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December 6, 1996

TO: Mr. William Caton, Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FROM: Rev. Carl Morton, Pastor
The First Baptist Church
104 Washington Street
Alexandria, Kentucky 41001

RE: Petition to deny request by Peter L. Cea
to amend the FM Table to open a new
channel 298a (107.5FM) for Portsmouth, Ohio

RE: Mass Media
Docket # 96-216

As pastor of the First Baptist Church of Alexandria, Kentucky I am stating my strong objection to amending the FM Table to open a new channel 298A at 107.5 frequency for Portsmouth, Ohio. We urge the Commission to deny the current request before it from Peter L. Cea. My reasons are as follows:

- (1) LISTENERSHIP - I have had a daily 30 minute ministry program plus a 30 minute Sunday program on WIOK - 107.5 Tri-State Gospel for the past five years. We have worked hard to build a loyal listener base and I have in my possession more than 1400 letters received from listeners to the program on WIOK - 107.5 FM. A majority of these have come from the area to the east and to the northeast which I

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understand would be drastically affected and lost as listeners should the Commission grant the request of Mr. Cea to open the new channel 298A (107.5) for Portsmouth, Ohio.

- (2) **ECONOMIC** - Not only have we worked hard to build our listener base but we have invested a substantial amount of finances in the cost of broadcasting over the past five years. In addition to the more than 1400 letters which we have received from listeners, we have enjoyed a sizable increase in our church membership and now have members who live in Maysville, Kentucky and several of the cities of southern Ohio. These members and listeners to WIOK would be unable to listen to WIOK and they would be unable to hear their daily program should the Commission grant the request of Mr. Cea.

For the reasons cited, I, along with the membership of the First Baptist Church of Alexandria, Kentucky urge the Commission to deny the request of Mr. Peter L. Cea to open a new channel 298A (107.5) on the FM Table, now pending before the Commission.

Sincerely,



Rev. Carl Morton, Pastor
The First Baptist Church of Alexandria