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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION SUSPENDS MOST OF ITS OPERATIONS DUE TO A POTENTIAL LAPSE IN FUNDING CAUSED BY THE PARTIAL FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN BUT SOME KEY SYSTEMS WILL REMAIN AVAILABLE

The Federal Communications Commission (Commission) on January 3, 2019, announced that at noon it was suspending most of its operations due to a potential lapse of funding caused by the partial federal government shutdown. The Public Notice can be viewed using the following link: <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-19-10A1.pdf>.

Systems That Will Remain Available

The following Commission systems will remain available during the partial federal shutdown:

- Network Outage Reporting System (NORS)
- Disaster Information Reporting System (DIRS)
- Public Safety Support Center (PSSC)
- Licensing Management System (LMS)
- Consolidated Database System (CDBS)
- Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS)
- Universal Licensing System (ULS)
- Electronic Document Management System (EDOCS)
- Auctions Public Reporting System (PRS)
- Auction Application System
- Auction Bidding System
- Daily Digest
- Commission Online Registration System (CORES)

However, the Commission will provide no support for these systems except as may be necessary for activities related to spectrum auctions. All other Commission electronic filing and database systems will be unavailable to the public until normal agency operations resume.

How Long Will The Suspension Of Operations Last?

There is no way to predict the duration of the Commission's suspension of operations but the Commission will resume full operations on the second business day following the passage of a funding bill that goes into law. Until that occurs, the suspension of operations will continue indefinitely until the budget situation is resolved.

Impact on Filings with the Commission

The Commission is extending the normal filing deadlines under the Commission's rules so that all Commission submissions that would be due during the suspension of operations, including submissions otherwise due on January 3, will be due on the second day of normal operations. However, this extension of filing deadlines does not apply to NORS and DIRS filings and filings related to spectrum auction activities.

Other Federal Agencies Also Impacted

Carriers may experience similar lapses in service from other federal agencies during the shutdown, which may cause some delays until a new funding budget has been passed.

Please contact your GVNW Consultant or Steve Gatto (830.895.7226), sgatto@gvnw.com with any additional questions on the government shutdown.