- 2. A major concern of the amateur service community is that the system adopted for allocation of vanity call signs be fair and equitable. To ensure fairness, a filing priority schedule will be adhered to.
- 3. The schedule has a series of starting gates. Gate One would be for former holders or a close relative of a deceased holder. Gate Two would allow Amateur Extra Class operators to apply. Gate Three would allow Advanced Class operators to apply and Gate Four would open the system to any licensee. The final gate will also allow a club station license trustee to apply for the call sign of a deceased former holder. The license trustee must obtain a written consent from a close relative of the deceased. Applications for a vanity call sign will be made on Form 610-V. A fee of \$70.00 must be submitted along with the application form when requesting a new or renewed vanity call sign. Applicants will be able to list up to twenty-five call signs in the order of their preference on the Form 610-V. The sequential call sign system will continue to be available for new licensees and for those persons who do not want vanity call signs.
- 4. A call sign vacated by a licensee will not be available to the vanity call sign system for two years. This is consistent with the waiting period for assignability of a deceased person's station call sign or for assignability of a call sign associated with a station license that has expired.
- 5. The amended rules provide for the resumption of licensing of new club and military recreation station licenses. Once a new club or military recreation station license is obtained, the holder thereof may then apply for a vanity call sign, if desired.
- 6. This Report and Order is issued under the authority of 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i) and 303(r).

#### List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 97

Club stations, Military recreation stations, Radio, Vanity call signs.

Federal Communications Commission.

William F. Caton,

Acting Secretary.

# **Amended Rules**

Part 97 of Chapter I of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

#### PART 97—AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE

1. The authority citation for Part 97 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 48 Stat. 1066, 1082, as amended; 47 U.S.C. §§ 154, 303. Interpret or apply 48 Stat. 1064–1068, 1081–1105, as

amended; 47 U.S.C. §§ 151–155, 301–609, unless otherwise noted.

2. Section 97.3 is amended by redesignating paragraphs (a)(11) through (a)(45) as paragraphs (a)(12) through (a)(46) and adding new paragraph (a)(11) to read as follows:

### § 97.3 Definitions.

(a) \* \* \*

(11) Call sign system. The method used to select a call sign for amateur station over-the-air identification purposes. The call sign systems are:

(i) Sequential call sign system. The call sign is selected by the FCC from an alphabetized list corresponding to the geographic region of the licensee's mailing address and operator class. The call sign is shown on the license. The FCC will issue public announcements detailing the procedures of the sequential call sign system.

(ii) Vanity call sign system. The call sign is selected by the FCC from a list of call signs requested by the licensee. The call sign is shown on the license. The FCC will issue public announcements detailing the procedures of the vanity call sign system.

3. Section 97.17 is amended by revising paragraph (f) and adding paragraph (h) to read as follows:

# § 97.17 Application for new license or reciprocal permit for alien amateur licensee.

\* \* \* \* \*

- (f) One unique call sign will be shown on the license of each new primary, club, and military recreation station. The call sign will be selected by the sequential call sign system.
- (h) Each application for a new club or military recreation station license must be submitted to the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325–7245. No new license for a RACES station will be igned.
- 4. Section 97.19 is added to read as follows:

## § 97.19 Application for a vanity call sign.

(a) A person who has been granted an operator/primary station license or a license trustee who has been granted a club station license is eligible to make application for modification of the license, or the renewal thereof, to show a call sign selected by the vanity call sign system. RACES and military recreation stations are not eligible for a vanity call sign.

(b) Each application for a modification of an operator/primary or club station license, or the renewal thereof, to show a call sign selected by the vanity call sign system must be made on FCC Form 610–V. The form must be submitted with the proper fee to the address specified in the Private Radio Services Fee Filing Guide.

(c) Only unassigned call signs that are available to the sequential call sign system are available to the vanity call sign system with the following exceptions:

(1) A call sign shown on an expired license is not available to the vanity call sign system for 2 years following the expiration of the license.

(2) A call sign shown on a surrendered, revoked, set aside, cancelled, or voided license is not available to the vanity call sign system for 2 years following the date such action is taken.

(3) Except for an applicant who is the spouse, child, grandchild, stepchild, parent, grandparent, stepparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, or in-law, and except for an applicant who is a club station license trustee acting with the written consent of at least one relative, as listed above, of a person now deceased, the call sign shown on the license of a person now deceased is not available to the vanity call sign system for 2 years following the person's death, or for 2 years following the expiration of the license, whichever is sooner.

(d) Except for an applicant who is the spouse, child, grandchild, stepchild, parent, grandparent, stepparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, or in-law, and except for an applicant who is a club station license trustee acting with the written consent of at least one relative, as listed above, of a person now deceased who had been granted the license showing the call sign requested, the vanity call sign requested by an applicant must be selected from the groups of call signs designated under the sequential call sign system for the class of operator license held by the applicant or for a lower class.

(1) The applicant must request that the call sign shown on the current license be vacated and provide a list of up to 25 call signs in order of preference.

(2) The first assignable call sign from the applicant's list will be shown on the license grant. When none of those call signs are assignable, the call sign vacated by the applicant will be shown on the license grant.

(3) Vanity call signs will be selected from those call signs assignable at the time the application is processed by the FCC.

5. Section 97.21(a)(3) is revised to read as follows: