



April 11, 2008

Fred Siebel
Director of Operations
Coach America
4001 S 34th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85

Dear Mr. Siebel,

We are writing to express concern about information we have received from within your company about a ban that was enacted today against News/Talk 92.3 KTAR-FM.

It is our understanding that your company contracts with Arizona State University to operate buses that transport students on the campus of the government-funded learning institution. As such, your services on the ASU campus are taxpayer supported.

We have been alerted that on April 11, 2008 your company distributed a memo to employees instructing them that they may no longer broadcast News/Talk 92.3 KTAR-FM on your buses that operate on the ASU campus. We have been told, from those inside your company, that this ban was only placed on KTAR-FM and no other radio station. We have also been told this ban was enacted due to a complaint received by a student who did not agree with the viewpoints expressed by a talk show host on News/Talk 92.3 KTAR-FM.

It is our view that this restriction violates free speech rights on a taxpayer-funded university and on a taxpayer-funded bus. Universities are places that pride themselves on exposing students to diverse viewpoints. Professors are not silenced due to students complaining about the opinions they express.

With a campus that bears the name of Walter Cronkite on one of its superior academic institutions, it is ironic to learn the free speech rights he and so many journalists have fought for appear to now be limited. We also find it ironic that KTAR, the radio station that has broadcast ASU football and basketball games for decades is now banned from campus.

It is our request that you lift the ban placed against only one private business in this community: KTAR-FM. We view that as an unfair and inappropriate restriction and a violation of free speech.

KTAR is an 86-year-old broadcast institution in Arizona that just this week won Edward R. Murrow Awards for its journalistic excellence. This is a station that last year was given the Crystal Award by the National Association of Broadcasters for its outstanding community service. We work hard to deliver a professional and reputable product both on-air and in the community.

Thank you for considering our request.

Respectfully,

Russ Hill

Director of News, Talk, & Sports Programming