



**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
**ENFORCEMENT BUREAU**  
Northeast Region

**Boston Office**  
1 Batterymarch Park  
Quincy, MA 02169

February 22, 2010

Joseph J. McDonough  
Boxford, MA

**NOTICE OF UNLICENSED OPERATION**

Case Number: EB-09-BS-0029  
Document Number: W201032260016

The Boston Office received information that an unlicensed broadcast radio station on 87.9 MHz was allegedly operating in Boxford, MA. On January 28, 2010, agents from this office confirmed by direction finding techniques that radio signals on frequency 87.9 MHz were emanating from your residence in Boxford, MA. The Commission's records show that no license was issued for operation of a broadcast station on 87.9 MHz at this location in Boxford, MA.

Radio stations must be licensed by the FCC pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 301. The only exception to this licensing requirement is for certain transmitters using or operating at a power level or mode of operation that complies with the standards established in Part 15 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 15.1 *et seq.* Operation of a broadcast station on 87.9 MHz, however, is not authorized at any field strength level. *See* 47 C.F.R. §15.209(a).<sup>1</sup> Thus, this station is operating in violation of 47 U.S.C. § 301.

You are hereby warned that operation of radio transmitting equipment without a valid radio station authorization constitutes a violation of the Federal laws cited above and could subject the operator to severe penalties, including, but not limited to, substantial monetary fines, *in rem* arrest action against the offending radio equipment, and criminal sanctions including imprisonment. (*see* 47 U.S.C. §§ 401, 501, 503 and 510).

**UNLICENSED OPERATION OF THIS RADIO STATION MUST BE DISCONTINUED IMMEDIATELY.**

You have ten (10) days from the date of this notice to respond with any evidence that you have authority to operate granted by the FCC. Your response should be sent to the address in the

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<sup>1</sup> Although not applicable to a broadcast station, we note that periodic operation on 87.9 MHz would be permitted under 47 C.F.R. § 15.231.

letterhead and reference the listed case and document number. Under the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. § 552a(e)(3), we are informing you that the Commission's staff will use all relevant material information before it to determine what, if any, enforcement action is required to ensure your compliance with FCC Rules. This will include any information that you disclose in your reply.

You may contact this office if you have any questions.

Dennis Loria  
District Director  
Boston Office

Attachments:

Excerpts from the Communications Act of 1934, As Amended  
Enforcement Bureau, "Inspection Fact Sheet", March 2005