



COBLESKILL-RICHMONDVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Office of the
Superintendent of Schools

Carl J. Mummenthey
Superintendent

Request for Review and Waiver of Filing Deadline for FCC Form 472 (Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement)

Docket # 02-06
Filing Date: November 20, 2017

Entity Information

Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District
155 Washington Avenue
Cobleskill, New York 12043
(518) 234-4032 ex. 2000

Carl J. Mummenthey
Superintendent of Schools
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Background

On September 28, 2017, our district's IT Resource Manager informed our Business Manager and Superintendent that she would be posting our Form 472 to the USAC website. In her email, she stated that both parties would **receive a system-generated notification** when the form was posted and ready for certification and submission.

Typically, when forms are created on the USAC website the system generates an email notifying designated district staff that a form has been created. Our district's Form 472 (Form 472 - 161055352) was created on the USAC website on **October 17, 2017** by our IT Resource Manager. However, the USAC website did not generate an email alerting our business manager and superintendent that the form was ready for certification and submission, as expected. As a result of this, the form was not certified and submitted in advance of the 10/30/17 filing deadline.

Upon discovery that the form was not certified and submitted, our superintendent filed for an extension (which was denied, as the request occurred after the filing deadline) and our business manager immediately certified and submitted the form.

On November 16, 2017, we received notification that our BEAR Invoice was approved for \$0.00. The USAC notification did not explicitly state that our invoice was denied, nor did the notification inform us of our right to request FCC review of the rule pertaining to the filing deadline. We ascertained that after several technical assistance calls to USAC.

The Board of Education

Bruce L. Tryon, President • Steven H. Philbrick, Vice President
Melissa A. Bartlett • Mary E. Black • Margaret J. Pryor • Daniel B. Schulte • Susan E. Strasser

Citation of Extraordinary Circumstances

We understand that the FCC will only grant rule waivers based upon evidence of extraordinary circumstances. We seek relief from this filing deadline based upon the following extraordinary circumstances.

1. District staff were accustomed to a USAC system-generated email alerting them when a form is completed and ready for certification and submission. Such email notifications are not system-generated for the Form 472 like they are for other forms. This change in practice resulted in a delayed filing by our district.
2. Our district's superintendent missed several days of work in October and early November due to a family member's recent diagnosis (in early October) of stage IV cancer. Only upon his return from a two-day absence (during which he accompanied his family member to Boston for evaluation and treatment) did he inquire about the Form 472. At that time, he was informed that the form was not certified and submitted. Following his inquiry, district officials immediately located, certified, and submitted the form to the USAC.
3. The correspondence from USAC should include explicit language indicating that our invoice was denied for payment. In addition, the correspondence from USAC should include explicit language alerting us to our right to appeal their decision to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

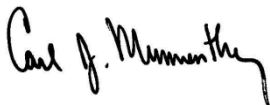
Relief Sought

We respectfully **request that the FCC waive rules related to timely filing of Form 472** (47 CFR § 54.514) and permit the Universal Services Administrative Co. to reconsider our request for reimbursement. Despite the missed deadline, the school district has adhered to all other rules regarding this service request and the funding was already encumbered and reserved for reimbursement based upon our **approved Form 471**.

Clearly, it is in the public's interest to waive this filing deadline and permit this reimbursement. We are a rural, high poverty public school district with limited administrative staff. We do not use a consultant to assist with filing of USAC forms, nor do we have any full-time staff assigned exclusively to preparing E-Rate documents. All E-Rate forms are prepared by a civil service worker and reviewed and certified by managers or administrators who perform a wide range of other administrative and management duties.

We pledge to immediately implement appropriate corrective actions to ensure timely submission of future E-Rate forms.

Respectfully submitted:



Carl J. Mummenthey