

ADVISORY

Removal of Morse code requirement from Regulations to the Radio & Telegraph Control Act

Parliament, as at July 2017, has approved amendments to the Radio and Telegraph Control (Amateur Radio Service) Regulations and the Radio and Telegraph Control (Radio Operations and Technicians) Regulations of 1974, by removing the requirement for Amateur Operators and Radio Operators and Technicians to be proficient in the use of Morse Code in order to be licensed. The amendments were premised on the fact that Morse Code has been superseded by more modern and efficient modes of communications and is no longer a mandatory international requirement.

In light of the forgoing, the Spectrum Management Authority (SMA in partnership with the Jamaica Amateur Radio Association (JARA) is currently reviewing the existing amateur radio license examination to align the exam with these changes and develop a framework to guide the process going forward.

JARA IS PLEASED TO NOTIFY THE PUBLIC THAT ALONG WITH THE SMA IT IS NOW THE AUTHORISED BODY TO ADMINISTER THE REQUIRED EXAMINATIONS LEADING TO THE GRANTING OF A CLASS A, B, OR C CERTIFICATE.

Eligibility for Amateur Radio Operators Certificate.

Each applicant is required to make an application to JARA or SMA to sit an examination. The following will be required:

- a) The application form duly completed:
- b) Examination fee of \$500.00: and

c) Certified documents in support of the application.

We take this opportunity to thank our current and future clients for their patience as we work to ensure that the integrity of these licences is maintained.

Feel free to contact us at info@sma.gov.jm or 948-7800/922-8884 if you have any questions.