

CGB-CC-1036

Westgate Free Will Baptist Church
PO Box 219
Arcadia SC 29320
(864) 574-5904

Received & Inspected
19th
AUG 18 2010
FCC Mail Room

To: Marlene H. Dortch,
Office of the Secretary,
Federal Communications Commission,
Attention: CGB Room 3-B431
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554
August 9, 2010

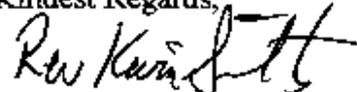
Dear Ms. Dortch,

Please find that Westgate Free Will Baptist Church at 820 West Blackstock Road, Spartanburg SC 29301 formally petitions for an exemption to the Closed Caption rule 47 C.F.R. § 79.1 (f). Our television ministry is funded solely from a few church members. Our program does not solicit any other outside funding sources. We recognize the importance of close captioning to the hearing impaired. As such we have inquired on the cost of sending our program to a third party for closed captioning services and the costs range between \$200 and \$450 per weekly service plus shipping. The closed captioning cost would be more than the actual air time for the program and be a financial burden on those assisting with the church television ministry. Moreover, in most cases, a surcharge of up to 25% for next day captioning services is charged plus the addition of next day air shipping costs. Our broadcasts contain time sensitive information regarding outreach and other mission related services that require specific air dates (such as feeding those in need this Saturday). Also, our production team is made up of all volunteers who work full time jobs and have families. This rule places additional burden on the ministries volunteers to edit and produce the video.

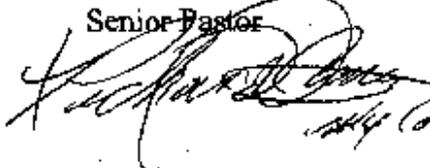
In summation, Westgate Free Will Baptist Church requests an exemption of compliance to afore mentioned rule on the basis of it being an enormous hardship financially and burdensome for our completely volunteer staff. Our desire is to look at the cost again, as this ministry grows and budget for it in the future.

Please respond if additional information is required.

Kindest Regards,



Rev. Kevin Smith
Senior Pastor



July 18, 2010