



# ANNOUNCEMENT

from the Copyright Office, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20559-6000

CHANGE IN SCHEDULE FOR WRITTEN TESTIMONY.

## REVISION OF THE CABLE AND SATELLITE CARRIER COMPULSORY LICENSES; PUBLIC MEETINGS

The following excerpt is taken from Volume 62, Number 73 of the  
*Federal Register* for Wednesday, April 16, 1997 (pp. 18655-18656)

### LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

#### Copyright Office

[Docket No. 97-1]

#### Revision of the Cable and Satellite Carrier Compulsory Licenses; Public Meetings

**AGENCY:** Copyright Office, Library of  
Congress.

**ACTION:** Change in schedule for written  
testimony.

**SUMMARY:** The Copyright Office is  
examining the copyright licensing of  
broadcast retransmissions for the purpose  
of recommending legislative changes to  
Congress. In response to a request for an  
extension of time in filing comments for  
this study, the Copyright Office is  
announcing changes in the schedule for  
filing written testimony, reply comments,  
and notices of intention to testify. The  
dates of the public meetings remain  
unchanged.

**DATES:** Formal written testimony and  
questions for witnesses shall be filed no  
later than April 28, 1997, and reply  
comments shall be filed no later than June  
16, 1997. Notices of intention to testify  
shall be submitted to the Office no later  
than April 22, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** If delivered by hand,  
fifteen copies of written statements,  
questions, and reply comments should be  
brought to: Office of the General  
Counsel, Copyright Office, James  
Madison Memorial Building, Room LM-  
403, First and Independence Avenue, S.E.,  
Washington, D.C. 20540. If sent by mail,

fifteen copies of written statements,  
questions, and reply comments should be  
sent addressed to Nanette Petruzzelli,  
Acting General Counsel, Copyright GC/  
I&R, P.O. Box 70400, Southwest Station,  
Washington, D.C. 20024.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

**CONTACT:** Nanette Petruzzelli, Acting  
General Counsel, or William Roberts,  
Senior Attorney for Compulsory Licenses.  
Telephone (202) 707-8380. Telefax: (202)  
707-8366.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

On February 6, 1997, Senator Orrin  
Hatch, Chairman of the Committee on the  
Judiciary, United States Senate, sent a  
letter to the Register of Copyrights  
requesting the Copyright Office to  
conduct a global review of the copyright  
licensing regimes governing the  
retransmission of over-the-air broadcast  
signals. The Copyright Office is  
scheduled to report its findings to  
Congress on August 1, 1997.

On March 20, 1997, the Copyright  
Office announced a schedule for open  
public meetings to gather testimony from  
parties with an interest in copyright  
licensing of broadcast signal  
retransmissions. 62 FR 13396 (March 20,  
1997). The Office requested parties  
wishing to testify to notify the Office by  
April 15, 1997, and to submit their formal  
written testimony and questions for  
witnesses no later than April 18, 1997.  
Interested parties were asked to submit  
reply comments by June 3, 1997. The  
public meetings are to take place the  
week of May 6, 1997.

On April 7, 1997, the Office received a  
joint motion requesting an extension of  
time for the filing of written testimony

and questions for witnesses. Joining the  
motion are the National Association of  
Broadcasters, Satellite Broadcasting  
Communications Association, Joint Sports  
Claimants, Association of Local Television  
Stations, Inc., the Motion Picture  
Association of America, Inc., and the  
Public Broadcasting Service. These  
parties request a sixty day extension,  
noting that the questions presented by the  
Office in the March 20 *Federal Register*  
notice raise a number of issues of broad  
importance which require further  
deliberation. In particular, the parties  
state that additional time is required to  
evaluate the impact of the Supreme  
Court's decision in *Turner Broadcasting  
System, Inc. v. FCC*, 1997 U.S. Lexis 2078  
(March 31, 1997). Additionally, the  
parties submit that the current schedule  
may adversely impact the ongoing  
negotiations between broadcasters and  
satellite carriers to settle "white area"  
restriction problems under the Satellite  
Home Viewer Act because the parties  
would be required to submit written  
testimony prior to finalizing any  
agreements. In sum, the parties advise  
that the quality of the testimony and the  
likelihood of consensus solutions to issues  
raised in the March 20 notice will be  
greatly improved, if the 60 day extension  
is granted.

Due to scheduling difficulties and the  
firmness of the August 1, 1997 deadline,  
the Office is unable to grant a 60 day  
extension at this time. However, the  
Office is granting a 10 day extension for  
the filing of comments and a 13 day  
extension for the filing of reply  
comments. Formal written testimony and  
written questions for witnesses shall be  
due no later than the close of business on  
April 28, 1997, and reply comments shall

be due no later than the close of business on June 16, 1997. In addition, parties may submit their notices of intention to testify no later than April 22, 1997. Parties who have already submitted such notification need not do so again. All other deadlines and filing requirements announced in the March 20 **Federal Register** notice shall remain in force.

Dated: April 11, 1997.

**Nanette Petruzzelli**

*Acting General Counsel*

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