

**2010 CALENDAR OF
FCC COMPLIANCE DEADLINES
FOR GEORGIA BROADCAST STATIONS**

This calendar is based on the official NAB Calendar,
but has been tailored for use by Georgia broadcast stations¹

February

None

March

- **March 14** – Daylight Savings Time begins. Daytime-only radio stations and stations with pre-sunrise and/or post-sunset authorizations should check their sign-on and sign-off times on their current FCC authorizations to ensure compliance.

April

- **April 12 – FCC Form 398 Children's Television Programming Reports.** All commercial television stations must electronically file an FCC Form 398 Children's Programming Report for the first quarter of 2010 (January 1-March 31). A copy of the filing should be placed in the station's public file no later than April 12. Stations are reminded to periodically publicize the existence and location of the station's Form 398 reports. Posting a copy of the Form 398 report on the station's website is a recommended method of publicizing the reports; however, stations should provide on-air notices about the existence and location of the station's FCC Form 398 reports at least once a month.
- **April 12 – Children's Television Commercial Limitations Certification.** All commercial full-power television stations must sign a certification of compliance with the FCC's commercial limitations during children's television programming aired the first quarter of 2010 (January 1-March 31). A copy of this certification should be placed in the public inspection file.
- **April 12 – Quarterly Issues Programs Lists.** By April 12, all radio and television broadcast stations, both commercial and noncommercial, must prepare and place in their public inspection files a list of important issues facing their communities, and the

¹ This calendar is intended to be a useful guide to FCC deadlines, but is not intended to be an exhaustive list of required filings. Filing requirements may change over the year, and new filing requirements may be adopted. Please contact Dave O'Connor, Washington Counsel for GAB, with any questions about this calendar (202-383-3429, doconnor@wbklaw.com).

programs aired in the months of January, February and March dealing with those issues. Note: At some point, if the FCC receives OMB approval for FCC Form 355, TV stations will be required to file that form in lieu of preparing quarterly issues/programs lists; until OMB approval is obtained, however, TV stations should continue to prepare quarterly issues/programs lists as they have in the past.

May

None

June

- **June 5** – Statewide/Congressional primary LUC window opens.

July

- **July 12 – FCC Form 398 Children's Television Programming Reports.** All commercial television stations must electronically file an FCC Form 398 Children's Programming Report for the second quarter of 2010 (April 1-June 30). A copy of the filing should be placed in the station's public file no later than July 12. Stations are reminded to periodically publicize the existence and location of the station's Form 398 reports. Posting a copy of the Form 398 report on the station's website is a recommended method of publicizing the reports; however, stations should provide on-air notices about the existence and location of the station's FCC Form 398 reports at least once a month.
- **July 12 – Children's Television Commercial Limitations Certification.** All commercial full-power television stations must sign a certification of compliance with the FCC's commercial limitations during children's television programming aired the second quarter of 2010 (April 1-June 30). A copy of this certification should be placed in the public inspection file.
- **July 12 – Quarterly Issues Programs Lists.** All radio and television broadcast stations, both commercial and noncommercial, must prepare and place in their public inspection files a list of important issues facing their communities, and the programs aired in the months of April, May and June dealing with those issues. Note: At some point, if the FCC receives OMB approval for FCC Form 355, TV stations will be required to file that form in lieu of preparing quarterly issues/programs lists; until OMB approval is obtained, however, stations should continue to prepare quarterly issues/programs lists as they have in the past.
- **July 20** – Statewide/Congressional primary.
- **July 1-31 – Copyright Royalty Claims.** Federal law requires that cable systems and satellite operators that retransmit over-the-air broadcast television signals must pay a compulsory fee to the Copyright Royalty Board (CRB) each year. Royalties are potentially available for a television station that, in calendar year 2008, produced original programming and holds the copyright for such programming. To be eligible for such royalties, the television station must have been carried as a *distant signal* either on a cable

system or a direct-to-home satellite television carrier (i.e., Dish or DirecTV). Forms must be submitted online (<http://www.loc.gov/crb/claims/>) between July 1 and July 31. The royalties paid are to compensate the television station for the rebroadcast of its copyrighted material as a distant signal on the cable system or by the satellite operator.

August

None

September

- **Annual FCC Regulatory Fees.** Although the precise dates will not be determined until the summer, the window for paying the FCC's Annual Regulatory Fees is typically in mid-September. Broadcasters must pay their FCC Annual Regulatory Fees by the deadline established by the FCC or incur a 25% penalty. Regulatory fees cover the period from October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010.

October

- **October 12 – FCC Form 398 Children's Television Programming Reports.** All commercial television stations must electronically file an FCC Form 398 Children's Programming Report for the third quarter of 2010 (July 1-September 30). A copy of the filing should be placed in the station's public file no later than October 12. Stations are reminded to periodically publicize the existence and location of the station's Form 398 reports. Posting a copy of the Form 398 report on the station's website is a recommended method of publicizing the reports; however, stations should provide on-air notices about the existence and location of the station's FCC Form 398 reports at least once a month.
- **October 12 – Children's Television Commercial Limitations Certification.** All commercial full-power television stations must sign a certification of compliance with the FCC's commercial limitations during children's television programming aired the third quarter of 2010 (July 1-September 30). A copy of this certification should be placed in the public inspection file.
- **October 12 – Quarterly Issues Programs Lists.** All radio and television broadcast stations, both commercial and noncommercial, must prepare and place in their public inspection files a list of important issues facing their communities, and the programs aired in the months of July, August and September dealing with those issues. Note: At some point, if the FCC receives OMB approval for FCC Form 355, TV stations will be required to file that form in lieu of preparing quarterly issues/programs lists; until OMB approval is obtained, however, TV stations should continue to prepare quarterly issues/programs lists as they have in the past.

November

- **November 7 – Daylight Savings Time ends.** Daytime-only radio stations and stations with pre-sunrise and/or post-sunset authorizations should check their sign-on and sign-off times on their current FCC authorizations to ensure compliance.

December

- **December 1 – FCC Form 317 Due for DTV Stations.** All digital television stations must file FCC Form 317 stating whether the station has provided any “ancillary or supplementary services” during the 12-month period ending on September 30, 2010. This does not include multicast services – only subscriptions services. If the station provided non-free, over-the-air service using its DTV spectrum, and generated any revenue from that service, then the station must remit 5% of gross revenues to the FCC by December 1.
- **December 1 – Annual EEO Public File Report.** Radio and television station employment units in Georgia must place in their public inspection file an FCC Annual EEO Public File Report, unless the station is exempt from EEO requirements. The report must also be posted on the station’s website, if it has one and is required to prepare the report.

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SPECIAL NOTE ON BIENNIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTS: The FCC has suspended its biennial ownership reporting requirement for commercial radio and television stations, pending further modifications to the FCC Form 323 reporting form. However, we anticipate that this form will be due sometime during calendar year 2010. Please monitor GAB correspondence for further updates.

Going forward for commercial radio and television stations, the deadline for filing biennial ownership reports will no longer track a station’s renewal anniversary date, but will instead be filed on a single “snapshot” date. In addition, the previous exemptions for sole proprietorships and partnerships no longer apply. Furthermore, commercial low power TV stations are no longer exempt from the filing requirement.

Non-commercial stations will continue to file FCC Form 323-E when filing their renewal applications and every two years thereafter.