FCC MAIL ROOM

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

FROM: M H Wilkinson, Ph.D.
10817 Brevington Rd
Richmond, VA
23233

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.

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Sincerely, M H Wilkinson

(Personal Comments): The nation needs an alternative to corporate dominated media and relentless commercial radio