

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
**445 TWELFTH STREET SW**  
**WASHINGTON DC 20554**

**MEDIA BUREAU**  
**AUDIO DIVISION**  
**APPLICATION STATUS:** (202) 418-2730  
**HOME PAGE:** [www.fcc.gov/media/radio/audio-division](http://www.fcc.gov/media/radio/audio-division)

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February 25, 2019

Family Stations, Inc.  
112 North Elm Street  
Shenandoah, IA 51601

Re: Family Stations, Inc.  
WBMD(AM), Baltimore, MD  
Facility Identification Number: 1913  
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed February 15, 2019, on behalf of Family Stations, Inc. ("FSI"). FSI requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WBMD(AM) from an alternate site location.<sup>1</sup> In support of the request, FSI states that in April of 2018 the station's sublease was terminated and the station ceased broadcasting from its currently licensed site. Therefore, in order for the station to resume broadcast operations, an STA is requested for WBMD(AM) to relocate to the site of commonly owned station WFSI(AM).

Specifically, WBMD(AM) requests an STA to operate non-directionally during daytime hours with a power of 250 watts. Operation is proposed from tower #3 of the WFSI(AM) three tower directional array. The FCC Antenna Structure Registration Number for the existing tower is 1029962.

STA requests which involve a change in transmitter site must include four critical elements: (1) Loss of the licensed site must be beyond the licensee's control; (2) STA facilities must continue to provide service to the licensed community; (3) STA facilities must maintain, as closely as practicable, the licensed service area<sup>2</sup> without extending it; (4) STA facilities cannot involve the construction of towers intended for permanent use by the station requesting the STA.

Accordingly, the request for STA is GRANTED.

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<sup>1</sup> WBMD(AM) is licensed for operation on 750 kHz with a daytime power of 0.73 kilowatt, employing a non-directional antenna pattern (NDD-D).

<sup>2</sup> For AM - 0.5 mV/m contour; for FM - 1.0 mV/m contour.

Station WBMD(AM) may operate with the following facilities:

Geographic coordinates	39° 18' 42" N, 76° 29' 29" W (NAD 1927)
Frequency	750 KHz
Hours of operation	Daytime only
Operating power	0.25 kilowatt
Antenna type	Existing 75.2 meter (247 foot) tower
ASRN	1029962
Electrical height of radiator	66.3°
Antenna efficiency	145.1 mV/m/kW at 1 km

It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WBMD(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored. WBMD(AM) must use whatever means are necessary to protect workers and the public from exposure to radio frequency radiation in excess of the Commission's exposure guidelines. *See* 47 CFR § 1.1310.

This authority expires on **August 24, 2019**.

**Notwithstanding the grant of this STA or the expiration date specified herein, the station's license will expire as a matter of law if broadcast operations do not commence by 12:01 a.m., April 18, 2019.** *See* Pub. Law No. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56, Section 403(1)(1996) and *Order, Silent Station Authorizations*, FCC 96-218 (released May 17, 1996). *See also Public Notice, Expedited Processing of Applications Filed by Silent Stations*, DA 96-818 (May 22, 1996). The licensee must notify the Audio Division immediately upon resumption of broadcasting.

**STA Advisory:** Section 309(f) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, authorizes the Commission to grant STA in cases of "extraordinary circumstances requiring temporary authorizations in the public interest and when delay in the institution of the temporary operations would seriously prejudice the public interest." However, Section 309(f) is not a means by which a licensee/permittee may circumvent established processing procedures which require the filing of an application, nor is it a means by which a broadcaster may enhance his facility or make operation more convenient for the broadcaster. Stations operating with less than licensed facilities under temporary authorities can be viewed as receiving the benefit of a larger protection area than that in which they are currently providing service.

Accordingly, Special Temporary Authorities by nature are to be temporary and are not intended for extended use. Licensees of stations operating under temporary authorities are reminded that timely restoration of permanent facilities is the responsibility of the licensee and should be undertaken expeditiously. Any request for extension of special temporary authorities carries an increased burden with each subsequent request.

Therefore, requests for extension of STA will be granted only where the licensee can show that one or more of the following criteria have been met:

- Restoration of licensed facilities is complete and testing is underway;
- Substantial progress has been made during the most recent STA period toward restoration of licensed operation; or
- No progress has been made during the most recent STA period for reasons clearly beyond the licensee's control, and the licensee has taken all possible steps to expeditiously resolve the problem

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerome J. Manarchuck". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J" and a long, sweeping tail.

Jerome J. Manarchuck  
Audio Division  
Media Bureau

cc: Matthew H. McCormick, Esq. (via email only)