trustees of the nation's airwaves,¹¹ broadcasters must operate in the public interest and, among other requirements, must maintain the character to hold a broadcast license.¹²

Standard of Review. Pursuant to section 309(k)(1) of the Act, the Commission shall grant an application for license renewal if it finds, “with respect to that station, during the preceding license term of its license,”¹³ the following:

- (A) the station has served the public interest, convenience, and necessity;
- (B) there have been no serious violations by the licensee of the Communications Act or the rules and regulations of the Commission; and
- (C) there have been no other violations by the licensee of the Communications Act or the rules and regulations of the Commission which, taken together, would constitute a pattern of abuse.¹⁴

If a broadcaster fails to meet these requirements, the FCC may move to either deny the application after notice and opportunity for hearing or grant it “on terms and conditions as are appropriate, a term less than the maximum otherwise permitted.”¹⁵

If, after notice and the opportunity for hearing, the FCC determines that a licensee has failed to meet the standard for renewal under section 309(k)(1) of the Act and that no mitigating factors justify the imposition of lesser sanctions, the FCC will issue an order denying a license renewal application and make the former licensee's channel available to other interested parties.¹⁶ If the FCC determines, after a hearing, that a licensee has met the standard for renewal, the FCC will issue an order renewing the license.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Ex Parte Status. In order to assure FCC staff's ability to discuss and obtain information needed to resolve the issues presented in this proceeding and pursuant to section 1.1200(a) of the Rules,¹⁷ we establish MB Docket No. 26-130 for this proceeding. The proceeding announced in this Public Notice

¹⁰ See, e.g., 47 U.S.C. §§ 303, 307(a), & 309(a); *FCC v. National Citizens Committee for Broadcasting*, 436 U.S. 775, 795 (1978) (stating that “the physical scarcity of broadcast frequencies, as well as problems of interference between broadcast signals, led Congress to delegate broad authority to the Commission to allocate broadcast licenses in the ‘public interest’”); *FCC Reminds Broadcasters of Their Public Interest Obligations*, Public Notice, DA 26-520 (MB May 28, 2026).

¹¹ See *Office of Communication of United Church of Christ v. FCC*, 707 F.2d 1413, 1427 (D.C. Cir. 1983) (“The clear intent of the Act was that the award of a broadcasting license should be a ‘public trust.’”).

¹² 47 U.S.C. § 308(b) (referencing character in the context of “[a]ll applications for station licenses, or modifications, or renewals thereof”); *Policy Regarding Character Qualifications In Broadcast Licensing Amendment of Rules of Broadcast Practice and Procedure Relating to Written Responses to Commission Inquiries and Making of Misrepresentations to the Commission by Permittees and Licensees*, Report, Order, and Policy Statement, 102 F.C.C.2d 1179 (1986 Character Policy Statement), recon. dismissed/denied, 1 FCC Rcd 421 (1986); *Policy Regarding Character Qualifications in Broadcast Licensing*, Policy Statement and Order, 5 FCC Rcd 3252 (1990) (1990 Character Policy Statement), modified, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 6 FCC Rcd 3448 (1991), further modified, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 7 FCC Rcd 6564 (1992).

¹³ 47 USC § 309(k)(1).

¹⁴ *Id.*

¹⁵ 47 U.S.C. § 309(k)(2). See also 47 U.S.C. § 307(c)(1) (Terms of Licenses – Initial and Renewal Licenses).

¹⁶ See 47 U.S.C. § 309(k)(3)(A)-(B). Pending the outcome of the proceeding the licenses continue to remain in effect. 47 U.S.C. § 307(c)(3).

¹⁷ 47 CFR § 1.1200(a).

shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding¹⁸ in accordance with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.¹⁹ Persons making *ex parte* presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation.²⁰ Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the *ex parte* presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation.²¹ If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter’s written comments, memoranda, or other filings in the proceeding, then the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum.²² Documents shown or given to Commission staff during *ex parte* meetings are deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with section 1.1206(b) of the Rules.²³ Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.²⁴ We strongly urge parties to use the Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) to file *ex parte* submissions.²⁵ All *ex parte* filings must be clearly labeled as such and must reference MB Docket No. 26-130.

Petitions to Deny. Interested persons must file petitions to deny no later than June 29, 2026.²⁶ Oppositions to petitions to deny must be filed no later than July 29, 2026. Replies must be filed no later than August 5, 2026.²⁷ To the extent the reply deadline specified here provides for a shorter time period than provided as a general matter in the FCC’s rules, we hereby waive that rule for good cause.²⁸ Specifically, the FCC has determined that, in the context of this proceeding, replies, if any, can be prepared and filed within the timeframe specified here and the FCC’s interest in moving efficiently in this matter to provide the licensees and stakeholders with certainty about the pleading cycle outweighs the interest in applying the general provision here. Persons and entities that properly file petitions to deny become parties to the proceeding and must be served in accordance with FCC rules.²⁹ To allow the

¹⁸ 47 CFR § 1.1206.

¹⁹ 47 CFR § 1.1200 *et seq.*

²⁰ 47 CFR § 1.1206(b)(2)(iii).

²¹ 47 CFR § 1.1206(b)(1).

²² *Id.*

²³ 47 CFR § 1.1206(b).

²⁴ 47 CFR § 1.1200 *et seq.*

²⁵ *See* 47 CFR § 1.1200(b)(2)(i).

²⁶ For purposes of filing a Petition to Deny against a license renewal application, the Commission’s rules only establish a deadline in reference to “timely filed” and “not timely filed” applications. 47 CFR § 73.3516(e); *Media Bureau Announces June 18, 2026 Effective Date for Amendment of Parts 1, 73, 74, and 76 of the Commission’s Rules to Update Rules Applicable to Broadcast Stations*, MB Docket No. 24-626 & GN Docket No. 25-133, DA 26-500 (MB May 19, 2026) (redesignating 47 CFR § 73.3516(e) as § 73.3584(f) effective June 18, 2026). In the absence of a specific rule governing the deadline for filing a petition to deny for an early license renewal, we rely on the requirements of the Act, which requires that interested parties be provided no less than thirty days to file and restricts grant of a license renewal application to no early than 30 days following the public notice announcing the application’s acceptance of filing. 47 U.S.C. §§ 309(b) & (d). *See* 47 CFR § 1.939 (setting forth requirements for a petition to deny).

²⁷ 47 CFR § 73.3584(b) (establishing filing deadlines for oppositions and replies). *See* 47 CFR § 1.939 (setting forth filing requirements for oppositions and replies).

²⁸ 47 C.F.R. § 1.3.

²⁹ 47 CFR § 1.47.

Commission to consider fully all substantive issues regarding the applications in as timely and efficient a manner as possible, petitioners and objectors should raise all issues in their initial filings. Replies may only address matters raised in oppositions.³⁰

Filing Procedures. All filings concerning matters referenced in this Public Notice should refer to MB Docket No. 26-130, as well as the specific file numbers of the individual applications or other matters to which the filings pertain. Submissions in this proceeding must be filed electronically (i.e., through ECFS) or by filing paper copies.

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs>.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing. Filings can be sent by commercial overnight courier, first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail, or by hand delivery. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission and reference MB Docket No. 26-130.
 - Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701.
 - U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554.
 - Hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary are accepted between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by the FCC's mailing contractor at 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.

Availability of Documents. Applications in this proceeding are available electronically through the Commission's Licensing and Management System (LMS) at the file numbers in the Attachment. All other documents (e.g., *ex parte* submissions, petitions to deny, oppositions, and replies) will be publicly available online through ECFS.

People with Disabilities. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).

For further information, contact David Brown at (202) 418-1645 or Chris Robbins at (202) 418-0685. For press inquiries, contact Nancy Murphy at (202) 418-1043.

This action is taken by the Chief, Video Division, Media Bureau, pursuant to authority delegated by sections 0.61 and 0.283 of the Commission's Rules.³¹

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³⁰ 47 CFR § 1.45(c).

³¹ 47 CFR §§ 0.61 & 0.283.

Appendix³²

Fac ID	Call Sign	City	State	Renewal File Number
66549	WJGN-CD	CHESAPEAKE	VA	0000298167
167158	WTNG-CD	ROCKFISH	NC	0000298238†
10548	WHDC-LD	CHARLESTON	SC	0000298241*
69449	WSCG-LD	BEAUFORT, ETC.	SC	0000298240*
182003	WFDY-LD	MYRTLE BEACH	SC	0000298242*
39420	WWRJ-LD	JACKSONVILLE	FL	0000298223†
4323	W29FX-D	KEY WEST	FL	0000298225*
126708	W16CA-D	HOMESTEAD	FL	0000298227*
6046	WDGT-LD	MIAMI	FL	0000298224*
183761	WEWF-LD	JUPITER	FL	0000298226*
128367	WOFT-LD	ORLANDO	FL	0000298229*
185537	WQFT-LD	OCALA	FL	0000298232*
128357	WGCT-LD	TAMPA	FL	0000298231*
69450	WGCB-LD	HINESVILLE-RICHMOND	GA	0000298244*
57547	KTVV-LD	HOT SPRINGS	AR	0000298235†
48534	KKAF-LD	FAYETTEVILLE	AR	0000298237*
58284	KHMF-LD	FORT SMITH	AR	0000298236*
6837	WJYL-CD	JEFFERSONVILLE	IN	0000298233†
168068	WIIW-LD	NASHVILLE	TN	0000298234*
168737	WHNE-LD	DETROIT	MI	0000298217†
184267	WMNN-LD	LAKE CITY	MI	0000298220*
16651	WXII-LD	CEDAR	MI	0000298219*
129745	WCHU-LD	OAKWOOD HILLS	IL	0000298164*
37238	W36EX-D	ALTON	IL	0000298163†
191352	KUKC-LD	KANSAS CITY	MO	0000298214†
191416	WUMN-LD	MINNEAPOLIS	MN	0000298211†
32281	KADF-LD	AUSTIN	TX	0000298204†
67880	KMBA-LD	AUSTIN	TX	0000298207*
6690	KVVV-LD	HOUSTON	TX	0000298205*
125586	KVHC-LD	SAN ANTONIO	TX	0000298206*
182050	KULC-LD	PORT ARTHUR	TX	0000298210*
125712	K34MX-D	ODESSA	TX	0000298208*
183495	K03IJ-D	COLLEGE STATION	TX	0000298209*
182107	KGLR-LD	SPARKS	NV	0000298173*
74409	KKIC-LD	BOISE	ID	0000298174*
186316	KXCY-LD	CHEYENNE	WY	0000298171*
67876	KDNU-LD	LAS VEGAS	NV	0000298178*
33773	KVPA-LD	PHOENIX	AZ	0000298177*
168239	KSVN-CD	OGDEN	UT	0000298168†

³² The stations in this Appendix are listed as licensed to Bridge News, LLC, in the Commission's Licensing and Management System as of the date of the Early Renewal Order. Bridge News must notify the Media Bureau to the extent any stations have been inadvertently omitted or any stations in this list are no longer licensed. Applications marked with a "*" were filed as part of an application group. Applications marked with a † were filed as an application group's lead application.

Fac ID	Call Sign	City	State	Renewal File Number
69693	KCVB-LD	LOGAN	UT	0000298176*
182186	K15NG-D	MESQUITE	NV	0000298170*
28566	KFLA-LD	LOS ANGELES	CA	000028566†
186672	K27PE-D	GUSTINE	CA	0000298196*
20559	KBNK-LD	FRESNO	CA	0000298201*
34578	KSAO-LD	SACRAMENTO	CA	0000298202*
41123	KBNI-LD	SANTA MARIA	CA	0000298203*
31355	KWSM-LD	SANTA MARIA	CA	0000298197*
10536	KRET-CD	PALM SPRINGS	CA	0000298193
168576	KSDX-LD	SAN DIEGO	CA	0000298195*
60519	KTNL-TV	SITKA	AK	0000298186†
25221	KDMD	ANCHORAGE	AK	0000298185
25219	KLDY-LD	ANCHORAGE	AK	0000298187*
183022	K06QP-D	JUNEAU	AK	0000298188*
25222	K25QK-D	ANCHORAGE	AK	0000298190*
83180	KKAI	KAILUA	HI	0000298184
89714	KUPU	WAIMANALO	HI	0000298183
182846	KBLT-LD	ANCHORAGE	AK	0000298191*
185411	K21LB-D	LINCOLN CITY	OR	0000298189*
186686	WVCC-LD	WESTMORELAND	NH	0000298181
14317	WBXZ-LD	BUFFALO	NY	0000298160†
127812	WHTV-LD	NEW YORK	NY	0000298162*
74018	WVBG-LD	GREENWICH	NY	0000298161*
129632	W24EU-D	ERIE	PA	0000298180*
68395	WBYD-CD	PITTSBURGH	PA	0000298179†
50144	WIVX-LD	CLEVELAND	OH	0000298221*
168787	KBNY-LD	MONTEREY	CA	0000298198*
50148	W27DG-D	MILLERSBURG	OH	0000298218*
129642	KILA-LD	CHERRY VALLEY	CA	0000298200*
130272	KJOU-LD	BAKERSFIELD	CA	0000298199*
181856	WRDP-LD	COLUMBUS	GA	0000298243†
182020	W25FQ-D	FLORENCE	SC	0000298239*
182301	W19EX-D	GAINESVILLE	FL	0000298228*
182322	WBMN-LD	OCALA	FL	0000298230*
183492	K06PT-D	COLUMBIA	MO	0000298215*
183588	WZVC-LD	ATHENS	GA	0000298246*
184641	K26PF-D	SAINT CLOUD	MN	0000298212*
185711	W33ER-D	AUGUSTA	GA	0000298245*
185777	W25FW-D	COLUMBUS	GA	0000298247*
186640	K34QY-D	GOLDEN VALLEY	AZ	0000298175*
186641	K08QN-D	GOLDEN VALLEY	AZ	0000298169*
186719	K19NF-D	SOCORRO	NM	0000298172*
187860	K06QJ-D	SIOUX FALLS	SD	0000298213*
188768	W17EH-D	QUINCY	IL	0000298165*