

I'm a free agent (independent) songwriter-singer and musician in Pinellas Park, Florida.

I own the copyrights to my own songs, have my own indie (and unknown) label, Sand and Palms, and my own publishing, Sand and Palms Music (BMI).

It's hard to get regular local radio stations interested in playing the songs of an unknown artist.

It's easier at college radio stations, internet radio stations, non-profit community stations, and those low power stations that are struggling to get licensed.

I write songs in the 50s and 60s style.

Many might think that any local radio station, or stations anywhere else in Florida, would be receptive to broadcasting my style, but the fact is, the DJs and/or program/music directors, state that their station's playlist is made up of only Billboard-charted hits.

Local artists and bands do not fit into their playlist for radio broadcast.

Local programming, the way that a radio station might define it, is to accept for broadcast only those artists and bands that fit into their format, or style of music that they usually broadcast,

A definition of local programming shouldn't restrict local artists and bands from being broadcasted because they do not have songs on the Top 40 Billboard chart or any other chart.

Local programming includes local news, sports, weather, and the music and songs of local artists and bands.

Local programming should also include fund-raising for charity, remote broadcasting, and even grand openings at museums, parks, hospitals, etc.

Yes, payola still exists. It's the secret payoff that gets terrible songs played over and over again on radio stations.

One influencer is the Billboard chart. With many thousands of dollars to grease palms, I could buy my way on to this Billboard chart myself, as the major labels can work to their advantage.

Recording companies, whether major or indie, send out their promotion people with new material they want promoted and played,

There are ways that the station manager, program/music director can be persuaded to push the artists and bands that these promoters bring to them.

These methods do not seem to be payola because they consist of innocent free lunches, tickets to sport events/concerts, and free CDs to sell and/or to use as contest prizes.

National playlists, such as Billboard, do cut out many local artists and bands.

If they are not "charted", many stations do not want to waste their airtime

on them.

At one time, Elvis Presley, wasn't on the Billbopard chart. A Memphis station played this local, unknown artist.

Low Power FM is good for all new artists and bands.

They don't care whether their material has made the Billboard charts, or any other chart.

Thank you for letting me express my feelings about the broadcasting industry.