

Received & Inspected

MAY 8 X 2012

FCC Mail Room

April 30, 2012

Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Attention: Disability Rights Office, Room 3-B431
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Case Identifier CGB-CC-0680

To the Office of the Secretary:

Pursuant to the Public Notice (CG Docket No. 06-181) dated April 2, 2012 and being in receipt of your letter dated April 5, 2012 First Baptist Church (FBC) is responding to the best of our knowledge based on the guidance contained therein.

FBC filed petition to the FCC in a letter dated February 22, 2006 (see attached copy, unsigned by complete in its content). *This letter is being submitted to affirm that the information provided in our previously submitted petition is still accurate and up-to-date.*

There has been no material change in the financial resources available to FBC for the purposes of procuring closed captioning as described in point #3 of the original position. In addition, there has been no change in the Provider or Owner of the programming as described in point #2 of the original position. Finally, we find points #1, and #4-6 to remain accurate as well.

Based on the timely submission of this affirmation of the original petition, we trust you will find us to remain in compliance, qualifying for an exemption to the Commission's closed captioning requirements.

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AFFIDAVIT

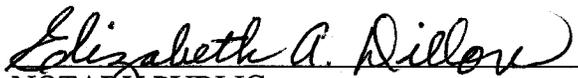
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CHARLESTON

PERSONALLY came and appeared before me, the undersigned Notary, the within named WILLIAM C. ROBINSON JR., who is a resident of CHARLESTON County, State of SOUTH CAROLINA, and makes this his/her statement and General Affidavit upon oath and affirmation of belief and personal knowledge that the information presented in this petition for the exemption of First Baptist Church from the Federal Communications Commission closed captioning requirement is true and correct to the best of his knowledge:

DATED this the 30th day of April, 20 12.


Signature of Affiant

SWORN to and subscribed before me, this the 1st day of May, 20 12.


NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires:

January 14, 2020

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MAY 8 X 2012

FCC Mail Room

February 22, 2006

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

To Whom It May Concern:

First Baptist Church (FBC) is filing this petition to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for exemption from the closed captioning requirements, found in section 79.1 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 79.1, for weekly telecast of our Sunday service. First Baptist Church believes that compliance with the closed captioning requirement represents an undue burden, as defined in section 79.1(f) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 79.1(f).

This petition addresses six points in the petition for exemption as outlined by the FCC:

1. **The nature and cost of closed captioning for the program.** A recent internet search of companies providing closed captioning services found that most had fees of over \$300 / week. Two companies were identified that provided necessary services at lower cost.

- a. VITAC, 4605 Lankeshim Blvd., Ste. 250, North Hollywood, CA 91602. \$240 / week.
- b. CPC, 1010 Rockville Pike #306, Rockville, MD 20852. \$293 / week.

E-mail notes from sales representatives of both companies are attached.

2. **The impact of closed captioning on the operation of the provider or program owner:**

- a. **Provider.** Our 11:00 AM service is taped every Sunday and edited by Thursday of the same week by a volunteer, who is a member of FBC. The edited tape is delivered to a local station WBCD-TV, channel 2, for airing the following Sunday. In order to continue taping with a one week delay and to have 3 days to add program captioning, the volunteer would need to complete editing on Monday. The volunteer is unable to provide editing within 1 day of taping.
- b. **Owner.** FBC does not have resources to hire an individual to edit the taped program within 1 day. Delaying the telecast for 2 weeks, would be suboptimal since topics are often time-sensitive. For example, the sermon series leading up to Christmas and Easter would be less relevant if delayed by 2 weeks. Given the multiple demands on the FBC budget, which includes local, regional, and international ministries, we do not have an additional \$12,480 to pay for closed captioning services.

3. **Financial resources of the provider or program owner.** FBC received tithes and offering during calendar year 2006 which totaled \$1,648,813. There is not a distributor of our program. WBCD-TV, Channel 2 did not solicit and airs the program for FBC as a service each week for \$750 per mutual agreement by signed contract.

4. **The type of operations of the provider or program owner.** FBC is a local church dedicated to sharing the Gospel message of eternal life through Jesus Christ and helping people understand and apply His Word, the Bible, in daily life. To advance this Great Commission, FBC is currently in the process of developing a 2nd campus with an estimated cost of \$7,500,000, which will present a significant challenge to our budget. While most of our work is in the local community, we support statewide, regional, national, and international missions with 10% of our budget.

5. Any available alternatives that might constitute a reasonable substitute for the closed captioning requirements, including but not limited to, text or graphic display of the content of the audio portion of the programming. The scripture and sermon notes each week are projected on screens on either side of the pulpit. The camera frequently focuses on the projected scripture and sermon notes for a period of time which is adequate for reading by the viewer. This practice will be continued for the duration of our sermon telecast.
6. Other factors the petitioner deems relevant to the Commission's final determination. FBC has not and will not solicit funds from viewers of the sermon telecasts. We provide the telecast service as one expression of our love for the community and our desire for them to know Jesus and His abundant live message. In recent months, we have church member volunteers that staff telephones during the telecast to talk and pray with listeners that have needs. In the telecast and telephone support ministries, our aim is to share the message of hope freely. We do not solicit funds. We have learned that our services are viewed by those with physical limitations, transportation problems, or other limitations that prevent them from participating in local church services.

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
 COUNTY OF CHARLESTON

PERSONALLY came and appeared before me, the undersigned Notary, the within named BRENT M. EGAN, who is a resident of CHARLESTON County, State of SOUTH CAROLINA, and makes this his/her statement and General Affidavit upon oath and affirmation of belief and personal knowledge that the information presented in this petition for the exemption of First Baptist Church from the Federal Communications Commission closed captioning requirement is true and correct to the best of his knowledge:

DATED this the ____ day of _____, 20 ____.

 Signature of Affiant

SWORN to and subscribed before me, this the ____ day of _____, 20 ____.

 NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires:
