



# PMBA Statements

Your Business Intelligence Newsletter from the Public Media Business Association

Welcome to the New *PMBA Statements*

You may have noticed that the *PMBA Statements* have been taking a bit of a break; however, we are back in 2019 to bring you a newly designed publication! With this relaunch, we hope to bring you more PMBA news to augment the industry news that was included in previous editions. If you would like to contribute articles to the new *PMBA Statements*, here is how you can help:

1. Join the *PMBA Statements* Committee. This group of members will be assisting staff in creating the editorial calendar and reviewing content. This is a great way to get involved with PMBA, and we promise you won't have to write anything if you don't want to.
2. Contribute an article. We are looking for news from your station as well as any relevant industry news you would like to share. Please note that all content will be reviewed by the committee prior to publication.

If you would like to contribute in either of these ways, please email [info@pmbaonline.org](mailto:info@pmbaonline.org) with the subject line "PMBA Statements."

I hope you enjoy the revitalized newsletter, and we look forward to bringing you quality content.

Ron Hetrick  
PMBA Board Chair



PMBA 2019  
Annual Conference

ORLANDO

May 13 -16, 2019  
Omni Orlando Resort  
at ChampionsGate

## Federal Shutdown Creates Public File and Repack Headaches for Broadcasters

by COMMLAWCENTER

Broadcasters were spared some of the uncertainty related to the December 22, 2018, government shutdown because the FCC was able to independently fund its operations until January 3, 2019. Now, those funds have run out, and under the Antideficiency Act, FCC employees are prohibited from continuing to work until funds are available to pay them. While the Antideficiency Act doesn't directly affect the FCC's filing and other databases (being automated, they don't get paid as FCC employees), some of those systems are incapable of operating without regular human intervention, and some can operate without human intervention only until they "break," at which point the Antideficiency Act prohibits anyone from maintaining or repairing them.

[Read more](#)

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## Take a Stand for Public Media

by Protect My Public Media

On January 3, 2019, the 116th Congress convened to start its work. You can make a positive first impression on the new Congress, including more than 100 newly elected members.

Take a moment to welcome your lawmakers to the 116th Congress. Your note will remind your members of Congress to invest in public media funding this year.

[Read more](#)

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## 2019 PMBA Special Conference Event Announced

### *Join Your Colleagues for an Evening at Epcot*

Mark your calendars now for May 15, because the Conference Committee is pleased to announce that this year's special event at the PMBA Annual Conference will be hosted at the Great Hall of China at Epcot! Included with the price of your conference registration will be transportation to and from the park, admittance to the park after 5:00 pm, light fare at the Great Hall of China, and the Disney Illumination show at the end of the evening. Tickets will be provided to all attendees ahead of the event, so if you would like to upgrade your ticket to Fast Pass, you can do that. A separate guest registration will be available for this event as well, so please stay tuned for the opening of registration at the end of January.

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## If Public Radio's Smaller Stations Vanish, We All Lose

by Current

The disparity between large and small is growing, and the trend is accelerating. As a ratio of our Total Station Revenue, small stations make up the largest percentage of NPR membership. We also pay the greatest percentage of NPR programming fees. "Middle" stations pay less, large stations still less, and the largest stations the least percentage. I've heard a couple mega-managers say that they shouldn't be taxed for their success. But it seems to me that smaller entities already pay a "penalty tax" for serving more rural locations and smaller population densities. It does not seem equitable. More to the point, the path we are on cannot sustain our current model of service.

[Read more](#)

## Free PMBA Webinar

### FCC Repack: A Financial Perspective

**Wednesday, January 30, 2019, 3:00 pm ET**

From the towers into the trenches, this webinar will feature actual station experiences from folks on the front lines. Get practical advice about implementation and reimbursement, hear hard-learned lessons, and take away key tips to make your transition a little easier. Join our next PMBA webinar and learn from those who have gone before. This webinar is free to employees at PMBA member stations. Learning Objectives:

- Understand the repack process
- Learn the impact on both TV and radio
- Take away key lessons learned from experienced public media managers

[Register Today](#)



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