

IOWA BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION

FAST NEWS

TO: General Managers

ROUTE TO: All Departments

www.iowabroadcasters.com

9-19-08

ATTENTION: ALL IOWA TV STATIONS

A special Iowa Broadcast/Cable Summit is being held on October 7 from 8:00-10:00am at the Hotel Fort Des Moines. It is being held free of charge in conjunction with the annual Iowa DTV Symposium taking place October 7-9 and being presented by William Check, Senior V.P. of NCTA and David Donovan, President of MSTV. All TV station managers and engineers are urged to talk and coordinate with cable systems that will be using their digital signals. This special 2-hour summit will provide the opportunity for an open exchange and address many of the unresolved cable/broadcast issues involved in DTV transition. All Iowa TV stations are encouraged to attend! For more information visit <http://www.iptv.org/dtv> or contact Karen Schaffer at [515-242-4139](tel:515-242-4139).

REGULATORY FEES REMINDER

A Reminder -- The fiscal year 2008 Annual Regulatory Fees must be paid to the FCC by **September 25, 2008**. Payment may be made by check, money order, credit card, electronic debit or wire transfer, and can be submitted either in paper or electronically. Payments not made by 11:59 p.m. on September 25 will face the addition of a 25 percent late fee. For details, the FCC has a [Web page](#), which includes instructions for submitting the regulatory fees. The site also contains a "Frequently Asked Questions" section and links to the database where you can submit fees electronically. It also has a "look-up" database to allow stations to confirm the amount owed for their stations, which is available at www.fccfees.com. In addition, for those needing more detail, the commission's full Order containing the fees for all types of licensees is available on the [FCC's Web site](#).

INSPECTIONS BEGIN OCTOBER 6

Over 200 Iowa radio and television stations have signed up for the 2008 IBA Alternative FCC Inspection Program. Inspections will begin on **October 6th** and run through the end of December. Inspector Benner will be notifying all stations by mail at least one week prior to inspection. The Iowa inspection schedule is extremely tight and inspections CAN NOT be rescheduled - no exceptions. Watch your mail for your inspection information to be arriving soon.

FCC FINES

A Pennsylvania AM station was fined \$15,000 for Failing to Operate in Compliance with Its Authorization, Operating a Studio Transmitter Link on an Unauthorized Frequency and Failing to Maintain a Complete Public Inspection File. A Colorado radio station and an Idaho radio station each have been fined \$7,000 for Failing to Enclose Antenna Structures. This according to the August edition of the *FCC Enforcement Monitor*, a publication of the Washington law firm, Pillsbury, Winthrop, Shaw Pittman, LLP.

ALL IOWA STATIONS DUE

October 1 – Annual EEO Public File Report. All Iowa radio and television Station Employment Units must place in their Public Inspection File and post on their website, if they have a website. Under the FCC's rule that became effective as of March 10, 2003, all radio/TV station employment units ("SEUs"), regardless of staff size, must afford equal employment opportunity to all qualified persons and practice nondiscrimination in employment. In addition, those SEUs with five or more full-time employees ("Nonexempt SEUs") must also comply with the FCC's three-prong outreach requirements. Specifically, all Nonexempt SEUs must (i) broadly and inclusively disseminate information about every full-time job opening except in exigent circumstances, (ii) send notifications of full-time job vacancies to referral organizations that have requested such notification, and (iii) earn a certain minimum number of credits, based on participation in various non-vacancy specific outreach initiatives suggested by the FCC, during each of the four, two-year segments that comprise a station's eight-year license term. In addition, a Nonexempt SEU must prepare and place its Annual EEO Public File Report in its public inspection file and post it on the website of all stations comprising the SEU on the anniversary date of the filing of its license renewal application with the FCC. The Annual EEO Public File Report summarizes the SEU's EEO activities during the previous 12 months. In all cases, adequate records must be maintained. Stations must also submit the most recent two such Annual EEO Public File Reports with their license renewal applications, and again at the midpoint of their license terms.

October 10 – Quarterly Issues Programs Lists. All Iowa radio and television stations, commercial and noncommercial, must prepare and place in their public inspection files a list of important issues facing their communities, and the programs aired in the months of July, August, and September dealing with those issues. Dues paying members can contact one of the two free IBA Legal Hotlines if you have any questions... IBA Legal Hotline attorneys Gene LaSuer and Sharon Malheiro, [515-288-2500](tel:515-288-2500) genelasuer@davisbrownlaw.com / sharonmalheiro@davisbrownlaw.com or Washington, DC Hotline attorney David Oxenford at Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP [202-973-4258](tel:202-973-4258) davidoxenford@dwt.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The 2009 IBA Summer Convention will be held **June 26th** in West Des Moines. Details in the months ahead.

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"Radio and television stations working to promote, protect and enhance free over-the-air broadcasting"