

CGB-CC-0029

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DEC 13 2005  
FCC - MAILROOM

December 5, 2005

Petition to FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
For exemption from closed captioning requirements

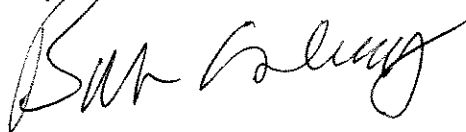
Please consider this letter as petition for exemption from FCC *closed captioning* as it pertains to COLUMBIA COUNTRY sport fishing show under section 79.1 (f) captioning exemption based on "undue burden".

Recently I was informed by one of the stations subscribing to my regional sport fishing show that the FCC would require closed captioning on all programming after January 1, 2006. I was unaware of this pending requirement and after looking further into the costs involved it is evident that it would be too expensive to absorb the added costs required for captioning and continue production and distribution. In regards to this matter please consider the facts as listed below:

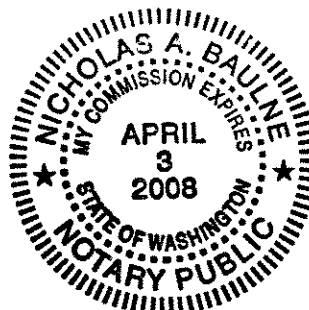
1. COLUMBIA COUNTRY is small regional sport fishing show featuring venues of the Pacific Northwest.
2. COLUMBIA COUNTRY is produced by Bob and Barbara Asbury (23245 E Settler Drive - Liberty Lake WA 99019) with the help of two part-time employees.
3. COLUMBIA COUNTRY is distributed on about 20 broadcast stations in and around the greater Pacific Northwest.
4. The show is 95% un-scripted consisting of live audio with fishing guides and fisherman.
5. The show requires about 26 original episodes per year.
6. The producer of COLUMBIA COUNTRY does not have the technical capabilities to generate closed captioning.
7. The cost for closed captioning would run approximately \$575.00 per episode with a yearly cost of approximately \$12,600.00.
8. Yearly net income generated from COLUMBIA COUNTRY is less than \$70,000.00.
9. The show provides the primary income for its producer Bob Asbury (Liberty Lake Washington) and supplementary income for part-time host, Carl Mann Missoula Montana).
10. Simply stated, as a small regional program the added costs of closed captioning would make it prohibitive to continue production.

Petitioner hereby requests that the FCC take into consideration the above stated facts with regards to the COLUMBIA COUNTRY sport fishing show and grant an exemption from closed captioning.

Respectfully,



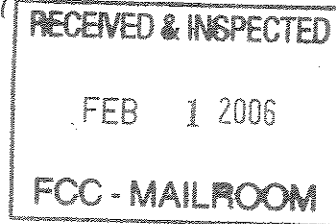
Bob Asbury  
PRODUCER



12/5/05  
State of Washington  
County of Spokane



CCB-PC-0079



January 24, 2006

Petition to FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
For full exemption from closed captioning requirements

Please consider this letter as petition for full exemption from FCC *closed captioning* as it pertains to COLUMBIA COUNTRY sport fishing show under section 79.1 (f) captioning exemption based on "undue burden".

Recently I was informed by one of the stations subscribing to my regional sport fishing show that the FCC would require closed captioning on all programming after January 1, 2006. I was unaware of this pending requirement and after looking further into the costs involved it is evident that it would be too expensive to absorb the added costs required for captioning and continue production and distribution. In regards to this matter please consider the facts as listed below:

#### RELEVANT FACTS

1. COLUMBIA COUNTRY is regional sport fishing show featuring venues of the Pacific Northwest.
2. COLUMBIA COUNTRY is produced by Bob and Barbara Asbury (23245 E Settler Drive - Liberty Lake WA 99019) with the help of two part-time employees.
3. COLUMBIA COUNTRY is distributed on about 20 broadcast stations in and around the greater Pacific Northwest.
4. The show is 95% un-scripted consisting of live audio with fishing guides and fisherman.
5. The episode schedule requires about 26 original episodes per year.
6. The show is distributed to stations on Betacam SP tape format.
7. The producer of COLUMBIA COUNTRY does not have the technical capabilities to generate closed captioning.
8. Yearly net income generated from COLUMBIA COUNTRY is less than \$70,000.00.
9. The show provides the primary income for its producer Bob Asbury (Liberty Lake Washington) and supplementary income for part-time host, Carl Mann (Missoula Montana).

#### CAPTIONING COSTS

10. The cost for closed captioning (out of house) has been quoted at \$575.00 per episode. A yearly cost of approximately \$12,600.00.
11. Option-2, Installation of equipment and software to generate closed captioning (in-house) quoted @\$9,700.00 by C-Caption Inc. In addition to this cost I would have to change my mastering format from Betacam SP to a DV format. This requires changing-out all slave decks from Betacam to DV at an estimated cost of \$18,000.00, and or purchase a digital to analog converter at a cost of \$5,500.00.
12. Option-3 hard-edit permanent black-box text onto original programming. This really is not an option as it would certainly destroy the visual point of action as well as the frame balance of the program.
13. In addition to the financial obstacles listed in paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 there are the logistics of distribution. COLUMBIA COUNTRY programs are shot and edited a year in advance. All shows for 2006 broadcast season are edited, dubbed to tape and in the distribution chain to subscribing stations. It would

be extremely costly and time prohibitive to attempt to re-edit and distribute these episodes.

Simply stated, we have not the financial nor human resources to absorb the inherent costs and logistics required for closed captioning of our program.

WHEREFORE petitioners request that the FCC take into consideration the above stated facts with regards to the COLUMBIA COUNTRY sport fishing show and grant a full exemption from closed captioning based on "undue burden". If a full exemption cannot be granted as it pertains to our case we request a 24 month exemption allowing us to close down the show without defaulting on our obligation to sponsors and partners in production.

Bob Asbury



Barbara Asbury



STATE OF WASHINGTON ) Ss.  
COUNTY OF SPOKANE )

On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2006, before me a Notary Public in and for said state, personally appeared Bob and Barbara Asbury, his wife, to me known to be the persons described in and who executed the foregoing instrument and acknowledged that they executed the same for the purpose therein stated.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal at my office in Liberty Lake, Washington, the day and year first above written.

My commission expires: April 3, 2008

Nicholas A. Baulne  
Notary Public - State of Washington  
Commissioned in the county of Spokane

