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August 9, 2000
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Hon. William Kennard, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Kennard:

CBS Radio 880 AM (New York) is a 24 hour news station which announces all day, "Experience You Can Trust, Count on CBS News." One of their regular team of newscasters is Mr. Harley Carnes. On July 21, 2000, at about 1 P.M., Mr. Carnes delivered a surprising trashing attack on Vice President Albert Gore including, "Al Gore, who the heck are you?" and "You put people to sleep."


Since Mr. Carnes is a regular CBS newscaster, his words were startling and confusing to say the least. On May 23, 2000, at 1:30 P.M. during a typical newscast program, Mr. Harley Carnes delivered a slashing, insulting attack on First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton with innuendos concerning the impeachment of President Clinton. There was no statement that Mr. Carnes did not represent the views of CBS Radio or its sponsors. On March 29, 2000, once again during a regular newscast program, Mr. Harley Carnes delivered a mean-spirited commentary referring to our "draft dodging President."

Chairman Kennard, I am aware of First Amendment rights; however, I am concerned that an outside organization may be responsible for Mr. Harley Carnes' obvious attacks on President Clinton, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and Vice President Albert Gore. I am also concerned that CBS Radio 880 A.M. may be directing Mr. Harley Carnes to deliver these political attacks directed at the Clintons and Gore. If CBS Radio 880 A.M. is aware of these attacks, it may be in violation of pertinent FCC Regulations and possibly illegal.

I would be most grateful if the Federal Communications Commission would advise me if Mr. Harley Carnes' conduct which may be sanctioned by CBS could be improper.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,



Eli Mason

Copy: Hon. Darryl Wole, Chairman
Federal Election Commission