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February 24, 1998

Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

RE: Closed Captioning and Video Description of Video Programming,
MM Dkt. No. 95-176

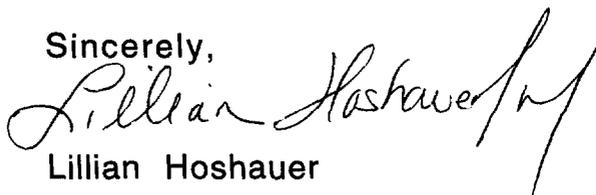
This is to bring to your attention my concern regarding the exemption of small market stations from providing captioning of their local news and other emergency broadcasts.

Any station which is open to the public should not be exempt from providing a public service that impacts on the safety and well being of the public it serves. Whatever news is provided for the local hearing communities should be accessible to deaf and hard of hearing people via captioning.

As a deaf person with deaf family members, as a Board member of the statewide Pennsylvania Society for the Advancement of the Deaf and the Deaf-Hearing Communication Center in Holmes, PA, I ask that the FCC not allow the exemption of any small market stations and that the FCC make it a priority to mandate that all small market stations make provisions for the captioning of its news and other 'emergency' materials that are vital to the safety and well being of the deaf and hard of hearing population in this country.

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this.

Sincerely,


Lillian Hoshauer

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