



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 13, 2014

The Honorable John Shimkus
U.S. House of Representatives
2452 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Shimkus:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending license transfer applications involving Quincy Incorporated. I appreciate the opportunity to provide you with a status update.

The underlying applications were accepted for filing in the Commission's Media Bureau on February 24, 2014. The Applicants have been working with the Bureau staff to provide additional information to amend the applications. At this point, there have not been any formal waiver requests filed by the Applicants in response to the March 31 Commission decision to attribute TV Joint Sales Agreements (JSAs) where one station sells more than 15% of the weekly advertising time on behalf of another station in the same market.

As you may know, the Media Bureau released a Public Notice on March 12, 2014, providing additional guidance to stations with pending applications that involve various sharing and financial agreements. The Bureau noted, in its December 2013 *Order* approving the Gannett-Belo applications, that transactions are reviewed on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration, "the economic effects of, and incentives created by, a proposed transaction taken as a whole and its consistency with the Commission's policies under the Act, including our policies in favor of competition, diversity, and localism." *Shareholders of Belo Corp.*, Memorandum Opinion and Order, DA 13-2423 (MB rel. Dec. 20, 2013), at ¶ 30.

I had the pleasure of meeting with Ralph Oakley, President and CEO of Quincy Newspapers, Inc. at the end of last month and discussed the pending transaction in some detail. Please be assured that the Bureau staff will review the Quincy applications and any related information carefully. Once all of the required information has been received and evaluated, the Bureau will quickly act on this matter. Additionally, if the Applicants decide to apply for a waiver of the TV JSA rule, the Bureau staff will review such a request on an expedited basis within 90 days of the closing of the record.

I hope this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Wheeler".

Tom Wheeler