

Chapter 38 of the Society of Broadcast Engineers

SBE

EL PASO - LAS CRUCES - JUÁREZ

SEPTEMBER  
2016

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# NEWS



## FCC SETS FOR NEW BY-THE-BOOK EAS TEST.

AUG. 22, 2016

As broadcasters gear up for next month's national Emergency Alert System test, the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau has released a new EAS Operating Handbook. Under Federal Communication Commission regulations, a copy of the handbook must be located at normal duty positions or near EAS equipment when a test is being administered. For stations, that means the newest version of the handbook must be in place in time for the Sept. 28 national EAS test.

The handbook's new format was designed by broadcasters, equipment manufacturers and regulators in a format that will allow each station to enter specific data to create their own tailored version of the document showing the operational steps necessary for that station.

The FCC continues to prepare stations for the second-ever national EAS test, which will take place at 2:20pm ET on Wed., Sept. 28. Before then, radio and TV stations are required to register with the EAS Test Reporting System (ETRS) by August 26. That will come into play after the next month's national test when broadcasters will use the

web-based system to file a brief initial "day of test" report within 24 hours of the national activation to be followed by a more detailed post-test documentation by Nov. 14.

The national test will assess the "reliability and effectiveness" of the EAS according to the FCC which says a particular emphasis will be paid to testing FEMA's Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS). That's the gateway through which common alerting protocol-based (CAP-based) alerts are disseminated to EAS participants including local radio and TV stations. "One of the main purposes of the test is to measure delays and latencies in the delivery of alerts," the FCC says in a statement.

Following the previous national test in 2011, the FCC says next month's activation will be "diagnostic in nature" to show how well improvements made in the past five years work—and what else needs to be addressed.

Download a copy of the 2016 EAS Operating Handbook [HERE](#).

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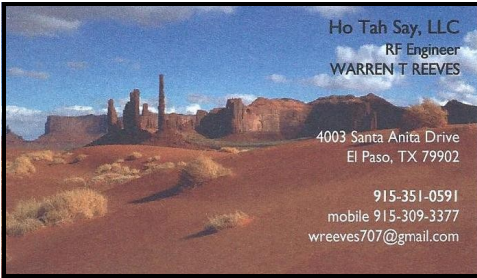
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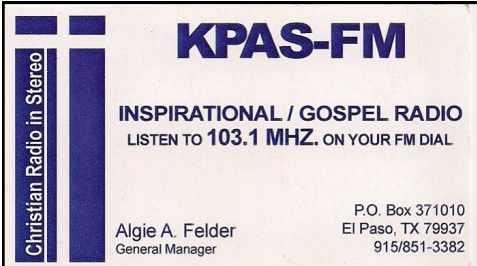
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Ho Tah Say, LLC  
RF Engineer  
WARREN T. REEVES

4003 Santa Anita Drive  
El Paso, TX 79902

915-351-0591  
mobile 915-309-3377  
wreeves707@gmail.com

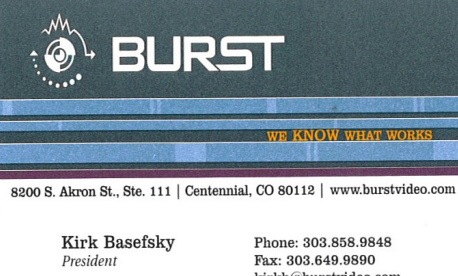


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801 North Oregon  
El Paso, TX 79902  
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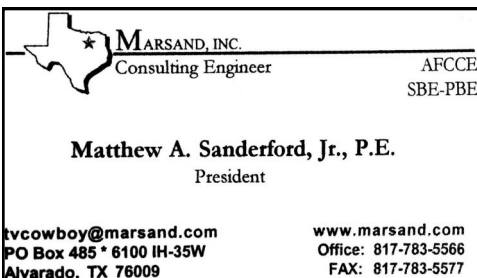
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KEVIN LOVELL  
General Manager

KVIA-TV 7  
4140 Rio Bravo  
El Paso, Texas 79902  
Tel. (915) 496-7777  
Fax. (915) 532-0070

Website  
kvia.com  
e-mail  
kvia@kvia.com



**MARSAND, INC.**  
Consulting Engineer

AFCEE  
SBE-PBE

Matthew A. Sanderford, Jr., P.E.  
President

tvcowboy@marsand.com  
PO Box 485 • 6100 IH-35W  
Alvarado, TX 76009

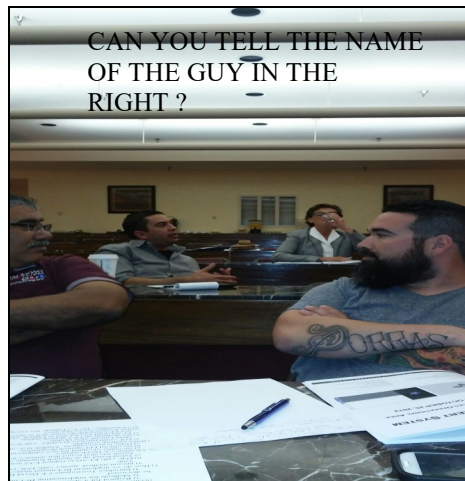
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## SBE Files Comments on RF Noise, Urges Noise Study

On August 11, the SBE filed comments with the FCC regarding [a public notice in ET Docket 16-191](#). The FCC informed readers that its Technological Advisory Council (TAC), an advisory group to the FCC operating under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, [is investigating changes and trends](#) to the radio spectrum noise floor to determine if there is an increasing noise problem, and if so, the scope and quantitative evidence of such problem(s), and how a noise study should be performed. In its comments, the SBE provided responses to the TAC for its investigation. Further, the SBE provided insight into the scope and quantitative evidence of the problem and stated that a noise study should be performed by the TAC.

SBE President Jerry Massey, CPBE, 8-VSB, AMD, DRB, CBNT, adds, "The SBE has taken a leading role in addressing the RF noise issue. The SBE-recommended study is extremely important in identifying the obstacles to AM revitalization and interference to FM and OTA television broadcasting. A successful noise study will provide insight as well into the FCC's spectrum planning, and it will provide some desperately needed objectivity in rules governing Part 15 and Part 18 devices and the process of spectrum overlays in the broadcast auxiliary service bands."

The SBE filing [is posted online](#). For more details on the issue, see the [full article](#) at the News & Headlines section of the SBE website.



## SBE CHAPTER 38 OFFICERS

### CHAIRMAN

Antonio Castro  
SBE member # 11456.  
KFOX/COX retired Chief Eng.  
800 Arredondo dr.  
El Paso. TX 79912  
915-584-1220 home  
915-525-8507 cell  
farahjac@sbcglobal.net

### VICE CHAIRMAN

Carlos Sosa  
SBE member # 26533  
801 N Oregon St.  
El Paso, TX 79902  
915-496-4444 Office  
csosa@ktsm.com

### TREASURER

Walter Hanthorn  
SBE member # 18307  
KSCE TV  
4461 Gen. Maloney  
El Paso, TX. 79924  
915-269-7583 home  
915-532-8588 office

### CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE:

David Halperin.

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Antonio Castro  
Warren Reeves

### FREQUENCY COORDINATION COMMITTEE:

Warren Reeves  
Owen Smith

### SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:

Rick Vilardell

### WB SITE COMMITTEE:

Norbert Miles

### SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP:

Antonio Castro

### PROGRAM CHAIRMAN:

Warren Reeves

### NEWSLETTER:

Antonio Castro

### EAS CHAIRMAN:

David Halpering

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Antonio Castro  
Carlos Sosa  
Walter Hanthorn



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mikeryan3@iheartmedia.com



EL PASO, TX      SBE CHAPTER 38      MEETING MINUTE

DATE 08/09/2016      LOCATION: RIO CHINA BUFFET.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** 12:22 PM, BY ANTONIO CASTRO.  
THERE WERE 15 ATTENDANTS.

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY:** MINUTES IN THE JULY NEWSLETTER.  
ACCEPTED BY NORBERT MILES, SECONDED BY DAVID GRICE.

**REPORT OF THE TREASURER:** \$ 3,903.98 IN THE BANK, AFTER  
CHECK FOR PO BOX RENEWAL AND FRAME FOR AWARD. ACCEPTED  
BY NORBERT MILES, SECONDED BY BRUNO CRUZ.

**REPORT OF THE CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE:** FOR NOVEMBER,  
SEVEN TO TEST FOR CTO (FROM KFOX14/CBS4).

**REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:** TO INVITE KURT  
SCHINI FROM HARMONIC/PEBBLE BEACH SYSTEMS.

**REPORT OF THE FREQUENCY COORDINATOR COMMITTEE:** NO RE-  
PORT.

**REPORT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:** NO REPORT.

**REPORT OF THE WEBSITE COMMITTEE:** 2073 HITS LAST TIME, NOW  
2084. ( 11 ).

**REPORT OF THE EAS CHAIRMAN:** TEXAS MONTHLY TEST WAS  
RECEIVED AND RE-BROADCASTED. MISSED NEW MEXICO  
MONTHLY TEST.

**REPORT OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE:** NO REPORT

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** WILL UPDATE THE LIST OF E-MAILS AND  
PHONE NUMBERS OF THE CHAPTER MEMBERS. AWARD PRESENTED  
TO OWEN SMITH.

**NEW BUSINESS OR ANY ITEMS FOR THE CHAPTER INTERES:**  
NORBERT MILES REPORTED THAT NEW COMMUNICATIONS TOWER  
FROM THE RAIL ROAD PROBABLY WILL INTERFERE IN RADIATION  
PATTERN IN THE LOWER SITE.

**NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION:** SEPTEMBER 13, 2016.  
PLACE: EL ARRIERO MEXICAN RESTAURANT, MESA INN @ NOON.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** AT 12:54 PM.

**I SAVED AN ARTICLE ABOUT  
DIFFERENT CARTRIDGES  
FOR TURNTABLES. SEND AN  
E-MAIL AND I WILL SEND IT!!**



# SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

AUGUST WAS A NON-PRESENTER MEETING, BUT TURN OUT TO BE OF GREAT ATTENDANCE WHERE IT WAS PRESENTED THE AWARD OF THE 2016 CHAPTER ENGINEER OF THE YEAR TO OUR COLEAGE AND FRIEND OWEN SMITH AT THE GRAND CHINA BUFFET



FOR SEPTEMBER, OUR PRESENTER IS STIL PENDING, WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION YET, BUT WE ARE GOING TO HAVE OUR REGULAR MEETING AT THE MEXICAN RESTAURANT "EL ARRIERO", MESA INN (FORMER BUFFET) RIGHT ON SEPTEMBER 13TH AT LUNCH TIME.

LET'S MEET AND HAVE A GOOD TIME WITH FRIENDS !!!

