

**FCC ISSUES / PROGRAMS REPORT**

**For 2nd Quarter 2017**

**F.C.C. 73.3256 (e) (11)**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**KTRK-TV (ABC-13)  
HOUSTON, TX**

**July 1, 2017**

**ABC-13 - LOCAL PROGRAMS**  
**2nd Quarter 2017**

**ABC-13 PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMS**

ABC-13 broadcasts four locally-produced programs listed below under its public affairs banner *ABC-13 Community Close Up*. The half-hour magazine format programs address a wide range of subjects of interest to the community, from hard issues and social service topics to human interest stories and culture and entertainment. The programs are broadcast on ABC-13's Channel 13.1 on Sunday mornings at 5:30 a.m., noon and 12:30 p.m. The programs are re-aired on the station's Channel 13.2.

***City View***

Issues and topics concerning the community at-large.

Regular air date - first Sunday of the month at noon. Among the issues discussed this quarter include: a discussion on the growing problem of human trafficking in the Houston area. Authorities say Houston is a hub for sex trafficking. A University of Texas study says there are more than 300,000 human trafficking victims in the state. The Chief of the Harris County District Attorney's Office's Sex Crimes Unit also discussed a case involving a Houston man who became the first person charged under a tough new anti-trafficking law. We spoke to two millennials about their big push to expand their political representation in the Houston area. We previewed Houston Money Week, a citywide initiative to help educate people about taking better care of their finances. And we discussed the opening of the Houston Furniture Banks's new expanded facility that helps families with furniture donations to help them turn their empty houses into homes. We examined the findings of the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Houston Area Survey from Rice University's Dr. Stephen Klineberg, founder of the Kinder Institute of Urban Research. Among the study's highlights include Houstonians positive view of immigrant and gay rights and a widening division between law enforcement and the African American community. We also got a look at high schools of the future as the Houston Independent School District puts the finishing touches on eight new high-tech state of the art high schools designed to be more student friendly. We discussed the city's controversial new homeless encampment ordinance which aims to get tents, furniture, cooking grills and other large items out of public areas. Guest was a University of Houston-Downtown professor who actually lived in homeless shelters and has close ties to the homeless community. We also previewed the 2017 Hurricane Season with ABC-13 Chief Meteorologist Tim Heller.

***Crossroads***

Issues and topics concerning the African American community.

Regular air date - second, third and fourth Sunday of the month, at noon. Among the issues discussed include: an interview with the founder of Black Fathers Matter which was created to combat some of the negative stereotypes about African American fathers. We examined mental illness in the African American community. Experts say African Americans are 20% more likely to experience serious mental health problems than the general population. We talked to a clinical psychologist who offered advice to families on what to look for and where to find help. We offered details on a local competition that paid \$25,000 to a winning local company for improvements to their business. We previewed the rededication of Emancipation Park following a \$33 million dollar makeover. The park is the oldest in the city and was purchased for \$800 by freed slaves in 1872 to celebrate their freedom. We gave details on Houston Black Restaurant Week which aimed to get Houstonians to check out some of the city's

many African American restaurants. We promoted the Space City Liftoff Music Festival that featured some of the city's top hip hop artists. We profiled a fitness trainer who competes at the highest levels with only one leg. We gave details on a new empowerment series launched in Houston to reach a new generation of change-makers. The idea behind "Be the Solution" is to take some of the strategies from the Civil Rights Movement and use them as tactics in today's social struggles. We examined the issues of human trafficking in the African American community and an organization working to bring more awareness to the issue.

### ***Visions***

Issues and topics concerning the Asian/Pacific-American community.

Regular air date - first Sunday of the month, at 12:30pm. Among the issues discussed this quarter include: for Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, we profiled the Chinese Community Center's Asian Heritage Tours which show off attractions like the city's popular Chinatown and Mahatma Gandhi Districts through two different bus tours. We also discussed new research which finds South Asians have an increased risk of developing cardiovascular disease and diabetes. In fact, researchers say more than 60% of cardiovascular disease patients around the world are of South Asian descent. We previewed the Pratham Read-A-Thon program which encourages children in the United States to read books to help disadvantaged kids in India go to school. Pratham has been working to end illiteracy for thousands of children in India for over two decades. We met the owners of Yauatcha Restaurant to find out why they chose Houston as the first location in the continental U.S. for their popular brand. We spoke to members of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance about the 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Chinese Exclusion Act which was the first major law restricting immigration into the United States. We previewed the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Houston Asian American and Pacific Islander Film Festival which celebrates Asian American culture, tradition and life through art, film and music.

### ***Viva Houston***

Issues and topics concerning the Latino community.

Regular air date - second, third and fourth Sunday of the month, at 5:30am and 12:30pm. Among the issues discussed this quarter include: a discussion on a proposed Texas Senate bill that would require public school students to pass a U.S. citizenship test before they could graduate high school. A preview of a new play that focuses on the cultural impact of Latinos. It's called "Native Gardens" and addresses some of the cultural and racial issues in the country today in a humorous fashion. A look at summer programs for youngsters offered at BakerRipley House. An interview with Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo on his first 6 months on the job. Chief Acevedo talked about the challenges of a lack of funding and a dwindling police force. We talked to the Houston Food Bank about the effort to get children signed up for summer food relief. Only one-in-eight children who qualify actually sign up for summer meal assistance. On Father's Day we spoke to a millennial dad on the challenges he faces raising his 3-year old son. We also took a look at drownings in the Houston area. Authorities say Harris County is the number one area in Texas for child drownings. Half of them occurred in residential swimming pools and most victims were young males. In response, the YMCA of Greater Houston adopted a new swim model that stresses personal safety. We also interviewed Dr. Juan Sanchez Munoz, the new leader of the University of Houston-Downtown who aims to increase enrollment and graduation rates. We interviewed Hugo Ortega on winning the James Beard Foundation Award for Best Chef Southwest. It was Ortega's first win after being nominated six times. We also examined why Hispanics face a higher risk of cardiovascular disease.

## ABC-13 NEWS PROGRAMS

### **13 Eyewitness News**

The following *Eyewitness News* programs aired live on Channel 13.1 in the second quarter. Selected news programs aired live simultaneously or were re-broadcasted on Channel 13.2.

*Eyewitness News at 4:30 AM* (Weekdays 4:30 – 5:00am)

*Eyewitness News at 5:00 AM* (Weekdays 5:00 – 5:30am)

*Eyewitness News at 5:30 AM* (Weekdays 5:30 – 6:00am)

*Eyewitness News at 6:00 AM* (Weekdays 6:00 – 7:00am)

Tom Koch, Samica Knight and meteorologist Travis Herzog anchor these three half-hour and one one-hour morning newscasts. The programs cover the latest overnight news, weather, sports, traffic reports and money-saving tips from Patricia Lopez.

*Eyewitness News at 11:00 AM* (Weekdays 11:00 am -12:00pm)

Melanie Lawson, Art Rascon and meteorologist Casey Curry anchor this midday newscast. The program covers the latest news and weather, as well as entertainment news.

*Eyewitness News at 4:00 PM* (Weekdays 4:00 – 5:00pm)

Eric Barajas, Ilona Carson and chief meteorologist Tim Heller anchor this one-hour newscast. The program includes the latest news and weather and money-saving tips from Patricia Lopez.

*Eyewitness News Live at Five* (Weekdays 5:00 - 5:30pm)

Art Rascon, Melanie Lawson and chief meteorologist Tim Heller anchor this half-hour evening newscast covering the latest news, weather and sports.

*Eyewitness News at 6 PM* (Weekdays 6:00-6:30pm)

Gina Gaston, Art Rascon, chief meteorologist Tim Heller and sports director Greg Bailey anchor this half-hour newscast covering the latest news, sports and weather.

*Eyewitness News at 6:30 PM (Weekdays 6:30-7:00pm)*

Ilona Carson, Erik Barajas, chief meteorologist Tim Heller and sports director Greg Bailey anchor this half-hour newscast covering the latest news, sports and weather.

*Eyewitness News at 10 PM (Weekdays 10:00 - 10:35pm)*

Ilona Carson, Gina Gaston, Erik Barajas, chief meteorologist Tim Heller and sports director Greg Bailey anchor this late evening half-hour newscast, covering the latest news, weather and sports.

*Eyewitness News at 5:30 AM (Saturdays 5:30 – 6:00am)*

*Eyewitness News at 6:00 AM (Saturdays 6:00 – 7:00am)*

Chauncy Glover, Mayra Moreno and meteorologist Elita Loresca anchor these newscasts reporting the latest news, weather and sports.

*Eyewitness News at 6:00 PM (Saturdays 6:00 – 6:30pm)*

*Eyewitness News at 10 PM (Saturdays 10:00 – 10:30pm)*

Tom Abrahams, Natasha Barrett, meteorologist David Tillman and sportscaster Bob Slovak anchor these news programs covering the latest news, weather and sports.

*Eyewitness News at 6 AM (Sundays 6:00 – 7:00am)*

*Eyewitness News at 8 AM (Sundays 8:00 – 10:00am)*

Chauncy Glover, Mayra Moreno and meteorologist Elita Loresca anchor these Sunday morning newscasts reporting the latest news, weather and sports.

*Eyewitness News at 5:30 PM (Sundays 5:30 – 6:00pm)*

*Eyewitness News at 10 PM (Sundays 10:00 – 10:30pm)*

Tom Abrahams, Natasha Barrett, meteorologist David Tillman and sportscaster Bob Slovak anchor these Sunday evening news programs covering the latest news, weather and sports.

## LOCALLY PRODUCED PROGRAMS

### **Channel 13.1 Programming**

#### **ABC-13 Presents**

*ABC-13 Presents* productions are locally produced specials covering a full range of subjects, including medical topics, the environment, consumer reports, health and beauty, sports, the arts and events that impact Houstonians. *ABC-13 Presents* programs regularly air on Channel 13.1. On April 1, 2017, we aired a Houston Auto Show Special. Also, on April 1, 2017, we aired a special entitled “The Future of Cars.” On April 22, 2017, we aired a half hour program called “ABC 13 & You,” which featured reports on a Galveston beach cleanup, low rider cars and an interview with young spelling champion. Also on April 22<sup>nd</sup> we aired the 2017 Houston Art Car Parade. On May 7, 2017, we aired a tribute to longtime ABC-13 anchor, Dave Ward, called “Good Evening Friends, I’m Dave Ward.” On May 20, 2017, we aired “Bright Lights on Broadway.” On May 21, 2017, we broadcast “Houston Museum of Natural Science: Mummies of the World.” On May 27, 2017 we aired “Eyewitness Weather: Extreme Storms.” On June 10, 2017, we aired the 2017 Bayou Bowl, featuring area high school football players. On June 11, 2017 we aired the Tommy Tune Awards. And on June 18, 2017 we aired “Bright Lights on Broadway.”

### **Channel 13.2 Programming**

ABC-13’s Channel 13.2 features a variety of locally produced programs, including *13Eyewitness News*, *ABC-13 Presents*, *ABC-13 Community Close Up* and *Live Well HD Network*. Channel 13.2 also features children’s programs and local high school football games.

#### **Live Well HD Network**

Launched by the 8 ABC-owned television stations, Live Well HD Network programs help viewers improve their daily lives. The network airs on Channel 13.2. The network consists of numerous half-hour programs covering a variety of lifestyle topics, including:

Motion – outdoor activities

Say Ahh – health and medicine

Advice for Life – personal growth

Mirror, Mirror – beauty and fashion (locally produced by KTRK)

Deals – money-saving tips (locally produced by KTRK)

Let’s Dish – health cooking

Home with Lisa Quinn – interior design

### **Channel 13.3 Programming**

The station’s HDTV Channel 13.3 broadcasts Laff TV, featuring vintage television comedy reruns. Channel 13.3 also features children’s programs.

## **ABC TELEVISION NETWORK NEWS**

ABC-13 broadcasts all ABC Television Network news programs and special reports. The network's report entitled, "ABC-TV Network Second Quarter 2017 Program Information," is filed separately. A copy of the report is filed in ABC-13's Public Inspection File.

**ABC-13 - CORE ISSUES**  
**2nd Quarter 2017**

**CORE ISSUES**

ABC-13 gave significant coverage to the following community issues and concerns arising in the second quarter of 2017:

1. John Hernandez Choking Death
2. Clint Greenwood Shooting
3. Alleged Murder for Hire
4. Tropical Storm Cindy
5. Houston Rockets Playoff Run

The station's coverage of these core issues is detailed in the next section of this report.



**ABC-13 - CORE ISSUES COVERAGE**  
**2nd Quarter 2017**

**JOHN HERNANDEZ CHOKING DEATH**

***Eyewitness News.* Air Dates: May 28, 29, 30, 31. June 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22. Total coverage: 5 Hours 55 Minutes**

*13 Eyewitness News* reported on the choking death of John Hernandez outside of a Denny's restaurant. Harris County Sheriff's Deputy Chauna Thompson and her husband Terry Thompson were charged with murder in Hernandez's death. Authorities say Terry Thompson, who was with his children, confronted Hernandez after seeing him urinate outside of the restaurant. An argument ensued and Thompson allegedly grabbed Hernandez in a choke hold. Shortly after, Thompson's wife, who was off duty at the time, arrived in a separate car and, according to authorities, joined her husband in restraining Hernandez. Part of the incident was captured on cellphone video. Hernandez later died. The Medical Examiner ruled his death a homicide. The case sparked protests and our cameras were on scene in downtown Houston as over 150 people rallied in support of Hernandez. Deputy Thompson and her husband were indicted by a grand jury after hearing testimony from several witnesses, including Hernandez's widow. The Thompsons maintain their innocence saying Hernandez was the aggressor. Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez has asked the Department of Justice and the Texas Rangers to assist in the investigation.

**CLINT GREENWOOD SHOOTING**

***Eyewitness News.* Air Dates: April 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17. Total Coverage: 4 Hour 15 Minutes**

*13 Eyewitness News* provided extended coverage on the shooting death of Assistant Chief Deputy and former criminal defense attorney Clint Greenwood. Greenwood was ambushed as he arrived to work at the Harris County Baytown Courthouse Annex. Police identified the suspect as William Francis Kenny after they were able to track him down from surveillance video of his vehicle. But before he was arrested, investigators say Kenny shot and killed himself outside of Ben Taub Hospital just hours after killing Greenwood. ABC 13 reporters spoke to Greenwood's family and friends and broadcast live parts of his funeral. Authorities later revealed that just a few days before he was killed, Greenwood told a county official about a "serious threat" to him and his family. Police say the gunman had gone through a divorce, was unemployed and was living off of credit cards at the time of the murder. They say they also discovered that Kenny had created a website and began writing threatening missives about Greenwood and other county officials he believed were covering for corrupt officers. A day after Greenwood's murder, Kenny's body was found among some shrubs in a courtyard outside of Ben Taub Hospital. Police recovered a weapon that ballistics confirmed was the same gun that killed Greenwood.

### ALLEGED MURDER FOR HIRE

***Eyewitness News.* Air Dates: April 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13. June 14, 15. Total Coverage: 2 Hours 22 Minutes**

*13 Eyewitness News* reported on an alleged murder-for-hire plot involving a Houston veterinarian and her boyfriend who were charged with trying to hire a hitman to kill their exes. The plan was thwarted when the supposed hitman they are accused of approaching turned out to be a HPD undercover officer. Valerie McDaniel and Leon Jacob were arrested on a charge of solicitation of capital murder. But less than 24 hours before she was due to appear in court, McDaniel leaped off of the seventh floor of a condominium to her death. Jacobs is being held without bail in the Harris County Jail. Jacobs' ex-girlfriend, one of the proposed victims in the alleged murder-for-hire plot, had accused him of stalking, a charge that was pending at the time of his arrest on the murder-for-hire charge. He spoke exclusively to ABC-13 reporter Kaitlin McCulley from behind bars to claim he kept in contact with his ex-girlfriend after their relationship ended because of his children. Jacobs remains behind bars without bond pending trial. He maintains he is innocent of all charges against him.

### TROPICAL STORM CINDY

***Eyewitness News.* Air Dates: June 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24. Total Coverage: 3 Hour 35 Minutes**

*13 Eyewitness News* closely followed the track of Tropical Storm Cindy which threatened the Gulf Coast. The Houston area was spared after the storm took a last-minute turn to the east and pushed ashore in southern Louisiana. ABC-13 reporters were positioned all along the Gulf Coast from Galveston to Lake Charles, Louisiana broadcasting live reports. We reported on the scores of Bolivar Peninsula residents who evacuated ahead of the storm, and the run on bottled water, fuel and supplies as residents prepared for the anticipated severe weather. Tropical Storm Cindy was the first storm of the 2017 hurricane season to threaten the Houston area. While the Houston area missed the worst of the winds and flooding, local officials called it a wakeup call for a storm season which runs through the end of November.

### HOUSTON ROCKETS PLAYOFF RUN

***Eyewitness News.* Air Dates: April 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30. May 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20. Total Coverage: 4 Hours 27 Minutes**

13 Eyewitness News provided coverage of the Houston Rockets 2017 playoff run. The team, under new coach Mike D'Antoni, finished the season with the third best record in the NBA. In the playoffs, the team defeated the Oklahoma City Thunder 4 games to 2 in round one. But the Rockets were eliminated in the second round by the San Antonio Spurs, 4 games to 2. Star player James Harden was second in the league MVP race. Coach D'Antoni was named the NBA's Coach of the Year, Eric Gordon was named the NBA's Sixth Man of the Year and Patrick Beverly was named to the All-NBA Defensive First Team and won the NBA's first Hustle Award.

**FCC ISSUES REPORT – 2nd Quarter 2017**  
**April - June**  
**KTRK-TV**

**ABC-13 - PUBLIC SERVICE**  
**2nd Quarter 2017**

**PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PSA Submissions**

The station airs selected PSAs submitted by local, regional and national nonprofit entities. Broadcasted on regular PSA rotation, the spots cover a wide range of subjects and interests -- from health, education and issues addressing children's concerns to drug abuse prevention, public safety and the environment.

***Community Spotlight PSAs***

ABC-13 regularly produces and broadcasts 15 and 30-second public service announcements under its *Community Spotlight* banner. The announcements promote the public service programs and activities of local nonprofit organizations, community groups and government entities. The spots are broadcast on regular PSA rotation schedules and in special time slots on weekdays between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. In the second quarter, the station produced and broadcasted PSAs promoting Barrier Breakers Career & Recovery Gala, the Houston Greek Festival and the Pin Oak Charity Horse Show.

**ABC-13 PUBLIC SERVICE CAMPAIGNS**

**ABC 13's Earth Day E-Cycling Drive**

The ABC-13 Earth Day E-Cycling Drive is a multi-platform campaign educating viewers about recycling and the environment. The campaign included a one hour live show on April 22 from 9am – 10am, along with corporate sponsored vignettes. Sponsors are CompuCycle and Shell Oil.

**Hurricane Tracking Map**

ABC-13 creates a map with sponsor logos featuring hurricane forecast tracking capabilities and safety/supply lists. Promotional spots air that educate viewers on hurricane season and urge them to visit Kroger stores to pick up a map. A special aired on May 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm highlighting important topics viewers need to know to stay safe during hurricane season. Corporate sponsors are Kroger, ARK Generators and American Risk Insurance.

**Freedom Over Texas**

ABC-13 carries Houston's official Independence Day celebration, featuring fireworks and a local civic celebration at Eleanor Tinsley Park in downtown Houston. The event benefits Central Houston Civic Improvements and the Houston Food Bank. ABC-13 is currently promoting the event with public service announcements pushing people to the event. Corporate sponsors are CITGO, Southwest Airlines, Walmart, Silver Eagle and Dr. Pepper.

**Chevron Houston Marathon**

ABC-13 created an on-air and digital campaign designed to push people to register for the marathon slated for January 2018, as well as on-air promotions encouraging people to run for their favorite non-profit. In addition, the Chevron Houston Marathon was included in the June 10<sup>th</sup> “Check This Out” show promoting the non-profits they support. Corporate sponsor are Chevron, Aramco and ABB.

**Change a Life/Donate Today**

ABC-13 and Goodwill have partnered together to highlight a monthly volunteer or employee whose life has changed through the power of work. The campaign is designed to increase awareness that donations can change people’s lives. ABC-13 runs promotional spots and digital elements on ABC-13 digital platforms to promote the campaign. Corporate sponsor is Goodwill of Houston.

**Star Fishing Tournament**

ABC-13 and the Star Fishing Tournament have partnered to promote an annual fishing tournament designed to raise money for CCA Texas conservation efforts, as well as scholarship money for participating youth. The campaign ran April-June. Sponsor is CCA Texas.

**Houston Greek Festival**

ABC-13 promoted the Houston Greek Festival in May benefiting the Ronald McDonald House of Houston by including it in a “Check This Out” segment on May 13 and promoting it via digital and social media. Sponsor is the Houston Greek Festival.

**COMMUNITY FORUMS**

ABC-13 periodically holds community forums in various neighborhoods in the Houston area. The forums provide a venue for station representatives to learn about issues of highest concern from community leaders for possible coverage on news and public affairs programs.

**WEBSITE RESOURCES**

The station’s website *abc13.com* features information, video streaming and links corresponding to its news reports, programs, PSAs and public service campaigns. These informational resources cover a wide range of subjects, from news issues, current events and weather topics to health and consumer concerns. The website also features video streaming of *ABC-13 Community Close Up* public affairs programs. It also provides Doppler radar weather updates and traffic information. In addition, *abc13.com* provides a calendar venue for community event postings. In the second quarter, the website featured content coinciding with ABC-13’s public service campaigns: Stand Up For Cancer, Disney Summer of Service, the Disney First Book campaign and the ABC-13 E-Cycling Drive.