



**COMMENTS OF BROADCAST TELEVISION STATIONS KDLH-TV AND KBJR-TV IN THE
MATTER OF BROADCAST LOCALISM
MB Docket #04-233**

Introduction

Our groups of stations known collectively as the Northland's NewsCenter produce many hours of local news programming as well as varying amounts of sports and public service programming. We have set up formal and informal systems to solicit, review, and respond to input from viewers of our region on topics of interest and the quality of these programs to ensure we are serving the public interest. We feel adding additional layers of ascertainment to the existing process will provide little more than excess expense, which could cause eventual erosion in the variety, quality and quantity of local programming we currently provide.

News

The core stations of KBJR and KDLH produce and air over 37 hours of original local news weather and sports programming per week originating from a single news department staffed 21 hours per day. A team over nearly 40 local journalists and support personnel gather local content for broadcast, as well as online publishing to serve 172 thousand households in the greater Duluth-Superior area. Part of this service is a 24-hour local weather channel, broadcast digital on one of our digital channels and also carried by local cable companies.

Public Affairs Programming

The combined KBJR and KDLH Public Affairs Department produces two weekly 30-minute programs. *Northland Voices* addresses important community issues, bringing in local residents and experts to discuss and debate public policy each week. *SportsZone* delves into local sports issues and highlights outstanding performances involving local athletes and coaches who participate live in the weekly show.

A committee of station employees also meets on a monthly basis to consider community requests for public service airtime, and approve projects. Community input is sought and considered in this process and a percentage of each station's commercial inventory is dedicated to various public service needs.

Public Service Specials

The News and Public Service Departments produce unscheduled or occasional programs, such as live political debates, election coverage or breaking news and weather specials on a regular basis when opportunities present themselves and the community requests such programs. In some cases these special projects address community needs, such as fundraising for the Salvation Army or dealing with issues such as addiction to methamphetamines.

Sports

In addition to News and Public Service programming the Northland's NewsCenter airs a year-round schedule of local sporting events, responding to demand from local viewers, including coverage of high school, college and professional sporting events.

Conclusion

The proposed changes to broadcast television localism regulations would do nothing to add weight or volume to the voices of our viewers. At present time, KBJR and KDLH solicit feedback from our viewers in many of our newscasts. We receive and review an average of eighty emails and voicemails per week from viewers, and we respond to each viewer in a variety of ways. Often times, we return their inquiries via email or phone; other times, we answer questions in on-air newscast segments we call *NewsCenter Listens*.

A Granite Broadcasting Corporation Station
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When appropriate, we develop public service and public affairs programming in response to the issues brought forth in the viewer comments and feedback we receive.

Attached are examples of emails from viewers in our community. We believe they demonstrate better than our own comments can our longstanding relationship with our viewers. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

David Jensch
VP/Station Manager
KBJR-TV

Kelli Latuska
Station Manager
KDLH-TV



WHEN METH HITS HOME—SEPTEMBER 8, 2007 AIRDATE

From: Darcy Lucas

Email Address: darcydlucas@yahoo.com

Comments: I was able to see your presentation of "When Meth Hits Home". Womdering how I can get a copy of the video, and any other info . I work on a Mental Health Unit at Hibbing Fairview and we are seeing more meth cases. We do have materials about meth use and are always looking for more info that concerns St Louis County.

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From: Jessica Thompson

Email Address: S_O_B_E_R427@hotmail.com

Comments: I am really liking your program on Meth!! "When Meth Hits Home". My husband and myself have been in recovery from meth for over 3 years! Our kids have had to deal with a lot because we used when they were young. Now we do our own presentations on meth, we feel that if we can reach just one person to help them to not use meth or stop their use we feel what we do is worth it. We are speaking at the St.Louis County Health and Human Services Conference @ the DECC in October. I only hope with all the education people recieve will help fight this horrible drug. Thank you!!

You can check out our site it is a work in progress!!

www.myspace.com/deathbymeth

otherwise you can read some of our story if you go to Karell (in the cities) and under the search type in Curry and Jessica Thompson Thanks again for educating our community hopefully people are watching and learning what they should know.



LOCAL, COLLEGE, AND PROFESSIONAL SPORTS PROGRAMMING VARIOUS AIRDATES

From: Stan and Jan Burns
Email Address: fourcats@cpinternet.com
Comments: We just wanted to let you know that we really enjoy the MY9 coverage of the Yellowjacket hockey games. Keep it up. Consider also doing the Bulldogs!
Stan and Jan

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From: Scott Hughes
Email Address: signboy3000@yahoo.com
Comments: Hi There,

I am thrilled that you will be carrying the wild hockey games on channel 3.



OTHER LOCAL PROGRAMMING VARIOUS AIRDATES

From: FLETCHER M. RAYMER
Email Address: fraymer9154@charter.net
Comments: WILL THE 3rd PART OF CLASSIC NORTHLAND TELEVISION BE PUT ON YOUR WEBSITE SOON.
I REALLY ENJOYED PART 1 & 2.
THANKS

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From: Ronald R. Perala
Email Address: rperala@gmail.com
Comments: Really enjoyed Dave Andersons series on the early days of TV in the Twin Ports. Before Dottie Becker there was another woman who had a show. Her TV name was Marion Key and she lived in Superior as Marion Keough. I was friends with her son Emmitt, we both attended the Blaine School in Superior during the early to mid 50's. One particular segment of the Marion Key show that I remember, was when she went aboard a jet at the Duluth Airport and was taken for a ride with the Air Force or Air National Guard.

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From: Jessie Larson
Email Address: larson.jessika@gmail.com
Comments: I believe that this station is the most reliable and respectful news station in the twin ports area. I am a single mother of 3 daughters and want to express how much appreciation I have for the support you give to the Salvation Army (Toyland Express). Without this help, familys like mine would have alot less and would have to struggle alot more during the holiday season. I work full time and still find it almost impossible to make ends meet. Because of people like you, I can give my children a christmas they will remember. Thank You again so much.

Sincerely
Jessie Larson

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From: silverseas57@yahoo.com [<mailto:silverseas57@yahoo.com>]
Sent: 2007-11-06 20:56
To: Web Staff

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Subject: NewsCenter Contact Us

From: Steve Balliette

Email Address: silverseas57@yahoo.com

Phone:

Comments: Thank you for posting the election results so quickly

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**XMAS CITY OF THE NORTH PARADE
NOVEMBER 17 2007**

From: Brett S. Mensing
Email Address: bmensing@netzero.com
Comments: Hi, my name is Brett Mensing. I live in Silver Bay M.N. & i'm 12 years old. The parade was very very good this year. I watch I every year. It was diferent not seeing Mark Mallory broadcasting it with you guys this year. You all have wonderfull personalities. when i grow up I wan't to be just like Karl Spring. I wish he would come to our school and talk about weather because i think weather is a great thing to learn. I go to school at (William Kelley High School.)

But the main reason i'm E-mailing you is because i would like to get the song words to (THE CHRISTMAS CITY) song if you could E-mail them to me. I always love to set and sing the song while i watch the parade! I love the christmas holiday and i like to get in the spirit of Christmas by decorating my room and helping my mom decorate. So if you could do so, please E-mail them to my address (email address)

Thank You & Happy Holidays
your #1 viewer,
Brett S. Mensing

P.S. Fell free to also send them by mail also (4657 Johnson Rd. Silver Bay M.N. 55614)-Thanks

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From: Meghan
Email Address: nmhackard@comcast.net
Phone:
Comments: Happy Holidays from Monterey, CA! The Christmas City of the North Parade has been a family tradition and we can still watch it where ever the military sends us!

Thanks KBJR!!

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From: Renee Randa
Email Address: rrandal2@hotmail.com
Comments: Hello - I "LOVE" to watch the parade from home - especially the dance studios as I have a niece that dances for one of the studios and my daughter that will be dancing in the parade in the next couple of years.

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Name : Florence

Email: fbonkowske@aol.com

I am late in sending you my compliments. But then is it ever to late for them? The Christmas City of the North Parade was the best covered that I can remember. I feel this because the 3 comentators were having so much fun you just felt like you were right there. Added to that when the animal bit Barbara R. it realy seemed like this was a fun event and they were glad to be a part of it. Good Job.