

Meeting Notice**Thursday, June 14, Denny's**Shawnee Mission Pky and I-35, (913) 831-3285
Gather at 11:30 am, Meeting at 12:00 pm.

We return to our former meeting place of over one year ago, which at that time was a Shoney's. There is no formal program this month. We will take some time to discuss the national awards and a few other items of chapter interest. □



Certification Dates		
Exam Date	Location	App. Deadline
August 17-27	Local Chapter	July 9
November 9-19	Local Chapter	September 28

Last Month's Meeting

Mike Douthat was our host at the recently updated KCUR facilities. The entire facility has been made digital ready for the eventual complete transition to digital signalling. Mike discussed the advantages and shortcomings of this wiring plan. Also included in the facility upgrade was a new AudioVault audio storage/playback installation.

Awards Nomination Forms Now Available

Nomination forms for the 2000 National SBE Awards program are in the March issue of the *SBE Signal* and are available on the SBE website. Winners will be chosen by the National Awards Committee, and awards presented at the national meeting in September.

The nomination deadline has been extended until June 22. We will discuss potential nominations at the meeting. Please bring your ideas.

Abernathy and Copps Join FCC

Kathleen Q. Abernathy and Michael J. Copps have been sworn in as commissioners of the Federal Communications Commission. Abernathy's term will expire June 30, 2004, Copps' term runs until June 30, 2005.

Before her appointment to the FCC, Abernathy was director for government affairs at BroadBand Office, a partner in the Washington, DC, law firm of Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP, vice president for regulatory affairs at U.S. West (now known as Qwest Communications), and vice president for federal regulatory at AirTouch Communications. She also served as legal advisor to FCC Commissioner Sherrie Marshall and Chairman James Quello.

Abernathy received a B.S. from Marquette University and a J.D. from Columbus School of Law, The Catholic University of America. She is a member and former president of the Federal Communications Bar Association and a member of the Washington, DC, Bar. Abernathy resides in Bethesda, MD.

Copps served until January 2001 as assistant secretary of commerce for trade development at the U.S. Department of Commerce, where he was previously deputy assistant secretary of commerce for basic industries. Copps came to Washington in 1970, joining the staff of Senator Ernest Hollings (D-SC) and serving for more than a dozen years as chief of staff.

EAS Required Monthly Test
June 26

The EAS RMT is sent on the last Tuesday of the month.

He has also held positions at Collins and Aikman Corporation and the American Meat Institute. Before coming to Washington, Copps

was a professor of U.S. History at Loyola University of the South. Copps received a B.A. from Wofford College and earned a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Copps resides in Alexandria, VA.

The new commissioners join Commissioner Gloria Tristani, who was appointed to the Commission in 1997 with her term ending in 2003, and Chairman Michael Powell, whose term ends in 2002.

FCC Issues EAS Handbook for 2001

The Federal Communications Commission has released the 2001 edition of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) AM/FM, TV and Cable Handbooks.

The EAS Handbooks contain basic system operation procedures for broadcast station and cable system operators to use during EAS activations. These documents provide instructions for national, state and local EAS activations.

They also contain testing procedures and script samples that may be used during EAS activations and tests.

The 2001 EAS Handbooks are essentially the same as the 1997 and 1998 versions, with the exception of references to the *Authenticator List*. The FCC discontinued the use of the authenticator lists in 1998. The new Handbooks were, therefore, modified to delete any reference to such lists.

Section 11.15 of the Commission's rules requires that a copy of the Handbook must be located at "normal duty positions or EAS equipment locations when an operator is required to be on duty and be immediately available to staff responsible for authenticating messages and initiating actions." Either the 1997 or 1998 versions or the new 2001 versions of the Handbooks may be used for compliance with the FCC Rules.

Download the new booklet from the Enforcement Bureau's Internet home page at: www.fcc.gov/eb/eas. Printed copies may be ordered by calling toll free 800-418-3676, or contact Chriss Scherer if you need assistance in obtaining a new copy.

SBE Membership Drive Ends

The annual SBE Membership Drive successfully concluded on May 31 with more than 350 members joining since March 1. Dozens of prizes will be drawn on July 14 at the SBE Executive Committee meets in Indianapolis. This will be the regular summer meeting of that committee. All member sponsors are eligible to win a prize and will receive a \$5.00 discount off their 2002 SBE Membership renewal for each new member (up to five) they have recruited.

The top recruiting chapters in large and small categories will also be recognized with special awards at the SBE National Meeting in September in Verona, NY. □

Upcoming Meetings

The regular meetings of SBE Chapter 59 are the second Thursday of every month.

July 12
August 9
September 13

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