

ALTERNATIVE BROADCAST INSPECTION PROGRAM

A Cooperative Effort of the FCC and ABA

A Three-Year Insurance Policy with Low Premiums!

The ABIP Program provides you with...

- A Full Compliance Inspection
- Immunity From FCC Random Inspections for 3 Years
- An Opportunity to Correct Deficiencies
- A Certificate of Compliance
- All At a Low Cost

Turn the Page to Find Out More...

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS...

The Request

You submit the enclosed ABIP Request form to the ABA office. Do not enclose any money. ABA will bill you for any applicable fees. A copy of the request is forwarded to one of our contracted inspectors.

The Inspection

The inspector contacts you to establish a time for your inspection(s). He will conduct an inspection of your station just like the FCC.

Deficiencies or Violations

You will have a period of 150 days from the date of the station's inspection request to correct any deficiencies or violations found in the inspection. The deficiency or deficiencies can be corrected by the station and the inspector notified in writing of their corrections. In some cases, a re-inspection may be required. If a re-inspection is required, a request must be sent to the ABA office and a nominal fee is charged.

Certificate of Compliance

When a station is in full compliance, after the initial inspection or after correcting deficiencies, a Certificate of Compliance is issued to the station and copies sent to the FCC and ABA office.

Immunity from Inspections

You are immune from FCC random inspections from the time your ABIP Request is received in the ABA office until the completion of the ABIP process for your station(s) and for a period of three (3) years from the date of your Certificate of Compliance.

Any FCC inspection of your facility during the ABIP process would be aborted with the exception of one involving a complaint or a Washington initiated targeted compliance improvement program. The two exceptions also apply during the three-year immunity period.

THE COST...

Inspection Fees

ABA pays the first \$600 per licensee per market for member stations.

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Non-Member</u>
AM	\$250	\$450
AM Directional (addl charge)	\$250	\$450
FM	\$250	\$450
AM/FM Combo (same licensee, Location, and 100% program duplication)	\$250	\$450
Television	\$250	\$450
Transmitter/Tower Off-site (Per off-site location)	\$150	\$150
Re-Inspection (if needed)	\$150	\$150

Travel Expenses

Travel expenses will be paid by ABA.

COMPLETE THE INSPECTION REQUEST FORM AND MAIL IT TODAY.

ALTERNATIVE BROADCAST INSPECTION REQUEST

City of License: _____

Call Letters of Station(s) to be Inspected: _____
AM, FM, AM/FM Combo or TV

Note: **A separate request form must be submitted for each station.** An AM/FM combo-same licensee, same location, and 100% programming duplication-counts as a single station. Please duplicate this form for additional copies.

 General Manager/Station Manager Telephone

 Studio Address

 City/State/Zip

CIRCLE ONE:
 ABA MEMBER NON-MEMBER

Type of station (Check appropriate classification)	<u>Member</u>	<u>Non-Member</u>
_____ TV	\$250	\$450
_____ AM	\$250	\$450
_____ FM	\$250	\$450
_____ AM/FM Combo	\$250	\$450

(To qualify for the Combo rate, both stations must have the same licensee, same location, and 100% programming duplication.)

OTHER FEES (Check all that apply)

_____ Transmitter/Tower Off Site	\$150	\$150
_____ AM Directional	\$250	\$250
_____ Re-Inspection	\$150	\$150

AGREEMENT

The undersigned General/Station Manager or officer of the broadcast station(s) listed above, hereinafter referred to as the Station, requests and authorizes the inspection of the listed facility under the Arkansas Broadcasters Association, hereinafter referred to as ABA, Alternative Broadcast Inspection Program (ABIP). It is understood the inspection will be conducted by an individual contracted by the ABA and approved by the Federal Communications Commission New Orleans field office.

FEES AND EXPENSES

The Station understands that:

1. Upon receipt of the agreement, ABA will calculate your portion of the fees and send you an invoice, which must be paid before the inspection is completed. (ABA pays the first \$600 per licensee per market for member stations, plus inspector expenses)
2. In the event a re-inspection is required for compliance, a \$150 re-inspection fee will be assessed.

SCHEDULING

It is understood that, upon receipt of this Agreement and the payment of the required fees, the ABA will advise the FCC New Orleans field office and the Inspector of the Station's request for an inspection. Within 30 days of receipt of this agreement, the Inspector will contact the General/Station Manager of the Station(s) listed in this agreement to establish a date for the inspection.

FCC NOTIFICATION & 150-DAY GRACE PERIOD

Under the terms of this agreement, upon receipt of the station request the FCC New Orleans field office will be notified of the request and a 150-day "grace period" will commence from the date of the request. During the grace period the station will be immune from random FCC inspections. It is further understood that within this 150-day period the station must be inspected, correct any existing or potential nonconformance with FCC regulations, be re-inspected if necessary and receive a Certificate of Compliance. If a certificate is not issued within the

150-day grace period, the FCC benefits expire, fees paid are forfeited, and the station is at risk of a full, random FCC inspection.

INSPECTION PROCESS

The inspection will be conducted by the Inspector in the same manner and using the same procedures as a standard FCC Enforcement Bureau full station inspection. Such inspection shall not include an inspection of a station's conformance with any regulations relating either to equal employment opportunity or to political broadcasting, except to determine whether a station maintains annual EEO Public File Reports (if required) and a political file that are available to the public for inspection. It is required under this agreement that the Chief Engineer of an AM directional station must be present during the inspection of that facility. It is recommended that the Chief Engineer or Station Manager be present during the inspection of all other stations.

Any test equipment needed (field intensity meter and frequency counter) for the inspection must be furnished by the station.

Upon completion of the inspection the Inspector shall notify the station promptly in writing of its full compliance or any violations that exist. If in full compliance, the ABA office will be notified and a Certificate of Compliance will be issued. A copy of this certificate will be sent to the FCC New Orleans field office.

Should a station not be in full compliance they will have until the expiration date of the 150-day grace period to correct the violations, be re-inspected if necessary and have a certificate issued. The inspector will advise whether an on-site re-inspection will be required to verify the corrections.

When all violations have been corrected within the 150-day grace period, a Certificate of Compliance will be issued.

It is understood that should violations not be corrected within the 150-day grace period the fees paid are non-refundable and no certification will be issued, thus the station will be subject to FCC random inspections.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

The original Certificate of Compliance is issued by the ABA office at the direction of the ABA ABIP Inspector. Copies of the certificate are forwarded to the FCC New Orleans office and maintained in the ABA office.

The station's original Certificate of Compliance must be displayed either in plain view (e.g., on the wall in the entrance area of the main studio of the station) or in the station's FCC authorizations binder at its main studio. They must verbally inform any person entering the main studio and identifying themselves as an FCC Inspector seeking to conduct an FCC inspection that the stations holds a valid Certificate of Compliance.

IMMUNITY

An agreement has been executed by and between the ABA and the Federal Communications Commission Office authorizing the conduct of the ABA Alternative Broadcast Inspection Program. A copy of said agreement is on file in the office of the ABA.

Under the terms of this agreement, the FCC has agreed to:

1. Not conduct an inspection of a station during the 150-day grace period upon receipt of a copy of the station's official request to the ABA for an ABIP inspection.
2. Exempt any station with a Certificate of Compliance from an FCC random inspection for a period of three (3) years from the date of issuance of a Certificate of Compliance.

IMMUNITY EXCEPTIONS

Even though a station may have a Certificate of Compliance, the FCC may conduct an inspection of the station if such inspection (i) relates to tower safety issues (Targeted Tower Safety Inspection), (ii) was initiated by a complaint against the station (Complaint Driven Inspection), or (iii) is an inspection relating to political broadcasting or EEO materials required in the station's public file.

Any violations discovered during a Targeted Tower Safety inspection other than those dealing with the tower, political broadcasting or EEO, will be referred to the station for prompt remedy of the noncompliance.

In the case of a Complaint Driven Inspection, the FCC may, within its sole discretion, take enforcement action for any noncompliance discovered in the process of conducting their inspection.

INSPECTION REQUEST

The undersigned wishes to participate in the Arkansas Broadcasters Association Alternative Broadcast Inspection Program. I understand the ABA will send me an invoice for the balance due for the inspection and the inspection will not be completed until fees are received by ABA.

Authorized Signature

Title

Date

Mail form(s) to:

Arkansas Broadcasters Association
2024 Arkansas Valley Dr.
Suite 403
Little Rock, AR 72212

A date-stamped copy of this form will be faxed to the General Manager and to the FCC New Orleans field office.

ALTERNATIVE BROADCAST INSPECTION PROGRAM COMPLIANCE REPORT

Date of Original Request_____ Date of Inspection_____

Stations(s)_____ City_____

I have inspected the listed facilities and found them to be in compliance with the requirements of the FCC Alternative Broadcast Inspection Program. The Arkansas Broadcasters Association is authorized to issue these facilities a Certificate of Compliance.

Authorized South Central Regional Inspector Date

Original Station Representative
Copies ABA Office, Inspector

ALTERNATIVE BROADCAST INSPECTION PROGRAM NON-COMPLIANCE REPORT

Date of Original Request_____ Date of Inspection_____

Stations(s)_____ City_____

I have inspected the listed facilities and found them not to be in compliance with the requirements of the FCC Alternative Broadcast Inspection Program for the following reasons:

The Station is hereby advised that the above deficiencies must be corrected and a re-inspection conducted, if necessary, within a reasonable time period to qualify for the issuance of a Certificate of Compliance within the 150-day grace period allowed from the date of original request for inspection. Should the station not do so, all fees paid are forfeited and the station will be subject to FCC random inspections.

Authorized South Central Regional Inspector Date

Receipt of the Non-Compliance Report is hereby acknowledged.

Station Representative

Original Station Representative
Copies ABA Office, Inspector

FCC Self-Inspection Checklists Web Addresses

FCC Web Site:

<http://www.fcc.gov>

FCC Checklists:

<http://www.fcc.gov/cib/bc-chklsts/am.html>

<http://www.fcc.gov/cib/bc-chklsts/fm.html>

<http://www.fcc.gov/cib/bc-chklsts/tv.html>