

**Statement from Pat Ciarrocchi (CBS 3/Retired)**  
**on behalf of the SAG-AFTRA position on Broadcast Free Market Agreement Act**  
**Pennsylvania Senate Committee on Labor & Industry**  
**June 10, 2021**

---

Good morning. It is a distinct honor to speak to you on behalf of my present and future colleagues in broadcasting.

Every one of them should have the freedom to work in the market and at the station of their choosing — without an artificial barrier that treats a revenue generating “Star” — as “station property” to be protected.

My name is Pat Ciarrocchi. I am a television news broadcaster, retired since 2015, from CBS 3 in Philadelphia after more than 33 years, anchoring and reporting the news.

More than working for CBS 3, I worked for the community — Philadelphia as the metropolitan area, but also for the people in my local communities. I was born in House District 74 at the old Coatesville Hospital... raised in Districts 158 and 160... and Senate District 19. Now I live in House District 148... and Senate District 17.

I’m adding my voice to the leadership of the broadcasters’ union - SAG-AFTRA. My Union. Yes, I still carry my union card, because when many voices speak as “one” — the impact of that “voice” is more profound. We are eager to have Pennsylvania join other states making the antiquated clause - known as the “non-compete” — deemed unenforceable in this state.

I did work under a non-compete for essentially all of my years at 3. I had found a broadcast home there. Not every professional broadcaster, in particular those in television news, are as lucky. With swift station management changes — often ordered from corporate offices in New York ... a reporter’s or anchor’s local news on-air career can be upended... as quickly as changing the channel on a remote.

Some will say — business is business. But in Pennsylvania... it is not. Working under a non-compete at one station in a market... can prohibit you from working in the business you love or even being considered for a position at a competing station ... without sitting out for arbitrary time periods.

How is that good business? Having the non-compete hanging over the career of dedicated professionals ... restricts an individual’s free enterprise to work where you want. It also cripples that professional’s ability to leverage the audience or following they have, to get the best salary ... for the best term.

I worked for 13 General Managers over 33 years. I would be naive to think that at some point.. when I was negotiating a contract... at least one of them had to feel confident — saying, “Pat’s a Philly girl, her family is here... where is she going to go? 6? 10? Fox? “ We don’t think so.”

6.. 10 and Fox are still 3’s network competitors.

Those General Managers didn’t think I could “jump” .. because of the non-compete.

I was inducted into the Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters — Hall of Fame - as the first female news anchor. I’ve earned dozens of awards locally and nationally for my work. I was a leader of broadcast teams... and I was lucky.

**Statement from Pat Ciarrocchi (CBS 3/Retired)**  
**on behalf of the SAG-AFTRA position on Broadcast Free Market Agreement Act**  
**Pennsylvania Senate Committee on Labor & Industry**  
**June 10, 2021**

---

I did it all at one station in Philadelphia.

I met my professional goals and then some.

Every broadcaster working under contract in Pennsylvania, should be able to do that same thing.. but unencumbered. They only should be worrying about sharpening their competitive edge in the pursuit of truth in the community where they serve. They should not have their professional growth restricted artificially.

I stand in support of making non-compete clauses in broadcast contracts unenforceable.

There should be no barrier in anyone's contract prohibiting them from jumping to another station across town to pursue their professional goals. And if they are carrying with them — the star power — to pull an audience with them... so be it. Business is business.

Thank you.

Submitted: Thursday, June 10, 2021