

## **National Communications Authority**

- Press Release

## NCA to Shut Down Defaulting Stations Following Expiration of General Amnesty

*Accra,* 5<sup>th</sup> *February,* 2018 – Following the expiration of the general amnesty granted defaulting FM stations on 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 to regularise their authorisation conditions, the National Communications Authority will be moving in to close down defaulting radio stations.

The Authority had indicated previously that all defaulting commercial FM Stations (Revoked and Fined) in line with the general amnesty granted, were to rectify all outstanding issues by Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2018, and pay a pecuniary penalty based on the number of days of violation but shall not exceed one year in any case.

While some radio stations took advantage of the general amnesty and have met their outstanding regulatory requirements including the payment of outstanding fees and or penalties, others failed to take advantage of this, resulting in the decision to shut them down.

Substantial benefits from the audit and its aftermath including increase in regulatory compliance, voluntary renewal applications, payment of outstanding regulatory fees, impact on other regulated services, clean-up of records and reinforcement of NCA's regulatory role were some of the reasons given for the general amnesty.

The NCA encourages all licencees and authorisation holders to comply with the terms and conditions of their various licences and authorisations for a well regulated communications industry which will serve and benefit all Ghanaians.

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## <u>Editor's Note</u>

## About NCA

The National Communications Authority, (NCA), was established by an Act of Parliament, Act 524 in December 1996, which has been repealed and replaced by the National Communications Authority Act, 2008 (Act 769). The Authority is the statutory body mandated to license and to regulate electronic communication activities and services in the country.