

TELEVISION QUARTERLY ISSUES-PROGRAMS REPORT

Station: WFGX-TV
Location: Fort Walton Beach, FL
Quarter ending: September 30, 2015

ISSUE/description: 5. CONFEDERATE FLAG CONTROVERSY. The killing of black worshippers in a South Carolina church on June 17 triggered a revival of the heated debate over display of the Confederate flag.

How Issue was treated (Program, PSA, etc.):

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time/Duration</u>	<u>Program type</u>	<u>Description</u>
1. Facing Florida	07/05/15	11:30AM/5 minutes	Public Affairs	*

* This week our "Jeb Bush Flashback" segment dealt with the Confederate flag flying over the state capitol in 2001, and how Governor Bush created a controversy by ordering the flag removed.

2. Channel 3 News at 9PM On WFGX	08/20/15	09:00PM/1.5 minutes	News	**
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** Capitol correspondent Mike Vasilinda reported that lawmakers had filed a new bill that would ban the flying of Confederate flags over government buildings in Florida. The legislation is written to apply to any Confederate emblem. It is unsure whether it would apply to Confederate monuments on court house lawns across the state. In Walton County, the NAACP has called for a boycott of the busy beach economy due to one such display.

3. Channel 3 News at 9PM On WFGX	08/24/15	09:00PM/2.5 minutes	News	***
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*** Anthony Pura reported from Milton on the second effort to axe the Confederate Battle Flag from the Milton city seal. The issue was brought up last month, falling in line with a nationwide backlash against confederate symbols. The Milton city council tabled the suggestion then, now City Councilman Alan Lowery has been working with groups like the NAACP and believes they've reached a compromise. They want to see the battle flag replaced with the Confederate Stars and Bars. That version of the Confederate flag flew over Pensacola city hall for a number of years, until city leaders took it down in June. The councilman thinks it is more appropriate since according to his research, the stars and bars flew over the area, and the battle flag never did. He also points out, the stars and bars doesn't carry the same negative symbolism often associated with the battle flag. Lowery is still working on how much a city seal change will cost. He knows of four seals that need to be replaced in city hall. He thinks it will cost under \$1,000 dollars to replace them all. As far as letterheads and decals on city vehicles, Lowery is suggesting those be replaced over time, as they get new inventory.

4. Channel 3 News at 9PM On WFGX	09/15/15	09:00PM/2:15 minutes	News	****
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**** We reported that the Confederate flag flying over the Bill Lundy Memorial in Crestview will come down soon. Crestview City Council members met with the Lundy Family Monday night to finalize plans to relocate the memorial to private property. The family agreed to move it back in July. Critics called for the removal of the monument from public property amid nation-wide debates over the Confederate symbol following the murders of nine African-American parishioners inside a church in South Carolina.