



Press Statement

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MMTC Urges FCC to Repeal the Main Studio Rule

Washington, DC (March 21, 2016): Today, the Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC) filed comments with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) calling for the elimination of the FCC's Main Studio Rule because it operates as a market entry barrier inhibiting minority ownership.

MMTC holds that the Main Studio Rule – that all full-power broadcasters must maintain a studio either within its city of license, or at another site either within 25 miles of its city of license or within the city-grade contour of any station licensed to the same city of license as the station – is a 20th century holdover that should be abolished or modified to recognize 21st century technologies.

“It is time to amend the Main Studio Rule to reflect the times,” stated MMTC President and CEO Kim Keenan. “Reconciling the rules with the state of technology is within the public interest.”

MMTC holds that:

1. Elimination of the Main Studio Rule will provide broadcasters with a substantial opportunity to benefit from competitive cost efficiencies;
2. If the Commission does not eliminate the Main Studio Rule, it should provide whatever tangible and immediate relief it can;
3. The Commission should immediately begin granting main studio waivers to both non-commercial and commercial broadcasters utilizing a more relaxed interpretation of the “good cause” standard;
4. The Commission should not specify an inflexible distance standard; and
5. The Commission should relax staffing requirements.

MMTC submits that the Main Studio Rule acts as a market entry barrier to minority broadcasters and no longer serves a legitimate purpose. As such, the rule's elimination would promote diversity and the revitalization of radio.

MMTC's comments are available online, [here](#).

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About MMTC:

The Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC) is a non-partisan, national nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and preserving equal opportunity and civil rights in the mass media, telecommunications and broadband industries, and closing the digital divide. MMTC is generally recognized as the nation's leading advocate for minority advancement in communications.