

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM
EXTERNAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Jim Campbell, External Relations Director

THROUGH: Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

COPIES: Veronica Zertuche, City Attorney's Office; Lou Lendman, Office of Management & Budget; Judy Babbitt, Planning; File

SUBJECT: PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR CLOSED CAPTIONING SERVICES

DATE: May 22, 2003

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

This ordinance authorizes a second one-year extension of the existing contract with Texas Closed Captioning to provide Closed Captioning Services to the City of San Antonio. This extension will be effective June 6, 2003. Ordinance No. 93919, which was passed on May 10, 2001, approved the original contract with Texas Closed Captioning, and Ordinance No. 95798 which was passed on May 23, 2002, approved the first one-year extension. Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

This agreement will continue to provide the City of San Antonio with closed captioning services for televised City Council meetings. These services will be used on programs carried on the cable government access channel. There are approximately eighty-three people per one thousand with hearing impairments. An evaluation of the vendor was conducted in March 2002 by City staff, with the vendor present. The evaluation provided valuable information that will continue to improve the quality and the process. An informal survey conducted in March 2002, by the Public Information Division, indicated there is a continued need for the service. The Planning department reports that the vendor has a higher rating for accuracy than is standard and has not received any complaints since the service was implemented. The standard for live captioning is 95% accuracy, which equates to 10 errors per minute at an average speaking rate of 200 words per minute. The current vendor holds itself to 99% accuracy, which averages to two errors per minute. All of the vendor's closed captioners are Certified Realtime Reporters. The performance period for this agreement is one year with an option to extend for one additional one-year term. The anticipated start date is June 6, 2003.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

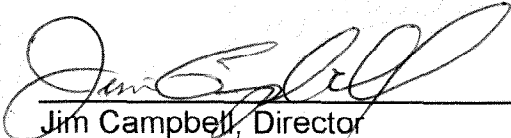
The Federal Americans with Disability Act of 1990 mandates municipalities ensure effective communication to persons with disabilities. Section 35.160(b)(2) specifically relates to television programming produced by public entities to make programming accessible to persons with hearing impairments. In the San Antonio area there are approximately 100,000 people with hearing impairments.

FISCAL IMPACT

The estimated cost of this agreement is \$38,000.00. Funding will be from the General Fund. Funds have been approved and are available in the FY 02-03 Budget.

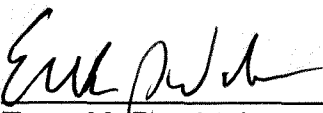
COORDINATION

This ordinance was coordinated with the Office of Management & Budget; the City Attorney's Office and the Planning Department.



Jim Campbell, Director
External Relations

Reviewed and Approved by:



Terry M. Brechtel
City Manager

City of San Antonio Discretionary Contracts Disclosure

For use of this form, see City of San Antonio Ethics Code, Part D, Section 1&2
Attach additional sheets if space provided is not sufficient

Disclosure of Parties, Owners, and Closely Related Persons

For the purpose of assisting the city in the enforcement of provisions contained in the City Charter and the code of ethics, an individual or business entity seeking a discretionary contract from the city is required to disclose in connection with a proposal for a discretionary contract:

(1) the identity of any individual who would be a party to the discretionary contract:

Terry S. McGinty

(2) the identity of any business entity that would be a party to the discretionary contract:

Texas Closed Captioning

and the name of:

(A) any individual or business entity that would be a subcontractor on the discretionary contract:

Whitney Alden
Polly Fife
Candice Brickner

(B) any individual or business entity that is known to be a partner, or a parent or subsidiary business entity, of any individual or business entity who would be a party to the discretionary contract:

n/a

(3) the identity of any lobbyist or public relations firm employed for purposes relating to the discretionary contract being sought by any individual or business entity who would be a party to the discretionary contract.

n/a

Political Contributions

Any individual or business entity seeking a discretionary contract from the city must disclose in connection with a proposal for a discretionary contract all political contributions totaling one hundred dollars (\$100) or more within the past twenty-four (24) months made directly or indirectly to any member of City Council, or to any political action committee that contributes to City Council elections, by any individual or business entity whose identity must be disclosed under (1), (2) or (3) above. Indirect contributions by an individual include, but are not limited to, contributions made by the individual's spouse, whether statutory or common-law. Indirect contributions by an entity include, but are not limited to, contributions made through the officers, owners, or registered lobbyists of the entity.

To Whom Made:	Amount:	Date of Contribution:
n/a		

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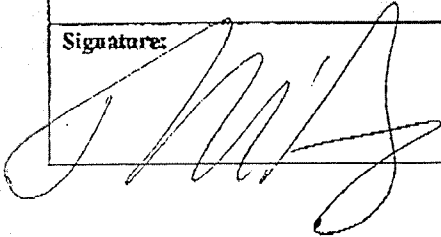
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City of San Antonio
Discretionary Contracts Disclosure

*For use of this form, see City of San Antonio Ethics Code, Part D, Section 1 & 2
Attach additional sheets if space provided is not sufficient*

Disclosures in Proposals

Any individual or business entity seeking a discretionary contract with the city shall disclose any known facts which, reasonably understood, raise a question¹ as to whether any city official would violate Section 1 of Part B by participating in official action relating to the discretionary contract.

n/a		
Signature: 	Title: owner Company: Texas Closed Captioning	Date: 3/21/03

¹ For purposes of this rule, facts are "reasonably understood" to "raise a question" about the appropriateness of official action if a disinterested person would conclude that the facts, if true, require recusal or require careful consideration of whether or not recusal is required.