

The following is a list of questions received regarding the request for proposal (RFP) for telecast and webcast captioning services for the Minnesota Legislature and responses by the RFP committee. As advised in the RFP, responses have been posted to <http://www.lcc.leg.mn/lcc/RFPs.htm> by 4 pm on Wednesday, October 16.

- Q1) In the most recent contract/s, what was the real-time captioning hourly rate/s and caption service provider/s?
- R1) The LCC contracted with three different caption service providers during 2012-2013 calendar years.

Provider:	Services Provided For:	Contract Hourly Rate:
Paradigm Reporting & Captioning, Inc.	Telecast	\$90/Hour
Aegis RapidText, Inc.	Webcast	\$65/Hour
Tom Schultz Captioning	Webcast	\$45/Hour

- Q2) What was the accuracy of the captioning services provided?
- R2) The LCC performed accuracy analysis on a sample of captioned events done by each provider service. Below is the analysis summary for the 2013 session caption providers.

Summary of 2013 Accuracy Analysis of Captioning

Paradigm Reporting & Captioning, Inc.*	99.5%
Aegis RapidText, Inc.*	93.7%
Aegis RapidText, Inc.^	94.7%
Tom Schultz Captioning^	97.4%

Analysis bases captioning methodology (stenographer or voice)

*providers utilized stenographer captioners

^providers utilized voice captioners

- Q 3) What is the manufacturer and model of the encoders that you are using for your telecast captioning?
- R3) A Link PDP 886 is used with captions for the telecast distribution of the Senate's production of Capitol Reports. A Link PDA 895 is used with captions for all other telecasts (master control).

- Q4) Are you also using encoders for your webcast captioning? If not, what technology is being used?
- R4) We use encoders in the webcast caption process for both the House and Senate. The encoders make/model are: High Definition Caption Encoder HDE-3000/2.
- Q5) Are both telecast and webcast captions provided simultaneously daily, frequently or occasionally?
- R5) The telecast programming is a mixture of live events and playback programming. The live events are typically legislative meetings, floor sessions, press conferences and live updates from the Studio. The playback material includes these events plus member interviews, and legislative historical and education material. The webcasts are always live events of legislative meetings, floor sessions and press conferences. Often, the telecast and webcast programming is of the same/simultaneous event.
- Q6) How much advanced notice is provided to the captioning company that multiple captioners will be needed?
- R6) The Legislature currently produces up to three webcasts/telecasts simultaneously; Captioning providers would be given the same notice for any of the three. A potential vendor may include in their proposal that they have the capability to caption all three telecasts/webcasts simultaneously.