

SINCLAIR

BROADCAST GROUP

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SINCLAIR: NO SPECIAL DEAL WITH TRUMP CAMPAIGN, EQUAL ACCESS OFFERED TO BOTH PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGNS

BALTIMORE – The following statement is from Scott Livingston, Vice President of News at Sinclair Broadcast Group:

“Over the past three days, there have been numerous misleading press stories about Sinclair’s election coverage. I now need to set the record straight. We offered both major presidential candidates the same opportunities to be interviewed by our local anchors on a regular basis. There was no ‘deal’ on the tone, tenor, or subject of the interviews. We did not offer favorable or preferential treatment to either candidate, nor did we ever waiver from our commitment to provide rigorous, thoughtful, and thorough coverage to the millions who rely on local television.

It is in everyone’s best interest that candidates speak to voters through interviews with professional reporters. Our outreach to both Secretary Clinton’s and President-elect Trump’s campaigns was meant to deliver meaningful, informative newscasts to our local viewers. We stand behind that practice.”

[The issue is best put to rest by Andrew Seaman, the chair of the Society of Professional Journalists’ ethics committee.](#)

‘After hearing from Sinclair’s representatives and viewing emails between the company and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s campaign, I don’t believe the interview arrangements fell outside what would be considered ethical journalism. Therefore, I apologize to Sinclair for assuming the Politico story, which was based off third-party reports, was accurate. From what I can tell, the situation is a victim of a game of telephone. One person makes a statement, another person repeats that statement with some errors and it builds upon itself. Unfortunately, I made myself part of the chain by not reaching out to Sinclair for clarification. I’m sorry.’

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Sinclair is one of the largest and most diversified television broadcasting companies in the country. Including pending transactions, Sinclair, operates and/or provides services to 173 television stations in 81 markets, broadcasting 482 channels and having affiliations with all the major networks. Sinclair is the leading local news provider in the country, as well as a producer of live sports content. Sinclair’s content is delivered via multiple-platforms, including over-the-

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air, multi-channel video program distributors, and digital platforms. The Company regularly uses its website as a key source of company information which can be accessed at www.sbg.net.