

Docket No 06-181

Kenneth L. Hill

From: David Burch [dburch2@sport.r.com]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2006 5:52 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Re: DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

September 22, 2006
FCC Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Monica Desai

Dear Monica Desai,

I protest the FCC approval of almost 300 requests for new programs to be shown without closed captions.

The FCC weakened the closed captioning rules, and appears to have created new standards and new rules for permitting programs to be televised without closed captions. I believe the FCC violated the closed captioning rules.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing want access to televised information and entertainment, just like everyone else.

Closed captioning is an essential part of any televised program. Captioning is not too difficult or too expensive.

I cannot watch television programs that are not captioned.

Please reconsider these FCC decisions and support closed captioning.

Sincerely,

David Burch
1530 Coty St
Shreveport, LA 71101-4917

Docket No 06-181

Kenneth L. Hill

From: Martha Jean [mjbratton@bellsouth.net]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2006 7:30 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Closed captioning

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

*I have a cochlear implant and work in a public school as a principal. I am totally dependent upon closed captioning for television and strongly oppose any exemptions.
Dr. M. J. Bratton*

Docket No 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

Kenneth L. Hill

OCT 16 2006

From: LANDBEEHAPPY@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2006 7:03 PM
To: Monica Desai

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Subject: Re CGB Chief Monica DeSai DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

Dear CGB Chief Monica DeSai,

I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB.

These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations for people with and without disabilities.

I as a person with a disability am outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use.

Please reconsider immediately!
I need our closed captioning!
Sincerely,

Muggs Ballard
4009 Susan Lane Penngrove, CA 94951

FILED/ACCEPTED

Docket No 06-181

OCT 16 2006

Kenneth L. Hill

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

From: Hmcblair@aol.com

Sent: Friday, September 22, 2006 7:40 PM

To: Kevin Martin; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Monica Desai

Subject: re: new FCC ruling on Closed Captioning

In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

Dear FCC Chairman,

On behalf of my two grandchildren who were born deaf we protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning

issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We

are outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider!

Our family needs closed captioning!

Raymond and Helen Blair

2541 Oakwood Road

Ortonville, MI 48462

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Docket No 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

Kenneth L. Hill

OCT 16 2006

From: Teresa Cochran, PhD [tcsule@cox.net]**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2006 9:20 AM**To:** Kevin Martin; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Monica Desai**Subject:** FCC Closed Captioning ExemptionsFederal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Mistrs Martin, Copps, Adelstein, McDowell and Ms Tate:

I am stunned that you would approve approximately 550 exemptions to the Closed Captioning requirement for Television programs! As a hearing impaired viewer who relies on having that available and using it on a daily basis, I must protest strongly. I know this is a costly requirement but who could be so insensitive to the needs of the population of hearing impaired and deaf?

Please reconsider your actions.

Sincerely,
Tessa Cochran, PhD
635 S. Washington St.
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-683-6913
tcsule@cox.net

9/26/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

From: Joshua Cohen [joshcohen@kintera.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2006 1:02 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Re: DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

October 5, 2006
FCC Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Monica Desai

Dear Monica Desai,

I protest the FCC approval of almost 300 requests for new programs to be shown without closed captions.

The FCC weakened the closed captioning rules, and appears to have created new standards and new rules for permitting programs to be televised without closed captions. I believe the FCC violated the closed captioning rules.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing want access to televised information and entertainment, just like everyone else.

Closed captioning is an essential part of any televised program. Captioning is not too difficult or too expensive.

I cannot watch television programs that are not captioned.

Please reconsider these FCC decisions and support closed captioning.

Sincerely,

Joshua Cohen
859 Willamette St
Eugene, OR 97401-2910

Docket No 06-191

Pam Gregory

From: Melissa Chang [marchandapril@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, October 02, 2006 9:32 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Re: DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

October 2, 2006
FCC Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Monica Desai

Dear Monica Desai,

I protest the FCC approval of almost 300 requests for new programs to be shown without closed captions.

The FCC weakened the closed captioning rules, and appears to have created new standards and new rules for permitting programs to be televised without closed captions. I believe the FCC violated the closed captioning rules.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing want access to televised information and entertainment, just like everyone else.

Closed captioning is an essential part of any televised program. Captioning is not too difficult or too expensive.

I cannot watch television programs that are not captioned.

Please reconsider these FCC decisions and support closed captioning.

Sincerely,

Melissa Chang
1050 Crestview Dr Apt 324
Mountain View, CA 94040-3408

Docket No 06-181

Pam Gregory

From: Ross Clark [rclark2@san.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, October 06, 2006 9:42 AM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Re: DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

October 6, 2006
FCC Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Monica Desai

Dear Monica Desai,

I protest the FCC approval of almost 300 requests for new programs to be shown without closed captions.

The FCC weakened the closed captioning rules, and appears to have created new standards and new rules for permitting programs to be televised without closed captions. I believe the FCC violated the closed captioning rules.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing want access to televised information and entertainment, just like everyone else.

Closed captioning is an essential part of any televised program. Captioning is not too difficult or too expensive.

I cannot watch television programs that are not captioned.

Please reconsider these FCC decisions and support closed captioning.

Sincerely,

Ross Clark
3552 Cowley Way
San Diego, CA 92117-5834

September 24, 2006

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20054

Kevin J. Martin, Chairman
Michael J. Copps, Commissioner
Jonathan S. Adelstein, Commissioner
Deborah Taylor Tate, Commissioner
Robert M. McDowell, Commissioner

Re: DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

Dear Commissioners,

After reading with great interests on the USA Today "A Christian View of War" on September 18, 2006 by Oliver "Buzz" Thomas is a minister in Tennessee and author of an upcoming book, *10 Things Your Minister Wants to Tell You (But Can't Because He Needs the Job)*, it seems to reinforce exactly what FCC is doing now by playing in the "political football" atmosphere when they issued its clearly "out of bound" Orders to waive "out of ordinary" number of religious organizations/bodies from providing closed captioning at the expense of functional equivalency. It also appears to be serious constitutional violation of "separation of the church and the state" with an agenda to secure votes of religious organizations/bodies for upcoming elections. That is not the FCC I know. Historically, FCC has always been very fair and serves public well particularly maintaining goals of increasing of communications services and technologies for person with disabilities.

Generally, from my own personal experience and observation for years, I have seen many religious organizations/bodies' impressive and awesome work of lips service in focusing only in the purity of their members because only such "set an example model" who are most capable of doing God's work. Because of their beliefs and values, their priorities of their expenditures, involving persons with disabilities to do God's work are always not on the top of their list, even though their intentions of doing God's work means well. There are a few religious organizations providing closed captioning. But there are still so much more work to be done.

When FCC received unbelievably enormous number of requests for exemption from religious organizations/bodies, I am very suspicious about their request for exemptions from providing closed captioning. In theory, FCC should not have received a large number of requests for exemptions from religious organizations/bodies if they set their priorities right. Unfortunately, this is not the case. That is exactly where FCC comes into the picture.

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OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

I, for the life of being considered myself very fortunate and happy to receive wonderful God's unique gift as proud Deaf spiritual warrior with "quirk" (hearing loss) on earth, I continue to seek for the "meaning of life" on daily basis by challenging our "ignorant, but could not help" society who think they are doing the right thing. We, as individuals with disabilities, must continue to exercise our rights in responding to mass exemption requests from religious organizations/bodies (and many others for that matter) and require them to involve in fair due process with FCC in providing in-depth information in order to justify their undue burden of not able to provide closed captioning as their very first baby step towards deeper & greater humanity bonding.

Therefore, I firmly protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. The closed captions statute explicitly contains congressionally-approved waivers as well as a mechanism, the "undue burden" standard, by which the Commission may grant individual waivers to petitioners who provide evidence that they meet that standard. There is no mechanism that has taken in place to indicate any evidence to justify "undue petition" in order to grant petitioner's request for exemption to provide closed captions. I am dreadfully wary and deeply concerned that the FCC is about to create a dangerous precedence for future request for exemptions from providing closed captioning in the future. Please reconsider horrific and "uncharacteristic" Orders you created and reverse it to require captions across the board immediately! After all, that is exactly what FCC is required to do by the intent of laws by constantly increasing of communications services and technologies for person with disabilities as the FCC that I always know of.

Thanks.

Jack R. Cassell

625 Basswood Ave
Verona, Wisconsin 53593

cc: Monica Desai, Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau
Jay Keithley, Deputy Chief (Policy) Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau
Tom Chandler, Chief, Disability Rights Office
Cheryl King, Deputy Chief, Disability Right Office
Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc
US Senator Russell, D. Feingold
US Senator Herb Kohl
US Representative Tammy Baldwin
National Council of Churches

FILED/ACCEPTED

Docket No 06-181

OCT 16 2006

Pam Gregory

From: BamBam0922@aol.comFederal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2006 12:42 PM**To:** Kevin Martin; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Monica Desai**Subject:** SAVE CLOSED CAPTIONING!!!!

"In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

Dear FCC Chairman, I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We are outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider immediately! My daughter is deaf and NEEDS closed captioning!!!

Beth Donofrio

354 Deering Lane

Bolingbrook, Illinois 60440

ph. (630) 378-4830

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Docket No 06-181

OCT 16 2006

Pam Gregory

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**From:** BarbChert@aol.com**Sent:** Sunday, September 17, 2006 12:41 PM**To:** Kevin Martin; Deborah Tate; Monica Desai; Robert McDowell; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein**Cc:** battat@shhh.org**Subject:** FCC & Closed Captioning**Dear FCC Chairman:**

I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations.

People with hearing loss who depend on captioned television are outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider immediately! We need more closed captioning, not less!

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Chertok
5400 Eagles Point Circle #104
Sarasota, FL 34231-9154
941/923-9279

9/19/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

From: Cindy Burris [cindy@threeriversinc.org]
Sent: Thursday, September 28, 2006 12:12 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: close caption

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear FCC Chairman,

I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We are outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider immediately! We need our closed captioning!

I am a deaf woman who is married to a deaf man as well. We need our caption for our safety. Without the caption, how would we know if the weather is bad, what is happening in our town by watching the news? How would we able to know who to vote for our coming elections? This is taking our violation as civil rights away. Please reconsider and think about what the possibility be if it happened to you, a family member or a dear friend of yours.

Sincerely,

Cindy Castegnaro
612 Maple Street
Wamego, Kansas 66547

Three Rivers Inc. ~ "Access to Independent Living"
408 Lincoln, ~ PO Box 408 ~ Wamego, KS. 66547
(785) 456-9915 v/tty ~ (785) 456-9923 (FAX)
www.threeriversinc.org

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

From: Phillip Corona [pcorona@independencefirst.org]**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2006 9:27 AM**To:** Monica Desai**Subject:** closed captioning

"In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007 Dear CGB Chief, I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We are outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider immediately! We need our closed captioning!

Phillip Corona
3106 North Weil Street
Milwaukee, WI 53212

414-264-1874

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

From: Lori Conway [conway.lori@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2006 8:31 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007
In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear CBG Chief, Monica Desai:

I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We are outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider immediately! We need our closed captioning!

Lori Conway

10/11/2006

Docket No. 06-181

Pam Gregory

From: Josh Childress [jjchildress@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, September 16, 2006 7:58 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Re: DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007
In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear FCC Chairman, I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We are outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider immediately! We need our closed captioning!

Josh Childress

2916 Kentucky Avenue

Kenner, LA 70065.

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9/19/2006

Docket No 06-181

Pam Gregory

From: COFFEY4TWO@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, September 16, 2006 12:43 PM
To: Kevin Martin
Cc: Monica Desai
Subject: Captioning Exemptions

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Martin:

I recently learned of your recent actions taken by the FCC. What I have learned is that the FCC has made a decision to grant a large number of captioning exemptions. This decision will have an impact on deaf and hard of hearing individuals. I believe the American Disabilities Act was put in place to allow access to disabled people. Now you have made a large number of exemptions that goes against ADA. Chairman Martin my son is deaf and it is already hard enough to get him access and now those exemptions will make it even harder to get access for those you have chosen to provide an exemption to. This decision should not stand and should be reversed immediately.

Sincerely,
Kate Coffey

9/19/2006

Docket No 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

Pam Gregory

From: Jamie Cottrell [ms_ingpdx@yahoo.com]**Sent:** Saturday, September 16, 2006 12:14 PM**To:** Kevin Martin; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell**Cc:** Monica Desai**Subject:** Exemptions for Closed Captioning

OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

My name is Jamie Cottrell. I'm a 29-year-old deaf woman. I daily live with the fact I can't understand everyone, though I am understood when I speak. For example, when I eat lunch at work, my coworkers speak to each other at the same table where I sit, and though I am right there, I sometimes feel like the loneliest person. I deal with moments like this day in and day out. I won't accept more moments like this from my television. It has treated me as though my opinions were valid. It has told me nearly everything that the faces on the screen said, through the miracle of closed captioning. Before I was 11, I did not know there was such a thing. The day we got a closed-captioning machine, my world grew larger by a few thousand miles, rather than be limited to the 30-mile radius I was used to being boxed in. Television is a powerful agent for change. It is a great blessing. And why? Because the FCC enabled and enforced it to be. Now that is about to change, because the FCC has determined that it can exempt closed-captioning enforcement for religious programming and other *not-so-religious* programming. These rules have been in effect ten years. That is a lot of time for all programmers to raise money for captioning funds. In ten years, a man can marry, change two or three jobs, have five kids, and get a couple cars. Ten years is enough. For the FCC to enact this mass exemption without putting it on the table for those of us who are usually voiceless in our daily lives is just not right. You expect this treatment from the ignorant public; you don't expect this from your own government. I believed in you. I believed in what you were doing. Don't make me lose faith in you.

And I want to leave you with a parting thought: if the Kingdom of God is truly for all men, and it ignores such things as disability and race, who are you to determine that *religious* programmers can cater only to the hearing? Who are you to say that one thing is right and not the other? Hold these people up to their own standard! Isn't America based on a similar concept--the melting pot embraces everyone, regardless of disability and race, right? You would not be the patriots you think you are being by doing this. Change this now before it is too late, before you are left with a backlash on your hands. Someday the voiceless do gain a voice.

Jamie Cottrell

Talk is cheap. Use Yahoo! Messenger to make PC-to-Phone calls. Great rates starting at 1¢/min.

Docket No 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

Pam Gregory

OCT 16 2006

From: s.mentkowski@comcast.net**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2006 6:54 PM**To:** Monica Desai; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Robert McDowell; Deborah Tate; Kevin Martin**Subject:** Recent granting of exemptions from closed captioning requirementsFederal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

--Dear Chairman Martin and FCC Commissioners, Chief Monica Desai,

As a deaf person and TV viewer, with a deaf family, we are VERY disappointed in and stunned with the FCC's recent announcement that two separate petitions from exemption from the closed captioning requirements for video programming contained in section 79.1 of the Commission's rules, specifically for Angerls for Christ Ministried and New Beginning Ministries. These exemptions are paving the way to further exemptions unless these actions are withdrawn.

Closed captioning is a very important and crucial medium for deaf and hard of hearing people to rely on for complete community inclusion, including religious programming. To grant these exemptions is a slap in the face to deaf and hard of hearing viewers, stating, 'we don't need you in our communities'. Please reconsider this terrible and divisive decision and reverse it to require captions across the board.

Sheila Conlon Mentkowski
Sacramento, CA

9/19/2006

Docket No 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

Pam Gregory

From: Matthew Cook [mbcook@fmtinv.com]**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2006 6:11 PM**To:** Monica Desai**Subject:** Captioning exceptions

OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Has the FCC really granted closed caption exemptions to hundreds of religious programs? It has been ten years now since the closed captioning rules were put in place. That is plenty of time for programmers to find funding and get set up to caption their programs. The decision sets a very bad precedent. A) It is counter to the regulations at 47 CFR Part 79.1(d) that allow for certain exemptions; and (b) it is de facto rulemaking without notice. The FCC is creating new regulations without a process. The entities who asked for waivers are given consideration while those of use who will be affected are not. If hundreds were granted exemption, where will the line be drawn as to who does or doesn't get an exception?

Please respond.

Matthew Cook

Fremont Investment & Loan
Residential Real Estate Division
1065 N. PacificCenter Drive
Anaheim, CA 92806
877-308-3863 x7179 toll-free
714-238-7179 (direct)
949-412-7335 (cell)
866-257-3122 (fax) toll-free
mbcook@fmtinv.com

For rates and specials please visit my personal Fremont site: <http://mbcook.fremontbroker.com>

THIS IS A SOLICITATION FOR BUSINESS FROM FREMONT INVESTMENT & LOAN. TO BE REMOVED FROM OUR LIST, PLEASE EMAIL mbcook@fmtinv.com. MATT COOK 1065 N. PACIFICCENTER DRIVE, ANAHEIM, CA 92806

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9/19/2006

Docket No 06-181

Pam Gregory

FILED/ACCEPTED

From: Linda Callahan [lmc297@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2006 6:11 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: DA06-1802,CGB-CC-0005,CGB-CC-0007

OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Hello,

I am so terribly upset with the Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. I hope you will realize what a mistake this was and push to have it reconsidered. As a mother of a daughter who for years has depended on close caption for most of her time watching TV, I beg of you to do all in your power to have this ruling overturned. She is not alone. There are millions of America's whose lives will be changed forever if this order is not reversed.

Please, please think of what you and your committee are doing to so many who have so much against them already. I thank you for your consideration and I trust you will find it in your heart to help those who have no other choice and no other way to listen to what is being said.

Sincerely,

Linda Callahan
1900 N. Centennial St.
High Point, NC 27262

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Docket No 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

Pam Gregory

OCT 16 2006

From: Wendy Cheng [wendy@paulwendy.com]**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2006 7:40 AMFederal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**To:** Kevin Martin; Michael Cops; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell**Cc:** Monica Desai**Subject:** exemptions to captioning regulations

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

I am writing to express my outrage to hear that that the FCC is granting hundreds of ~~waivers to religious~~ **DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL** organizations that have requested an exemption to closed captioning of their broadcast and television programs, without prior notice to the deaf and hard of hearing community.

I have been hard of hearing all of my life and now hear with a cochlear implant. I cannot enjoy broadcast television or DVD movies without captions. In addition, I have been raised in a Christian home. I speak from personal experience when I say that about 80-90% of the houses of worship in this country are not accessible to the hearing-impaired, and do not have captioning available in the sanctuary. It follows then, that captioned television programs by Christian organizations are the last avenue by which we may draw more deaf and hard of hearing people to Christ. Not to enforce captioning regulations is to deny our community equal access to programs that are available to persons with normal hearing. These so-called Christian organizations had 10 years to plan for getting their programs captioned, including locating funds to provide for this service.

To exempt broadcasts by Christian organizations and any other entity, without letting the deaf and hard of hearing community know, sets a bad precedent. The entities who asked for waivers are given consideration while those of us who will be affected are not. It reinforces the image of this administration as being beholden to business. It could very well open the floodgates to more and more companies petitioning for exemption to these important regulations without having thought out the long term consequences of how their callous decision not to provide captioning services would have for the deaf and hard of hearing community and for those who are learning English as a second language.

I urge the FCC to rescind this odious practice of granting automatic exemptions from captioning regulations by corporate entities without prior notice to our community, and to give the deaf and hard of hearing community an equal voice at the table in this matter which impacts our daily lives.

Sincerely,

Wendy Cheng
Gaithersburg, MD

9/19/2006

Docket No 06-181 FILED/ACCEPTED

Pam Gregory

OCT 16 2006

From: JOANCASSDY@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2006 8:25 AM
To: Kevin Martin; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborag.Tate@fcc.gov; Robert McDowell
Cc: Monica Desai
Subject: Closed Captioning Exemptions

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman and Commissioners,
I am upset, outraged, disappointed, sad and frustrated to find that the FCC has handed out more then 500 exemptions to the rule requiring closed captioning of TV programs. I have a serious hearing loss and depend on captioning so that I can watch TV with my family. It took many years (the exact count is too depressing) to reach the so-called 100% captioning date and now I find out that the FCC is just handing out exemptions like candy at Halloween.

Silly me I thought the FCC was supposed to look out for consumers.
Why did the FCC grant so many permanent exemptions?

Joan Cassidy
119 South Fox Rd
Sterling VA 20164

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Message

Docket No 06-181

Pam Gregory

FILED/ACCEPTED

From: Monica Desai
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2006 10:05 AM
To: Pam Gregory
Subject: FW: Captioning Protest

OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

*** Non-Public: For Internal Use Only ***

-----Original Message-----

From: David Crocker [mailto:crocker3@verizon.net]
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2006 4:55 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Captioning Protest

Good Afternoon,

The FCC's decision to grant exemptions from captioning requirements to over 500 petitioners from religious organizations is wrong-headed, arbitrary, and capricious. Given previous rulings by the FCC on the importance of providing access to deaf and hard of hearing people to programs on broadcast and cable television, the ruling last Monday indicates to me that you have thrown the religious right an election year sop, or that you don't feel that religious material needs to accessible to those of us with hearing loss.

It has been ten years now since the closed captioning rules were put in place. That is plenty of time for programmers to find funding and get set up to caption their programs. The decision sets a very bad precedent. A) It is counter to the regulations at 47 CFR Part 79.1(d) that allow for certain exemptions; and (b) it is de facto rulemaking without notice. You are creating new regulations without a process. This FCC interpretation could have far reaching effects that go well beyond religious programming. The entities who asked for waivers are given consideration while those of us who will be affected are not.

Taken along with your similar ruling on August 6th, your organization has evidently become politicized and is no longer a credible protector of the American public. This is government of the donors, by the donors, for the donors; it is thoroughly lacking in reason or principal. You will pay after Election Day...

David Crocker

David C. Crocker
2392 Branleigh Park Court
Reston, VA 20191
Phone-703-860-5066
TTY- 703-860-5205
Fax- 214-879-4827
Email- crocker3@verizon.net

Docket No 06-181

Pam Gregory**From:** Bob & Janette Cantwell [cantwell@dfwair.net]**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2006 3:25 PM**To:** Monica Desai**Subject:** Closed Captioning

In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 16 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear CGB Chief DeSai,

As the parent of a deaf child I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. I am extremely concerned for my child's future, and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider immediately! We need closed captioning! Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Janette Cantwell
1760 Winningkoff
Lucas, TX 75002

9/19/2006