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January 19, 1994

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Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

FCC MAIL ROOM

In the Matter of PR Docket 93-305, Amendment of the Amateur service Rules to Implement a Vanity Call Sign System.

After reading the NPRM on PR Docket 93-305, I want to make the following comments/suggestions.

Comment: Issuance of 1X2 and 1X3 W and K call signs should be restricted to amateurs who have been licensed for a minimum of 25 years.

Discussion: At one time, there was a rule that required a minimum 25 years before a 1X2 call sign could be issued. The W and K call signs are considered by most hams as identifying with older members of the amateur fraternity, and they should be held as an incentive for those who will stay in the amateur service for a long period of time. In addition, I feel that 1X3 call signs should not have been issued to the new no-code Technician licensees. Many of these new people will not upgrade, and the 1X3 call signs are wasted on them. No-code techs should have been issued 2X3 call signs, the same as novice class licensees.

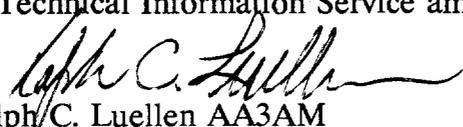
Comment: Once a "Vanity" call sign is issued and the initial fee collected for the ensuing ten year period, no more fees should be collected upon further renewals.

Discussion: It is felt that after the "vanity" call sign is issued, there is no further cost in maintaining the call sign beyond that of one issued from the normal block of calls, and does not warrant the collection of fees upon renewal.

further, many amateurs who would request a vanity call sign, probably are in their late forties to mid fifties, and in ten years would be a senior citizen, who can ill afford \$70 for a vanity call sign.

Comment: On-line access by the public to check for call sign availability is not necessary from the FCC.

Discussion: FCC currently releases license upgrade information and new licensees on a periodic basis to several groups at present time. A release of this information on a twice a month basis should be adequate, and amateurs wanting to check the data base can call the National Technical Information Service among others to check for call sign availability.



Sincerely, Ralph C. Luellen AA3AM

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