ORIGINAL

MM 99-25

RECEIVED

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

JUN 14 3 37 PM '99

DEC 01 1999

June 7, 1999

Honorable William E. Kennard
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. S.W.
Washington DC 20554

Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard:

I am a woman broadcaster by profession presently working for a Filipino-American sub-carrier radio station. For almost eleven years now, Radio Manila has been serving the Filipino-American community in Southern California through the broadcast media by SCA radio. This means, we have to lease time from a regular radio station at an exorbitant fee which is renewable with continually increased fees but which we can lose at any given time if and when there is another particular group that is willing to offer a higher amount of money. We have been serving the community of Los Angeles and San Diego. Unfortunately enough, when we could no longer afford the high cost of lease in San Diego, it was given to another higher paying client. Our daily broadcast can only be heard through a special radio set. Indeed, it is very sad to lose our broadcast service after selling thousands of radio sets, building our listenership through the years and losing everything because of the continuous rising cost of lease. We will always be at the mercy of a regular radio station that can just decide to discontinue our service at any given moment.

Our sub-carrier radio station is geared towards community service. We broadcast daily newscasts, public affairs programs, informative and inspiring programs for the young, adults, professionals, seniors, veterans , special people etc. to encourage active participation in community and nation-building;immigration update, various religious programs of different faiths and denominations, government affairs, entertainment and cultural programs with special emphasis on positive messages and a great number of public-service oriented programs. Our radio station has constantly responded to the needy whoever and wherever they may be. Of the many hundreds of cases, one case of a veteran comes to mind. The veteran died in the United States without his family. In response to an appeal, we mobilized the radio station to ask for help from the listeners and because of this, we were able to defray the burial expenses, shipment of the remains to the Philippines and pay for other related expenses by the family back home. We have been able to help the Lahar victims(volcano eruption in the Philippines),typhoon victims and other types of calamities. We have also been continuously involved in the dissemination of

No. of Copies rec'd 0+1
List ABCDE

information for the different organizations in the United States like the American Red Cross,American Cancer Society, Asian Miracle Marrow Matches, Department of Social Services, County of Los Angeles, Arthritis Foundation, Blind Recreation Center, Salvation Army, U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, L.A.P.D., Sheriff's Department, Department of Justice, various charitable organizations and many hundreds of other groups.We have gained the reputation of being a community service based organization because of our numerous activities in the interest of public service.

There are approximately 500,000 Filipino-Americans living in Southern California alone and this number can not be ignored. Our task is tremendous and doubly difficult because we do not have a radio station we can call our own. To lease time and pay a very high fee to a regular station, to be forever at their mercy, to sell special radio sets to be heard, to develop listenership through the years by means of our balanced positive programming , to suffer discrimination from national advertisers because we are not a regular station; to do all these and more , only to lose it because of continuously rising cost of the lease is definitely not the avenue to take. Please give us an opportunity to serve by allowing us to apply for a regular radio station or through a low power radio station whichever you feel is most applicable. Being a small organization, we can not compete against the media giants that have all the legal and engineering consultants to help them in their acquisition of numerous radio or tv stations.

Please help us in our monumental task of continued community service through the broadcast media. I would be most willing to meet with you and your staff to personally express the views of an ordinary citizen whose mission is to serve. My telephone number is (323)344.3577.

Thank you very much and may you continue to have the wisdom and the guidance to help our people.

Very Truly Yours,

Aurora "Awee" Abayari

c.c.:
Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Harold Furchtgott-Roth
Commissioner Michael Powell
Commissioner Gloria Tristani

RADIO MANILA COMPANY
4515 EAGLE ROCK BOULEVARD
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90041
TEL.NO. : (323) 344.3577