

COB-CC-0034

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DEC 13 2005  
FCC - MAILROOM



**WORD OF LIFE CHURCH**

Tom Brown, Pastor

FCC  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW,  
Washington, DC 20554

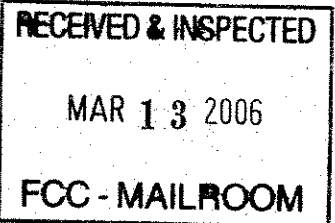
To FCC,

We are requesting to be exempt from having to use Closed Captioning for our religious program called, "The Bondage Breaker" because it would place on us an "undue burden." We air our program locally in El Paso on only two TV stations early Sunday morning, so the captioning costs would be a high percentage of the overall production costs. The cost would be so overbearing that we would have to stop producing our TV show, and the local community which needs our show, would be deprived of the show meeting their religious needs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Pastor Tom Brown



## WORD OF LIFE CHURCH

Tom Brown, Pastor

Case Identifier number: CGB-CC-0034

Amelia Brown, Disability Rights Office  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Amelia Brown,

This letter is in response to the letter you sent to us dated January 30, 2006. You explained that our petition to request exception from Closed Captioning based on "undue burden" was "incomplete." I hope this letter will explain in a completed way why we need to be exempt from closed captioning.

Our church is a medium size congregation of about 400 regular Sunday attendees, with an annual income from donations at about \$400,000. Most of the donations go to the operating expenses of the church. Last year we were in the red, short \$5,313.

The break down of our donors is as follows:

166 people gave \$100-400  
67 people gave \$500-999  
55 people gave \$2,000-4,999  
12 people gave \$5,000-9,999  
2 people gave \$10,000-14,999  
0 people gave \$15,000-19,999  
2 people gave \$20,000 plus

As you can tell, we do not have very many wealthy people in our church. They are made up of almost lower income people. It is amazing that we can provide a TV program in our city.

We have a religious weekly TV program entitled, "The Bondage Breaker" that is aired on two local TV stations in El Paso, TX. We spend \$400 a program on KDBC, Sunday 6 a.m. and \$300 a program on KFOX, Sunday 6:30 a.m. All together the cost for each week is \$700. The media company (Affiliated Media) we hired to purchase our air time gave us the name of a company that does Closed Captioning for their clients. We were told the

cost is \$200 for every half hour show. The cost of closed captioning would increase our TV budget by almost 30 percent. We could not continue our TV show with an additional price of \$200 a show.

We request an exemption from "Closed Captioning" based on an undue burden for our church. If you forced us to do closed captioning then we would be forced to take money out of our benevolence fund in order to provide closed captioning. This would mean needy people and missionaries would receive less money every week from our church.

Sincerely,

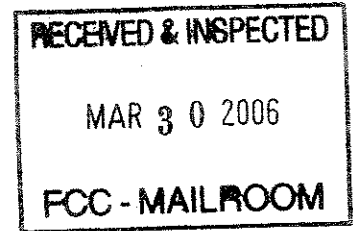
  
Pastor Tom Brown

Signing Affidavit

*Subscribed and sworn to before me, Edith Shipton,  
on the date aforementioned, in the County of  
El Paso, State of Texas.*



*Edith Shipton  
Notary Public  
County of El Paso  
State of Texas  
Commission Expires 8/17/2007  
2 pages (2 of 2)*



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Pastor Tom Brown

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Case Identifier number: CGB-CC-0034

Date:  
3.21.06

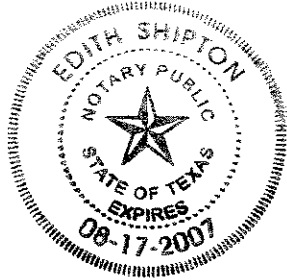
Affidavit

I, Pastor Tom Brown, swear that the petition (sent in January) requesting exemption from Closed Captioning and the supplemental information (sent in February, enclosed is a copy) is accurate to the best of my ability.

Signature



*Subscribed and sworn to before me,  
Edith Shipton, a Notary Public in and  
for the County of El Paso, State of Texas.*



*Edith Shipton  
NOTARY  
My Commission Expires 8/17/2007*