



# NEWS

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**Federal Communications Commission  
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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See *MCI v. FCC*, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).

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Report No. CI 98-28

COMPLIANCE & INFORMATION ACTION

December 4, 1998

## **FCC AUDIT OF ANTENNA STRUCTURES INDICATES POOR COMPLIANCE WITH REGISTRATION RULES**

The Federal Communications Commission said today that, based on a recent Commission audit of existing antenna structures, owners of those structures requiring an FCC registration who have not done so must register their structures immediately. The audit, conducted by the Commission's Compliance and Information Bureau (CIB), found that 368 of the 1,331 structures audited, or 28 percent, were not registered as required by FCC rules.

The Commission requires that certain structures that may pose a hazard to air navigation must be registered with the Commission. The majority of these structures are also required to display special painting and lighting in the interest of air traffic safety. Part 17 of the Commission's Rules (47 C.F.R. §17) requires that all existing structures which needed painting or lighting prior to July 1, 1996, had to be registered with the Commission prior to July 1, 1998.

The Commission rules also require the owner to display the registration number in a visible location near the base of the structure. The audit discovered, however, that the registration number was missing from more than half of those structures already registered. The audit will now serve as the Commission's starting point to actively increase its efforts to boost compliance.

Richard D. Lee, CIB Bureau Chief, said, "The Commission places special emphasis on the obligation of antenna structure owners to register their structures, post the registration number at the site, and provide a copy of the registration to all tenant licensees. We consider the antenna structure registration program an essential part of air traffic safety. We will, therefore, step up our efforts to audit antenna structures for proper registration. Failure to comply may result in the issuance of monetary forfeitures to the owners."

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