

Sinclair Asks Court to Direct the Federal Communications Commission To Take Action

Petitions for Writ of Mandamus on Pending Television License Transfers

BALTIMORE, Sept. 17 /PRNewswire/ --

Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: SBGI) announced that on September 10th, it petitioned the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit to direct the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to cease its bad faith delay and take prompt action to approve pending applications for the transfer of licenses to Sinclair on 15 television stations. Sinclair currently programs the stations pursuant to Time Brokerage Agreements.

The license transfers at issue have been pending approval by the FCC for over three years in some instances, and in all instances, well beyond the 180 day worst-case scenario time frame the FCC has publicly announced it will act on such applications.

As stated in the Petition, the FCC's inaction regarding the applications has evidently been caused by the refusal of Sinclair to accept unreasonable and legally objectionable demands by the Commission to dispose of broadcast stations solely on the basis of race, rather than to the highest bidder. The Petition notes that similar applications for assignments filed later by others have already been acted on and granted.

The transfers at issue have all been approved by the Department of Justice and comply with current FCC multiple ownership rules.

Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc., one of the largest and most diversified television broadcasting companies, currently owns and operates, or programs, 62 television stations in 40 markets. Sinclair's television group includes FOX, WB, ABC, CBS, NBC, and UPN affiliates and reaches approximately 25.0% of all U.S. television households. For more information, please visit Sinclair's website at www.sbgi.net.

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