



NEWS

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FCC INVESTIGATION LEADS TO SEIZURE OF UNLICENSED FM RADIO EQUIPMENT

Washington, D.C. – Today, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced that an investigation by the FCC's Enforcement Bureau led to the seizure of unlicensed broadcast radio equipment operated by Mr. Amil Lugo-González. The station had been operating on 99.5 MHz from Jayuya, Puerto Rico. The FCC San Juan Office, working in conjunction with the United States Marshals Service and the Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico, seized the broadcasting equipment on May 21, 2002. The FCC, on more than one occasion, had issued notices to Mr. Lugo-González directing him to cease operation of the unlicensed station.

The operation of an unlicensed broadcast station is a violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. Operators of illegal unlicensed broadcast stations may be subject to monetary penalties of up to \$11,000 per violation, seizure by court order of all radio equipment involved in the operation, and court order directing that those persons cease operation of the unlicensed station. In addition, unlicensed operators may be subject to criminal sanctions, including fines and imprisonment.

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