



Mountain Vista High School

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12 October 2017

Chairman Ajit Pai
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly
Commissioner Brendan Carr
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel
c/o Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: ET Docket No. 14-165 and GN Docket Nos. 12-268 and 14-166 Via Electronic Filing

Dear Chairman Pai, Commissioner Clyburn, Commissioner O'Rielly, Commissioner Carr, Commissioner Rosenworcel, and Ms. Dortch,

On behalf of Mountain Vista High School, located in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, that provides approximately twenty (20) performances per year to 3000 audience members and education programs to 2,400 students, I write with concern about available spectrum and protection for our wireless microphones and backstage communications devices.

Our theatre program and high school is a comprehensive, high achieving school with award winning curricular and extracurricular activities. We strive to create an environment where respect, imagination, and educating intermingle, where the students gain the strongest possible experience and knowledge, where there is pride in the theatre program, and where intellectual discovery, personal accomplishment, and positive encouragement are cultivated and savored. We want to create citizens who have a lifelong appreciation of and for the arts

I strongly support the Commission's proposal to expand Part 74 license eligibility to include persons and organizations that can demonstrate the need for professional, high-quality audio and have the capability of providing it through conscientious use of wireless microphones. We support and endorse the Comments filed in these dockets by The Performing Arts Wireless Microphone Working Group.

School theatre programs and professional performing arts organizations hold thousands of performances each year, and wireless microphones are essential to producing high-quality performances while limiting significant public safety concerns. Professional wireless capability, with successful interference protection, is essential to educational theatre, both in the training and safety of students, onstage and backstage.

Our school currently uses between 15-20 wireless microphones, in the low and high UHF channels. Our units can tune to multiple frequencies, but always within a limited range determined by the setup of the receiver. We have invested significant monies in purchasing, maintaining, and updating this equipment. Our school district partially assisted us in the move from the 700 frequencies, but the majority of our microphones have been purchased through fundraising efforts and the revenues from productions. Our most intensive application of the microphones is the yearly musical, which normal requires the vast majority of the microphones (This year's production will use 15). This production will be experienced by over 1000 people over four nights. We also use our wireless units to create amplified audio effects in all of our productions.

Because we are a school, and our primary performance space is a multiuse auditorium, we are dependent upon the use of wireless microphones to provide an optimal experience to our audiences and an authentic semi-professional learning experience for our students.

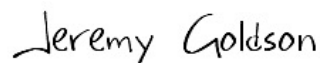
I would urge the Commission to grant a Part 74 license if an applicant can provide certification of:

- A mission statement of providing performing arts to the public;
- A history of professional-quality wireless audio presentations to audiences without interference;
- Technical guidance and frequency coordination by qualified professionals (active in audio engineering who have academic degrees or equivalent professional experience and who are familiar with radio-frequency coordination);
- A commitment to register for protection only the frequencies, times, and locations actually needed; and
- A practice of keeping logs of all wireless microphone uses, including frequencies, for all performances.

I appreciate that the Commission has sought Public Comment on this very important issue. Educational institutions should have access to reliably available spectrum with interference protection. I would request that the Commission consider the burden already borne by the performing arts community in vacating the 700 MHz band. Having already spent thousands of dollars replacing my organization's sound equipment, I am concerned about the cost of once again being forced to adapt to circumstances.

I respectfully endorse the Commission's proposal to expand Part 74 LPAS rules to accommodate schools and performing arts organizations that use fewer than 50 wireless microphones. The proposal is a much-needed solution that benefits the arts community and the public as well as the many new and emerging unlicensed white space technologies. Though we understand that our school is but a minute part of a larger whole, fair and reliable access to the wireless spectrum is vital for our success.

Sincerely,



Mountain Vista High School
Theatre Director