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From: Jeffrey Kotler <jkotler@htp.net@htp.net>
To: B7.B7(smagnott)
Date: 4/25/96 12:14am
Subject: WT Docket No. 96-82

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18.0310N

The FCC should require licenses of recreational vessels. A minimal charge pf \$5-\$10 for 5 OR 10 year license would not be a hardship for a boat owner

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From: Jay Hendricks <jay@pdx.mcd.mot.com>
To: B7.B7(smagnott)
Date: 4/24/96 1:52pm
Subject: WT Docket No. 96-82

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FCC:

First of all, thanks for making the information on this issue available on the WWW. This has made it much easier to obtain.

I have recently purchased a boat that has a VHF radio on-board.

The previous owner did not have a license for it, and as yet,

I have not applied, although I did get the forms from a marine dealer. I thought that \$115 was pretty high for an up-front cost, but hey, we're boaters - we're used to spending money. Amortized over 10 years, that's sort of reasonable. The latest \$75 was better.

But I wish the license was tied to me, not the boat. If I change boats next year, I would have to do it all over, and so would the new owner, right? Then it gets expensive. I would gladly pay the fee if it would cover me for 10 years on any boat.

Anyway, then I was glad to hear that the fee was suspended. But I thought about CB radios. Would the knuckleheads that often ride those airwaves take over VHF? I guess not, since VHF is a different animal, and is monitored by the Coast Guard, at least the hailing channels. Also, what is a license to stand in the way of being rude on the air? So many users are not licensed at all anyway.

Yet I have never heard anyone abuse VHF. And what good is a call sign? No one uses a call sign as an identifier - I'll be lucky to remember mine, let alone anyone else's. It may help you or the CG track down specifically which boat was talking, as boat names are not unique. But if I'm an abuser, I'm not going to repeat my call sign, anyway. Finally, there is the issue of your costs associated with issuing the licenses. I'm sure the overhead is plenty.

So I guess I am in favor of elimination of the license. Or, as I mentioned earlier, tying the license to a person for 10 years at a fee that covers your administrative costs. It seems to me that we could do that for 30 to 50 dollars. Elimination may be the simplest answer.

Thanks for listening,

Jay Hendricks
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