TO: Office of the Secretary
Room 222
Federal Communication Commission
1919 M St. NW
Washington, DC. 20554

FROM: ROBERT + ROBERTA TINGLE
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RE: Comments on RM-9242

Dear FCC commissioners,

- There are "communities-of-interest" that get NO progressive Jazz Blues and News in radio PRIME TIME. But **RM-9242** proposes to fill this void with a new class of **LOCAL** CIVIC *community* radio stations that will have the *will* to serve these interest groups. This is because in *community* radio, the audience is also the producer, the DJ, the host. In *community* radio, we *say* what is important to us.

- The citizens of Richmond Virginia deserve to have the same diversity of radio programming and local access that other cities enjoy. Richmond deserves to have a *community* radio station that will allow a broader range of human experience, culture and ideas to be exchanged than is available from existing radio stations. This way **we *all* win.** We win BOTH a Full-Time-Fine-Arts WCVE 88.9FM *and* a community radio station.

- To accomplish greater diversity/representation, Richmond needs more stations providing more competition and variety. Richmond needs more frequencies to be opened up in the "dead" spaces between stations I currently hear. Proposal **RM-9242** allows for new "Low Power FM" stations to exist in the "dead spaces". These stations would be of about 300plus watts with a 15-mile range, the minimum area needed for a large enough community for the station to survive but not so big that it infringes on other communities ability to have stations of *their* own.

- To maintain ***local*** access we need ***local*** control The proposal before the FCC now, **RM-9242**, would provide for a "50-mile rule" that restricts ownership and control by *any* and *all* interested persons to those who live within 50 miles of the transmitter antenna.
  The "50-mile rule" is key to providing the variety we deserve. Local civic and community organizations have a *will* to serve "communities-of-interest" that large corporate and corporate-dominated public radio stations do not. *Community* radio is set up so that *I* do a show, *I* <u>*say*</u> what is important and newsworthy. In this way, all of humanity has a better chance at playing a full role in our democracy.

Sincerely, Roberta Tingle
Julius R Tingle

(Personal Comments):
PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE

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My husband and I have financially supported public radio for over 25 years. When Union Theological Seminary, the original local license holder, sold the valuable and technically better frequency, 106.5, to a commercial top 40 rock station, we felt betrayed.

The local ETV station picked up the NPR banner @88.9 FM ten years ago. Unfortunately, they have systematically been reducing the intellectually stimulating programming or have, in some cases, moved it to unattractive time slots, i.e., 2:00 a.m. You can hear enough classical music to put yourself to sleep at most prime time hours.

Approximately ten years ago, we began financially supporting both the Richmond and Norfolk NPR stations. Gradually we have taken refuge in the Norfolk station which offers a broad spectrum of public affairs and alternative music programming at 89.5 FM. We have now learned that this FM frequency has been purchased by a religious broadcaster who intends to transmit from Charles City, midway between Richmond and Norfolk, thus blocking our reception of WHRO/WHRV FM. We are sickened, angered and very frustrated that our access to programs such as "Talk of the Nation", "Selected Shorts", "The Jefferson Hour", and "Sinnot in Session" is ending and all that is left is classical Musac or commercial rock.