

Report of the Amateur Radio Legal Defense & Assistance Committee 2015 Annual Meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors – January, 2015

Committee Members: Director Cliff Ahrens, KØCA, Chairman; Director Jim Pace K7CEX; Vice Director Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF; Vice Director Jim Tiemstra K6JAT; Vice Director Marty Woll N6VI; General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD; and Jim O’Connell, W9WU.

Committee Activities

The Amateur Radio Legal Defense & Assistance Committee (ARLDAC) is charged with evaluating individual requests for financial assistance from amateurs involved in legal, legislative, or regulatory activities relating to Amateur Radio. The sole source of funding awards is the ARRL Legal Research and Resource Fund.

In July, 2014, the ARLDAC approved a request from the Poway (CA) Amateur Radio Society for funding in the amount of \$3,000 to help pay for an experienced land-use attorney’s fees to seek changes to an ordinance which imposes a fixed 35-foot limit on the height of all structures within the city limits of the City of Poway, California. In this highly visible matter, Southwestern Division Director Norton and Vice-Director Woll have spoken at City Council meetings and there has been substantial financial and personal support from local radio amateurs. ARRL’s General Counsel Chris Imlay W3KD worked with representatives of the Poway ARS and land use attorney Felix Tinkov on the successful effort to pass the ordinance. On August 5, 2014, the Poway City Council unanimously approved an ordinance allowing radio amateurs to erect antenna support structures of up to 65 feet with only a building permit and a courtesy notice to their neighbors. For more information, see the ARRL Web news story at: <http://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-radio-operators-delighted-with-california-city-council-s-antenna-decision>.

The matter of the challenge of Myles Landstein, N2EHG, to the ordinance of the town of LaGrangeville, NY on its face and as applied to Mr. Landstein is still pending. Counsel Imlay has provided several memoranda of law to Mr. Landstein’s counsel. Mr. Imlay has sought an update from Mr/ Landstein, N2EHG, on the status of his antenna case in the Town of LaGrange, New York.

There are no other matters presently pending before the committee.

Cliff Ahrens

Cliff Ahrens, KØCA
Chairman

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