

Tom Lowry

Associate Pastor for
Missions & Technical Media
Voice: (706) 722-7348
Fax: (706) 722-3690
Email: tlowry@curtisbaptist.org



Curtis Baptist Church
1326 Broad Street
Augusta, GA 30901-6099

~~CC-CCB-0001~~

CCB-CC-0001

October 5, 2005

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

OCT 11 2005

FCC - MAILROOM

FCC

Attn: Secretary's Office
Closed Captioning
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Petition for Exemption from Commissions Closed Captioning Rules

Curtis Baptist Church respectfully submits this petition requesting exemption from the closed captioning requirements, under Section 79.1 of the Commissions rules 47 C.F.R. & 79.1

Part 79.1 Section D

Item (8) Curtis Baptist Church worship service is a locally produced and distributed non-news program with no repeat value. The program is of local interest, is not a news program, and the "electronic news room" technique of captioning is unavailable.

The service is telecast on Sundays at 11:00 AM on local ABC affiliate WJBF-TV. Since June of 2004, the program is tape delayed by one week. However, we were hoping to soon return to a live broadcast. Taped services are also telecast by a low power station, WBEK, on Saturday evenings at 6:00 PM. Both telecasts are picked up by local cable systems.

Part 79.1 Section F

Compliance would impose an undue burden on Curtis Baptist Church for the following reasons:

1. To provide closed captioning, our options would be
 - a. to send the program to an outside source for editing, at quoted prices ranging from \$250 to \$500 per hour. Cost is too prohibitive.
 - b. purchase quality voice recognition captioning system at costs of \$10,000 to \$15,000, and then rely on trained volunteers to caption each weekly telecast. This cost is also prohibitive.
2. Curtis Baptist Church could possibly end broadcast history of almost 25 years in this local market.
3. Curtis Baptist Church is a donor supported, 501c(3) ministry meeting multiple needs in our community at a time when donor support is low.

Again, we respectfully request that Curtis Baptist Church be exempted from the closed captioning requirements for the above stated reasons. I may be reached through the information in the letterhead.

Please note the attached delineation of expenses.

Sincerely,

Tom Lowry
Associate Pastor for Missions and Media

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Financial Disclosure

October 5, 2005

I, Tom Lowry, Associate Pastor for Missions and Media for Curtis Baptist Church, by my signature affixed to this document, do hereby make the following statement of the fact and affirm:

1. Total Airtime Costs: \$37,180.00 for weekly telecast on WJBF per year
\$ 3,120.00 for weekly telecast on WBEK per year.
\$40,300.00 TOTAL
2. Production costs are donated by church member volunteers. Only other expenses are for video tape and supplies. \$20 per week or \$1,040 per year.
3. Out-of-house captioning estimated costs for 52 produced programs per year, \$20,800.00
4. Our budgeted amount for Media Ministry which includes House Sound, Tape Ministry, Advertising and Broadcast Ministry is \$48,640.00.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Lowry
Associate Pastor for Missions and Media

The foregoing was subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public of the State of Georgia, County of Warren, this 4 day of October, 2005

Notary Public

Notary Public, State of Georgia
My Commission Expires
March 21, 2009