



cable&telecommunications  
MANAGEMENT SERVICES

# Cable and Telecommunications Management Service

New Rules Bring New Services to Local Governments in Georgia

## Who We Are

GMA's Cable and Telecommunications Management Services Program (CTMS) provides expanded consulting assistance in all aspects of cable and telecommunications franchising under the new state law and FCC rule changes. The list of services provided, while not exhaustive, represents the substantive areas in which we assist our CTMS program clients.

## Why CTMS?

**Franchising rules have changed significantly.**

**Since 1993 GMA's team of professionals with more than 85 years of combined expertise and experience has assisted hundreds of Georgia cities and counties.**

**CTMS members receive all services for an annual membership fee. No additional costs for travel or other program related expenses are required.**

## For more information:

Visit the GMA website at:

[www.gmanet.com/Telecomm.aspx](http://www.gmanet.com/Telecomm.aspx)

You may also contact:

**Lou Comer** 678.686.6260 or  
[lcomer@gmanet.com](mailto:lcomer@gmanet.com)

**Pam Helton** 678-686-6275 or  
[phelton@gmanet.com](mailto:phelton@gmanet.com)

## Services Provided:

- **Assistance with State-Issued Franchising and Compliance**, including
  - Review applications of potential cable/video providers to determine whether they meet minimum standards, including service area descriptions;
  - Facilitate procedure to notify Secretary of State and the provider of a franchise fee percentage;
  - Ensure state-approved applicant meets the current PEG related commitments contained in existing local agreements;
  - Assist with PEG evaluation, development and implementation for governments seeking new or additional channels;
  - Review transfers of state-issued franchises;
  - Review franchise fee compliance and assist in collection of underpayments; and
  - Assist with customer service on behalf of citizens.
- **Assistance with Local Franchising**, including
  - Cable and video service franchising;
  - Telecommunications franchising;
  - Transfers of cable and telecommunication agreements;
  - Cable, video and telecommunications franchise compliance; and
  - Franchise fee payment compliance reviews.
- **Rights-of-Way Ordinance Review** to determine whether modifications to local ROW ordinances are necessary to preserve ROW and restoration provisions normally found in a local franchise agreement. Under a state franchise, local governments are allowed to enforce their ROW ordinances as well as ensure that any damages to the ROW are repaired by the franchisee.
- **Analyze whether PEG channels are right for a community**, identifying 1.) Operational costs and staff needs; 2.) Channel sharing alternatives; and 3.) Available programming resources.
- **Negotiation of lease agreements or pole attachment agreements** with providers for use of public land, buildings and structures to place equipment.



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