



**Minority Media &
Telecom Council**

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Washington, D.C. 20010
Phone: 202-332-0500 Fax: 202-332-0503
www.mmtconline.org

April 4, 2013

Hon. Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Hon. Robert McDowell, Commissioner
Hon. Mignon Clyburn, Commissioner
Hon. Ajit Pai, Commissioner
Hon. Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED - FCC

APR - 4 2013

Federal Communications Commission
Bureau / Office

Dear Mr. Chairman and Commissioners:

Re: License Renewal Application and Petition for Waiver and Reinstatement of License
WHGH(AM), Thomasville, Georgia
FCC File Number BR-20130208ABM

The Minority Media and Telecommunications Council ("MMTC") respectfully submits this statement in support of the request of HGH Investments, Inc. for the reinstatement of the operating authority for WHGH(AM), Thomasville, Georgia and the renewal of that station's license. While HGH may have missed a deadline imposed by the FCC's procedures for renewal applications, the failure to reinstate the license for this station will have a profound impact on the Thomasville community and on the Commission's goal of increasing the diversity of the ownership of broadcast stations, by preventing an African-American owned station that has been operating from over 25 years from continuing to serve the minority community in the area of South Georgia that it serves.

This station has operated since 1987, when its current owner, Moses Gross, was first able to put it on the air. The station has featured programming targeted to the minority community, including R&B and gospel music, as well as talk programming discussing community issues. Mr. Gross, who is the Vice Chair of the Thomas County Board of Commissioners and a local businessman, has hosted a program that airs on the station, interviewing community leaders including his fellow Commission members, and other local officials. A letter in support of the renewal of the station license has been sent to the Commission by Congressman Sanford Bishop, who represents parts of the station's service area. In that letter, he states that he has appeared on the station. A copy of that letter is attached.

Also attached is a promotional flyer for the Jack Hadley Black History Museum's Black History Month activities, showing WHGH as one of the sponsors of the activities there. A screen shot of the webpage of African-American writer Stephanie Tillman refers to her appearance on the station, as also shown by a photo of her appearance with one of the station's announcers. Both are attached. The station also serves local predominantly African-American churches, broadcasting their services, as attested by the attached letter from a pastor of one of those churches, lamenting the loss of service that has occurred since the station stopped operating after its license was cancelled. These items demonstrate the service of the station to the African-American community in the Thomasville area.

While MMTC understands that the FCC must administer its rules, that administration should be tempered with mercy and understanding, especially when strict enforcement of the rules would lead to a result that so directly conflicts with one of the important goals of the Commission – the increase in the diversity of the ownership of broadcast stations - one that the FCC has been struggling to find concrete ways to achieve. A waiver of its rules to permit this important minority voice to continue is clearly in the public interest and should be granted to allow this station to return to the air.

Hon. Julius Genachowski and Commissioners
April 4, 2013
Page Two.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Honig', written in a cursive style.

David Honig
President

Attachments

/dh

SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.
SECOND DISTRICT, GEORGIA

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
RANKING MEMBER
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION/VA
AGRICULTURE
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2429 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1002
PHONE: (202) 225-3631
FAX: (202) 225-2203



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

March 20, 2013

DISTRICT OFFICES:

ALBANY
235 ROOSEVELT AVENUE
ALBANY TOWERS, SUITE 114
ALBANY, GA 31701
PHONE: (229) 439-8067
FAX: (229) 436-2099

COLUMBUS
18 NINTH STREET, SUITE 201
COLUMBUS, GA 31901
PHONE: (706) 320-9477
FAX: (706) 320-9479

THOMASVILLE
210 SOUTH BROAD STREET
THOMASVILLE, GA 31792
PHONE: (229) 226-7789
FAX: (229) 226-7860

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12TH ST SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to you regarding a radio station that serves my district – WHGH (AM), Thomasville, Georgia. I am very familiar with the station and its service to the Thomasville area. The station is known for its coverage of local issues. In fact, I have appeared on the talk shows that it airs, discussing issues of importance to Thomasville and much of South Georgia.

WHGH has been owned and operated by HGH Investments, owned by Mr. Moses Gross, for approximately 25 years. Mr. Gross is very active in the local community. Mr. Gross' radio stations have reached diverse audiences for many years.

It is my understanding that the license of WHGH was cancelled last year due to the inadvertent failure of the licensee to file its license renewal application. I further understand that the licensee has requested a waiver and the late-filed acceptance of that application. See, FCC File Number BR-20130208ABM. In connection with that filing, the licensee has requested the authority to resume operations while the license renewal is being processed. I have been informed that no one has opposed these requests at this time.

Given the long-time service of the station to the Thomasville area, and its minority community in particular, I would like to ask the FCC to consider the reinstatement of the license, and allow WHGH to return to the air as quickly as possible. Please keep me advised of any actions that you may take on this matter.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and cooperation, under the applicable laws and regulations of your agency, on this important matter to the members of my district.

With warmest, personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress

SDB:tp

Cc: Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel
Commissioner Ajit Pai



Moses Leon Gross is a lifelong resident of

Thomasville, Georgia. Moses was born on October 30, 1945 to Moses & Almeda Gross he was their 3rd child. Moses was educated in the public schools of Thomasville doing the time of segregation. Moses is a 1963 graduate of Douglass High School. Mr. Gross moved to Denver Colorado, he attended Metropolitan State College & gained employment as a Park Ranger. Upon Moses return to Thomasville in 1973 he attended the former Berrywood College now Southwest Georgia Technical College to become an EMT.

Moses is proud of his business achievements he is owner of Gross Vault & Monument, Gross Broadcasting/WHGH Radio and M.L. Gross Trucking.

Moses is a past member of the advisory board of directors at Thomasville Community Bank, Thomasville National Bank and the board of directors of the Thomasville-Thomas County Chamber of Commerce and the City of Thomasville Business Advisory Committee, Thomasville Planning & Zoning Board of Appeals, Minority Business and Professional Association.

Moses currently serves as Vice Chairman of the Thomas County Commission, he was appointed to serve out an 18 month term & won his first election in 1996 & has continued to served uninterrupted. Mr. Gross is proud of his accomplishments on the County Commission where he serves as chairman of the Emergency Service Board.

The Jack Hadley Black History Museum

Celebrating Black History and Women's History Month
February and March 2012



"We Salute"

Black Women in American Culture and History
Women's Education-Women's Empowerment

Events/Activities for February and March

- **Sunday Afternoon, Feb. 12, 2012 from 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M., "South Georgia Pastors and Wives Reception.** More than 163 Pastors have been invited to participate in this Reception. We are paying tribute to them for their *spiritual dedication they provides to our families and communities and an opportunity to become "Friends of the Museum"*.
- **Saturday Evening, Feb. 25, 2012 from 6:00P.M. To 9:00 P.M. The Museum and BoGie Entertainment's "Poetry—N—Motion Premiere,** Poetry, Dance, Instrumental and Reading the Spoken Word. The public is invited. Please leave a donation at the door. Adults \$5.00 and Students \$3.00. Venue: At the Museum
- **Saturday March 31, 2012 from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. The Museum will Honor twenty (20) "Remarkable Women" of Thomas and Grady Counties,** in a special Banquet at the Frederick Douglass Complex Auditorium. Tickets are available at the Museum for the public for a donation of \$15.00.



Please Contact the Museum for More Information at:
1-229-226-5029

Email: jackhadleyblackhistorymuseum@rose.net

or

BoGie Entertainment at: 1-229-234-1143 or at BoGieentertain@gmail.com



~ Sponsors ~

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WSTT RADIO STATION ~~~~~ WHGH RADIO STATION

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The Gift Shop – Thomasville, GA

Giggetts & Associates – Jacksonville, FL – 904-742-6105



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Richard Hadley Typesetting Service -229-227-0867 – rdhad98@surfsouth.com

StephanieBTillman.com



BIO BOOK EXCERPT TOUR GALLERY CONTACT

**"From My Heart To Yours...Letters To My Young Sisters"
Book Promotion Schedule of Events**

- 8/12/08 TV Interview – CNS Cable Access Channel – Thomasville, GA
- 8/15/08 Radio Interview – WHGH 840 AM – Thomasville, GA
- 8/16/08 "Bring Your Father To Fun Day Event" – Spocan Mitchell County PTA- Camilla, GA
- 8/24/08 Book Signing at Jack Hadley Black History Museum – Thomasville, GA
- 8/26/08 Sisters In Spirit Workshop at Providence M.B. Church – Thomasville, GA
- 9/4/08 Book Signing at Thomas University Student Center – Thomasville, GA
- 10/4/08 Motivational Youth Workshop – Sponsored by Providence M.B. Church Youth Department – Thomasville, GA
- 10/13/08 Motivational Workshop & Book Signing - Spocan Vashti Auxiliary (for teen girls that live on-site at school) – Thomasville, GA
- 10/14/08 Motivational Workshop & Book Signing at Bishop (alternative school) – Thomasville, GA
- 10/18/08 Motivational Youth Retreat Workshop at Trinity Church, Atlanta, GA
- 10/25/08 Book Signing & Motivational Workshop at FA



Stephanie with DJ B-LUV of WHGH 840 AM Radio after her morning show interview

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COMMENTS

Post a comment...



April 3, 2013

Dear FCC Commission & Attorney,

As a citizen who was born and raised in Thomas County and who have raised my own children here, I like many others, have a deep interest in the well-being of our community. WHGH 840 AM Radio Station has served our community for 25 years and, many families like mine would like to have the station return to the airwaves.

I, along with a wide-range listening audience tune in to WHGH each day to hear music, get important weather updates, and to learn about upcoming community programs/events. Many businesses depend on the station to deliver information about their services. All of which, make our community better through the people who are served.

In addition to his tireless service as a broadcast operator, Mr. Moses Gross also serves on the Thomas County Board of Commissioners. In this capacity, he works with colleagues, business leaders, citizens, and with state leaders to address issues that affect our community and to find solutions to problems that will enable Thomasville/Thomas County to be an outstanding community for many years to come.

Mr. Gross did not seek these positions for self preservation. He too was born and raised in Thomasville. As a result of the untimely death of his father at the age of 4, Mr. Gross was raised by a single parent. His dream of becoming a public servant was supported by his mother who listened to the station everyday until she died. Mr. Gross had to overcome many obstacles to fulfill his dream but he is not bitter. Instead, he is committed to serving people and to giving back to the community that supported his family.

At times, even our public servants need support so that they can continue to serve others. This is one of those times for Mr. Gross. Your decision to reinstate his broadcast license will be greatly appreciated by this community. We all look forward to having WHGH return to the airwaves soon.

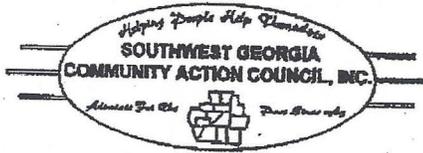
Thank you for your consideration and for taking time out of your busy schedule to read and honor my letter. If you need to speak with me directly, call 229-551-9222 at your convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenda Tucker".

Brenda Tucker

Cc: David Oxenford



**Southwest Georgia
Community Action Council, Inc.**

Myrtle Mulkey-Ndawula • Executive Director
Post Office Box 3726 • 1001 First Avenue SW • Moultrie, Georgia 31776

Thomas County Head Start
915 Lester Street
Thomasville, Ga. 31792
(229)226-2595
(229)226-9876 Fax

April 2, 2013

Dear Sir:

It is with great pleasure and honor to supply this letter of recommendation on behalf of Mr. Moses Gross and the radio station WHGH has implemented many programs here at Thomas County Head Start that benefited the children and families of Thomas County.

I have been affiliated with Moses Gross for the past ten years as a neighbor and a friend. He walks quietly but his footsteps carries respect, and the ability to help anybody that needs help.

I have observed him in a number of situations which allowed me first hand to witness his dedication and willingness to do what it takes to make life better for the people in this community and surrounding areas. One example of the ripple affect of his kindness is the continuation of a Christmas Angel Program that he supports by filling the wish list of my head start children for Christmas which was created at Thomas County Head Start seven years ago. His vision was to help a deserving child have a good Christmas by soliciting the help of the community to provide much needed toys and clothing for 180 three and four year old children.

His creative project touched the hearts and minds of many local businesses, civic and community leaders who continue to support this project today.

Mr. Gross is not only an effective communicator; he constantly sets the example of fine leadership everyday.

This is a wish of support without reservations. I hope my highlights of Moses skills and qualifications will allow you to see what kind of person he truly is.

Thank You

Cynthia L. Hope
Cynthia L. Hope

Director of Thomas County Head Start.

• Telephone 229/885-3610 • 1-800/642-3384 • FAX 229/890-1066 •

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