Bristol Broadcasting Company, Inc.

Stations WXBQ-FM, WAEZ(FM), WFHG-FM, WEXX(FM), WWTB(AM), WNVA(AM), and WQSN(FM)
Comprising the Tri-Cities Station Employment Unit

Annual EEO Public File Report

For the period of June 1, 2024 - May 31, 2025

The purpose of this Equal Employment Opportunity Public File Report ("Report") is to comply with the Federal Communications Commission's 2002 EEO Rule – 47 C.F.R. Section 73.2080(c)(6). This Report has been prepared on behalf of the Tri-Cities Station Employment Unit ("SEU" or "Tri-Cities SEU") that is comprised of the above captioned stations, all licensed to Bristol Broadcasting Company, Inc. ("Bristol"), and has been placed in the Public Inspection Files of these stations and posted on their websites as required¹.

The information contained in this Report covers the time period beginning on June 1, 2024 and ending on May 31, 2025 (the "Applicable Period").

The FCC's 2002 EEO Rule requires that this Report contain the following information:

- 1. A list of all full-time vacancies filled by the Stations comprising the Station Employment Unit during the Applicable Period;
- 2. For each such vacancy, the recruitment sources utilized to fill the vacancy (including, if applicable, organizations entitled to notification pursuant to Section 73.2080(c)(1)(iii) of the new EEO Rule, which should be separately identified), identified by name, address, contact person and telephone number;
- 3. The recruitment source that referred the hiree for each full-time vacancy during the Applicable Period;
- 4. Data reflecting the total number of persons interviewed for full-time vacancies during the Applicable Period and the total number of interviewees referred by each recruitment source utilized in connection with such vacancies; and
- 5. A list and brief description of the initiatives undertaken pursuant to Section 73.2080(c)(2) of the FCC Rules.
- 6. An analysis of the effectiveness of the SEU's EEO recruitment program.

Below is a recapitulation of the vacancies and recruitment activities and supplemental outreach initiatives that were undertaken by Bristol Broadcasting Company for the Tri-Cities SEU during the Applicable Period of this Annual Equal Employment Opportunity Report.

¹ While the communities of license of Stations WAEZ(FM), WEXX(FM), and WFHG-FM are all in Tennessee (Greeneville, Elizabethton, and Bluff City respectively) this Annual EEO Public File Report was prepared and filed on the anniversary date of the filing of the license renewal applications for Stations WXBQ-FM, WWTB(AM), WNVA(AM), and WQSN(FM) whose communities of license are in Virginia as is permitted by the Commission's policies in cases where an SEU is comprised of stations with cities of license in multiple states.

Vacancy Information

During the Applicable Period of this report three full-time vacancies were filled at the Tri-Cities Station Employment Unit.

Full-Time Position Filled by Job Title	Recruitment Source of Hiree	
Sales Representative	Word-of-Mouth (Walk-in Applicant)	
Engineer	Word-of-Mouth (Walk-in Applicant)	
Traffic/Bookkeeper	SEU Station(s) Bulletin Boards(s)	

Total number of persons interviewed during Applicable Period: 62

Recruitment Source Information

Notices of each of the full-time vacancies that occurred during the Applicable Period for this report were posted on bulletin boards at the offices of SEU and were posted on the Bristol Broadcasting Company website "Employment" page which is hyperlinked from the websites of each of the Stations in the SEU. Notices of each of the full-time vacancies were posted on the *job bank* listings of the Virginia Association of Broadcasters website and the Tennessee Association of Broadcasters website. Additionally, announcements inviting qualified individuals to apply for the open sales position were aired on each of the Stations of the SEU. All these notices emphasized that Bristol Broadcasting Company is an equal opportunity employer.

Notices of the full-time job openings were also sent to all organizations involved in assisting job seekers that had requested notice of such openings. A list of these <u>Organizations That Had</u> Requested Notice is shown below:

Shawnee Community College Attention: Candy Eastwood 8364 Shawnee College Road

Ullin, IL 62992 Phone: 618-634-3353

Goodwill Industries Attention: Erin Starnes 2017 Brookside Lane Kingsport, TN 37660 Phone: 423-245-0600

The Crumley House Attention: Jessica Kerney 300 Urbana Road Limestone, TN 37681 Phone: 423-257-3644 UVA College at Wise Attention: Mallory Mullins 1 College Avenue Wise, VA 24293 Phone: 276-328-0126

ETSU Community Outreach Attention: Keri Hale 603 Bert Street, Suite 209 Johnson City, TN 37601 Phone: 423-926-4376

Virginia Highland Community College Attention: Kim Morton

P. O. Box 828 Abingdon, VA 24212 Phone: 276-739-2590 National College of Business Attention: Angie Williams 1328 Highway 11W Bristol, TN 37620 Phone: 423-878-4440

Work Force One Attention: Patti Nichols P. O. Box 645 Abingdon, VA 24212 Phone: 276-676-0403

Emory & Henry College Attention: Amanda Gardner

P. O. Box 947 Emory, VA 23327 Phone: 276-944-6922

² Recruitments for two additional full-time positions had been commenced but not completed at the time of this report. These two full-time positions were a sales position and an air personality position. Data from these two recruitments will be including in next year's Annual EEO Public File Report.

The Bristol Broadcasting Company Tri-Cities SEU also sent notice of each of the full-time vacancies along with a request that the notice be propagated to any qualified job seeker to its list of <u>Specialized Recruitment Sources</u>. Below is the list of these <u>Specialized Recruitment</u> Sources:

East Tennessee State University

Career Services

Attention: Ruth Wilbanks

PO Box 70718

Johnson City, TN 37614 Phone: 423-439-4441

King College Career Services

Attention: Elizabeth Graham 1350 King College Road Bristol, TN 37620 Phone: 423-652-4752

Newport Chamber of Commerce Attention: Valarie Fancher 433-B Prospect Avenue Newport, TN 37821 Phone: 423-623-7201

Virginia Employment Services Attention: Danny Bartlett 192 East Bristol Road Bristol, VA 24201 Phone: 276-642-7350 Northeast State College Career Services

Attention: Marquita Tittle

PO Box 246

Blountville, TN 37617 Phone: 423-354-2491

Tusculum College Career Services Attention: Robin Lay PO Box 5082

Greeneville, TN 37743 Phone: 423-636-7387

Washington Co. Adult Learning Center Attention: Kenneth Litton

Attention: Kenneth Litte 848 Thompson Drive Abingdon, VA 24210 Phone: 276-676-1999

NAACP

Attention: Glodine Davis P. O. Box 1878 Johnson City, TN 37605 Phone: 423-283-2223 Emory & Henry College Career Services

Attention: Amanda Gardner

PO Box 947 Emory, VA 24327 Phone: 276-944-6144

Milligan College Career Services

Attention: John Paul Abner

PO Box 500

Milligan College, TN 37682 Phone: 423-975-8013

Tennessee Employment Commission

Attention: Sue Creasy 1712 West State St. Bristol, TN 37620 Phone: 423-989-6600

Analysis of Interviewees by Source

As shown below Bristol Broadcasting Company made an analysis of the number of interviewees that was provided by each recruitment source during the Applicable Period of this Report:

On-air Announcements SEU Station(s) Number of Interviewees Provided: 2 SEU Station(s) Bulletin Board(s) Number of Interviewees Provided: 1 Word-of-Mouth (Walk-in Applicant) Number of Interviewees Provided: 3

The chart below gives an analysis of the total number of interviewees provided by each referral source for each of the vacancies filled during the Applicable Period of this report:

Chart Showing Total Number Interviewees by Source for Each Vacancy			
Full-Time Position	Recruitment Sources of Interviewees	Total Referred by Source	
Sales Representative	On-air Announcements SEU Station(s) Word-of-Mouth (Walk-in Applicant)	2	
Engineer	Word-of-Mouth (Walk-in Applicant)	1	
Traffic/Bookkeeper	Word-of-Mouth (Walk-in Applicant) SEU Station(s) Bulletin Board(s)	1 1	

Total number of persons interviewed during Applicable Period: 6

Supplemental Outreach Initiatives

During the Applicable Period, the Tri-Cities SEU undertook several Supplemental Outreach Initiatives to increase awareness of employment opportunities in the broadcasting industry and with the Tri-Cities SEU. Below is a list of initiatives undertaken by the SEU:

- East Tennessee State University Internship In June 2024, an internship with a student at East Tennessee State University was established with the SEU. The intern was given "hands-on" tutoring in how to use audio editing software for commercial production and was allowed to participate with staff members at live promotional events conducted by the Stations of the SEU. The intern also was given training regarding the daily activities in the control rooms of the Stations while job-shadowing SEU staff members. Members of management also discussed career opportunities in the radio broadcasting industry with the intern and discussed Bristol Broadcasting Company's EEO policies.
- Bristol Youth Leadership Career Day On February 2025, the Tri-Cities SEU participated in the Bristol Youth Leadership Career Day hosted by the Bristol Chamber of Commerce. Members of the SEU management team including Operations Manager Chris Arnold were panelists at the event. Arnold led discussions about careers in the radio broadcasting industry and the various roles prospective employees could hold in the broadcast business and particularly with Bristol Broadcasting Company. Students at the event participated in a question-and-answer session with the SEU management members. Questions fielded included inquiries about various positions available in broadcasting and education courses that would be beneficial to and suggested for each broadcasting career choice.
- Outreach to Organizations That Help Job Seekers To aid in the dissemination of information about vacancies and to make organization that regularly assist job seekers aware that they can be added to a list of entities that receive notice of all full-time opening at the Station Employment Unit, Bristol Broadcasting Company continually has posted on its corporate website (which is hyperlinked from all the SEU Stations' websites) a notice to such organization encouraging them to request inclusion on the list. An online form is provided for convenience in requesting notice of vacancies.

Analysis of Recruitment and EEO Program

Each year while preparing its EEO Annual Public File Report, management of the Tri-Cities SEU completes an analysis of any recruitment activities and reviews the overall efficacy of the EEO program of the SEU. In studying the recruitment efforts conducted during the 12 months covered by this Report, management members believed that sufficient notice of each full-time opening was disseminated broadly enough to allow any potential qualified candidate to be aware of the opportunity and to apply if interested. Regardless, there were very few applicants for either of the three full-time positions that occurred, and only six applicants were deemed to be qualified for the position for which they applied. There was only one applicant for the engineering position. These numbers, however, were not surprising to management. Antidotal stories from others in the broadcast industry have in recent years established that fewer and fewer individuals are seeking employment in the radio broadcasting business. Indeed, the

Bristol Broadcasting Company had been seeking an engineer for several years. Even after placing advertisements in industry publications and through several radio broadcasting association job banks for several months, no qualified individual had applied.

Ultimately, after careful review, the SEU management concluded that it was not a fault of its recruitment efforts but a condition of a "tight" labor market and a lack of interest in employment in the radio business that resulted in so few applicants. Management believed that its list of Specialized Recruitment Sources encompassed entities from many diverse segments of the community which should be helpful in reaching qualified applicants in varied demographic groups. No new entities were identified that would add to the outreach in a significant way. It was noted that there were fewer events such as career/job fairs that were scheduled in the region in which the SEU could participate during the reporting period. The scarcity of career fairs was attributed to a "hang-over" from the Covid 19 Pandemic period and is also a result of a very tight labor market in the SEU region. Overall, this review concluded that the SEU's plan and program for giving notice of any full-time vacancy at the SEU would generally be adequate to allow any qualified individual who might wish to apply for an open position to have multiple opportunities to learn about such an opening.

Bristol Broadcasting Company, Inc., is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, or gender and will continue to pursue ways and means to continue to widely disseminate information regarding job vacancies with the company.

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