

Federal Communications Commission Approves Sinclair Broadcast Group's License Transfers

BALTIMORE, Dec. 12 /PRNewswire/ --

Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: SBGI) announced today that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) approved 14 of Sinclair's pending 15 applications of television licenses. Sinclair has been programming these stations pursuant to Time Brokerage Agreements and expects to close on the license transfers immediately. Upon closing, the transactions will establish television duopolies (ownership of two television stations in the same market) in 9 additional markets, the most of any broadcaster. Sinclair currently has a duopoly in Las Vegas, NV.

The television stations to be acquired are:

WCWB-TV (WB 22) Pittsburgh, PA
WRDC-TV (UPN 28) Raleigh, NC
WVTV-TV (WB 18) Milwaukee, WI
WZTV-TV (FOX 17) Nashville, TN
WUXP-TV (UPN 30) Nashville, TN
KRRT-TV (WB 35) San Antonio, TX
WUTV-TV (FOX 29) Buffalo, NY
WNYO-TV (WB 49) Buffalo, NY
KOKH-TV (FOX 25) Oklahoma City, OK
WXLV-TV (ABC 45) Greensboro, NC
WUPN-TV (UPN 48) Greensboro, NC
WABM-TV (UPN 68) Birmingham, AL
WRLH-TV (FOX 35) Richmond, VA
WMSN-TV (FOX 47) Madison, WI

"We are pleased to finally have closure on these transactions," said David Smith, President and Chief Executive Officer of Sinclair. "We have been awaiting FCC approval of many of these transfers for as long as three years."

The FCC did not grant the license transfer for WBSC-TV in Anderson, South Carolina stating that it did not meet the "8-voices test." Sinclair is currently examining the factual basis for the FCC's decision in this regard. In addition, Sinclair currently has a challenge pending to the validity of the 8-voices test in the Federal Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

In granting the applications, the FCC concluded that Sinclair neither manifested an intent to deceive the FCC nor intended to violate the Communications ACT or the rules of the FCC. The FCC charged that Sinclair impermissibly exercised de facto control over its LMA partner, Glencairn LTD, merely as a result of miscalculations on the part of Sinclair made in reliance on past FCC staff decisions involving similar facts. The FCC nonetheless, advised Sinclair that earlier FCC staff decisions were not precedent setting and would therefore impose a forfeiture of \$40,000 as a result of the technical violation of the FCC's rules as determined by the FCC. Sinclair disagrees with the FCC's decision to impose a forfeiture and has 30 days to challenge the decision. The Company is currently considering its options in this regard.

Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc., one of the largest and most diversified television broadcasting companies, currently owns and operates, programs, or provides sales services to 63 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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Web site: <http://www.sbgi.net>

CONTACT: David Amy, EVP & CFO, or Lucy Rutishauser, Treasurer, or Barry Faber, General Counsel, +1-410-568-1500, all of Sinclair Broadcast Group

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