

# PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

445 12th STREET, S.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

News media information 202/418-0500 Fax-On-Demand 202/418-2830 Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov> <ftp.fcc.gov>

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## MASS MEDIA BUREAU IMPLEMENTS COMMUNITY BROADCASTERS PROTECTION ACT OF 1999

**Released: December 13, 1999**

On November 29, 1999, the Community Broadcasters Protection Act of 1999 was signed into law. That legislation provides that a low power television licensee may convert the secondary status of its station to the new Class A status, provided it can satisfy certain statutorily-established criteria.

The legislation directs the Commission to notify low power television station licensees of the requirements for a Class A designation. To become eligible for a Class A certificate of eligibility, the licensee's station must, during the 90-day period ending November 28, 1999, have: (1) broadcast a minimum of 18 hours per day; (2) broadcast an average of at least 3 hours per week of programming produced within the market area served by the station or by a group of commonly-controlled low power television stations; and (3) been in compliance with the Commission's regulations applicable to the low power television service. In the event that a low power television licensee is not able to satisfy the foregoing criteria, the Commission is nevertheless empowered by the legislation to issue a certificate of eligibility if it determines that the public interest, convenience and necessity would be served thereby.

The Commission is now sending every low power television licensee a Statement of Eligibility for Class A Low Power Television Station Status. A low power television licensee that intends to convert to Class A status in accordance with the procedures and standards set forth in the Community Broadcasters Protection Act of 1999, must complete the referenced statement and, in accord with the legislation, submit it to the Commission no later than Friday, January 28, 2000. This statement should be directed to the following address:

Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554  
Attention: Video Services Division, 2-A665

The person certifying to the accuracy of the information in the Statement must be the individual licensee, a general partner in the licensee partnership, or an appropriate officer in the licensee corporation or association.

For further information, please contact Keith Larson at Telephone Number (202) 418-2600 or Hossein Hashemzadeh at Telephone Number (202) 418-1600.

By: Chief, Mass Media Bureau

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