



**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
ENFORCEMENT BUREAU  
REGION ONE**

Columbia Regional Office  
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(301) 725-1996

April 15, 2019

Nathan and Amber Redman  
Waldo, Ohio

**NOTICE OF UNLICENSED OPERATION**

Case Number: EB-FIELDNER-18-00028250

On March 20, 2019, Agents from the Columbia Office of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's or Commission's) Enforcement Bureau (Bureau) investigated a complaint of an unlicensed FM station operating on the frequency 88.1 MHz in Waldo, Ohio. The Agents confirmed by direction finding techniques that radio signals on the frequency 88.1 MHz were emanating from a residence located on West Main Street, Waldo, Ohio. Property records list you as the owners of the property. The Commission's records show that no license was issued for operation of a broadcast station on 88.1 MHz at this location in Waldo, Ohio.

Radio stations operating on a range of frequencies,<sup>1</sup> including 88.1 MHz, must be licensed by the FCC pursuant to Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (Act).<sup>2</sup> The only exception to this licensing requirement is for certain transmitters using or operating at a power level or mode of operation that complies with the standards established in Part 15 of the Commission's rules.<sup>3</sup> On March 20, 2019, Agents measured the field strength of the signal on the frequency 88.1 MHz for the station and found that it exceeded the maximum permitted level of 250  $\mu$ V/m at 3 meters for non-licensed devices. Thus, this station is operating in violation of Section 301 of the Act.<sup>4</sup>

Operation of radio transmitting equipment without a valid FCC authorization or license is a violation of Section 301 of the Act<sup>5</sup> and may subject the responsible parties to substantial monetary fines, in rem arrest action against the offending radio equipment, and criminal sanctions including imprisonment. Because unlicensed operation creates a danger of interference to important radio communications services and may subject the operator to severe

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<sup>1</sup> 47 CFR § 73.201.

<sup>2</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 301.

<sup>3</sup> 47 CFR §§ 15.1 *et seq.*

<sup>4</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 301.

<sup>5</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 301.

penalties, this letter emphasizes the importance of complying strictly with these legal requirements.<sup>6</sup>

**UNLICENSED OPERATION OF THIS RADIO STATION MUST BE DISCONTINUED IMMEDIATELY.**

You have ten (10) days from the date of this notice to respond with any evidence that you have authority to operate granted by the FCC. Your response should be sent to the address in the letterhead and reference the listed case number. Under the Privacy Act of 1974,<sup>7</sup> we are informing you that the Commission's staff will use all relevant material information before it to determine what, if any, enforcement action is required to ensure your compliance with FCC Rules. This will include any information that you disclose in your reply.

You may contact this office if you have any questions.

David C. Dombrowski  
Regional Director  
Region One  
Enforcement Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission

Attachments:

Excerpts from the Communications Act of 1934, As Amended  
Enforcement Bureau, "Inspection Fact Sheet", March 2005

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<sup>6</sup> See 47 U.S.C. §§ 401, 501, 503 and 510.

<sup>7</sup> 5 U.S.C. § 552a(e)(3).