



## **FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

**[OMB 3060-0010; FR ID 287162]**

### **Information Collection Being Submitted for Review and Approval to Office of Management and Budget**

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or the Commission) invites the general public and other Federal Agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection. Pursuant to the Small Business Paperwork Relief Act of 2002, the FCC seeks specific comment on how it might “further reduce the information collection burden for small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees.”

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted on or before **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review - Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function. Your comment must be submitted into [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov) per the above instructions for it to be considered. In addition to submitting in [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov) also send a copy of your comment on the proposed information collection to Cathy Williams, FCC, via email to [PRA@fcc.gov](mailto:PRA@fcc.gov) and to [Cathy.Williams@fcc.gov](mailto:Cathy.Williams@fcc.gov). Include in the comments the OMB control number as shown in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information or copies of the information collection, contact Cathy Williams at (202) 418-2918. To view a copy of this information collection request (ICR) submitted to OMB: (1) go to the web page <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>, (2) look for the section of the Web page called

"Currently Under Review," (3) click on the downward-pointing arrow in the "Select Agency" box below the "Currently Under Review" heading, (4) select "Federal Communications Commission" from the list of agencies presented in the "Select Agency" box, (5) click the "Submit" button to the right of the "Select Agency" box, (6) when the list of FCC ICRs currently under review appears, look for the Title of this ICR and then click on the ICR Reference Number. A copy of the FCC submission to OMB will be displayed.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Commission may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the PRA that does not display a valid OMB control number.

As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), the FCC invited the general public and other Federal Agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection.

Comments are requested concerning: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimates; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Pursuant to the Small Business Paperwork Relief Act of 2002, Public Law 107-198, see 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(4), the FCC seeks specific comment on how it might "further reduce the information collection burden for small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees."

*OMB Control Number:* 3060-0010.

*Title:* Ownership Report for Commercial Broadcast Stations, FCC Form 323; Section 73.3615, Ownership Reports; Section 74.797, Biennial Ownership Reports.

*Form Number:* FCC Form 323.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities; not-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal Governments.

*Number of Respondents:* 4,340 respondents; 4,340 responses.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 1.5 to 2.5 hours.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion reporting requirement; biennial reporting requirement.

Obligation to Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority for these collections are contained in 47 U.S.C. 151, 152(a), 154(i), 257, 303(r), 307, 309, and 310.

*Total Annual Burden:* 9,620 hours.

*Total Annual Cost:* \$10,220,980.

*Needs and Uses:* On January 20, 2016, the Commission released a Report and Order, Second Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration in MB Docket Nos. 07-294, 10-103, and MD Docket No. 10-234 (Second Report and Order). The Second Report and Order refines the collection of data reported on FCC Form 323, Ownership Report for Commercial Broadcast Stations, and FCC Form 323-E, Ownership Report for Noncommercial Broadcast Stations. Specifically, the Second Report and Order implements a Restricted Use FRN (RUFNRN) within the Commission's Registration System (CORES) that individuals may use solely for the purpose of broadcast ownership report filings; eliminates the availability of the Special Use FRN (SUFNRN) for broadcast station ownership reports, except in very limited circumstances; prescribes revisions to Form 323-E that conform the reporting requirements for noncommercial educational (NCE) broadcast stations more closely to those for commercial stations; and makes a number of significant changes to the Commission's reporting requirements that reduce the filing burdens on broadcasters, streamline the process, and improve data quality. These enhancements enable the Commission to obtain data reflecting a useful, accurate, and thorough assessment of minority and female broadcast station ownership in the United States while reducing certain filing burdens.

Currently, Form 323, Section II-A/II-B, Question 2.c asks “Does the Respondent or any interest holder reported in response to Question 2(a) hold an attributable interest in any newspaper entities in the same market as any station for which this report is filed, as defined in 47 CFR 73.3555?”

This question was relevant to the Commission's Newspaper/Broadcast Cross-Ownership Rule, which prohibited common ownership of a full-power broadcast station and a daily newspaper if the station's contour (defined separately by type of station) completely encompassed the newspaper's city of publication and the station and newspaper were in the same relevant Nielsen market. On November 20, 2017, the Commission released an Order on Reconsideration and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in MB Docket Nos, 04-256, 07-294, 09-182, 14-50, and 17-289 (Order on Reconsideration). Among other things, the Order on Reconsideration repealed the Newspaper/Broadcast Cross-Ownership Rule. Accordingly, Section II-A/II-B, Question 2.c will be eliminated from Form 323.

Licensees of commercial AM, FM, and full power television broadcast stations, as well as licensees of Class A and Low Power Television stations, must file FCC Form 323 every two years. Biennial Ownership Reports shall provide information accurate as of October 1 of the year in which the Report is filed. Form 323 shall be filed by December 1 in all odd-numbered years. In addition, Licensees and Permittees of commercial AM, FM, and full power television stations must file Form 323 following the consummation of a transfer of control or an assignment of a commercial AM, FM, or full power television station license or construction permit; a Permittee of a new commercial AM, FM, or full power television station must file Form 323 within 30 days after the grant of the construction permit; and a Permittee of a new commercial AM, FM, or full power television broadcast station must file Form 323 to update the initial report or to certify the continuing accuracy and completeness of the previously filed report on the date that the Permittee applies for a license to cover the construction permit.

In the case of organizational structures that include holding companies or other forms of indirect ownership, a separate Form 323 must be filed for each entity in the organizational structure that has an attributable interest in the Licensee or Permittee.

We request two non-substantive changes to Section II-B, Question 2(a) (see page 6 of the updated form for the collection). Specifically, we ask to change the text that currently reads “Citizenship, Gender, Ethnicity, and Race Information” to read “Citizenship, Sex, Ethnicity, and Race Information.” Similarly, we ask to change prompt to the right that reads “Gender”

to read “Sex” instead. We also request to make parallel modifications to the form’s instructions for Section II-B, Question 2(a) (see top of second column of page 14 of the updated Instructions), replacing the two instances of the word “gender” with the word “sex.” We request the foregoing non-substantive changes to comply with President Trump’s recent Executive Order 14168, *Defending Women From Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government* (Jan. 20, 2025).

**Federal Communications Commission.**

**Marlene Dortch,**  
*Secretary,*  
*Office of the Secretary.*

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