

**Washington State Supreme Court
Interpreter Commission**

December 18, 2020

Meeting Packet

**Washington State
Administrative Office of the Courts
1112 Quince Street SE
PO Box 41170
Olympia, WA 98504-1170
Phone: 360-753-3365**

Interpreter Commission Meeting Agenda



Interpreter Commission Quarterly Meeting

Friday, December 18, 2020
8:45 am- 11:45 am

Zoom Video Conferencing:

<https://wacourts.zoom.us/j/96798749987>

Meeting ID: 967 9874 9987

AGENDA

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to Order: • Member Introductions • Meeting Rules for Observers 	Justice Steven González	page
Chair's Report		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of September 25, 2020 Minutes 	Justice González	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of New Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chair-elect: Judge Mafé Rajul ➤ Appellate Court Representative: Justice Helen Whitener ➤ AOC Representative: Jeanne Englert ➤ Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Liaison: Deborah O' Willow 	Justice González	12 17 19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Assignments Input 	Justice González	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Organizations Representative Interviews • Nomination Vote (<i>Executive Session</i>) 	Justice González	21
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-submission of ESSB 5984 for 2021 Legislative Session 	Sen. Wellman/N. Shatz	31
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barriers with Remote Hearings and with Counsel in Jail Settings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Court Interpreters in Jails: NOTIS Response ➤ Survey of Court Interpreters: Working in Jails 	Katrin Johnson Francis Adewale Kristi Cruz Riddhi Mukhopadhyay	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washington State Racial Justice Initiative and Representative(s) from Commission 	D. Noman/ L. Gracia AOC Staff	34 36
BREAK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DMCJA Proposal to Amend CrRLJ 3.4 	Justice González	56
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAP and Bench Card Update Due to General Rules 11.3 and 11.4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Revisions to Amended GR 11.3 	Justice González	

Chair's Report



Interpreter Commission Meeting
Friday, September 25, 2020
Zoom Videoconference

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

Justice Steven González
Florence Adeyemi
Judge Matthew Antush
Judge Andrea Beall
Maria Luisa Gracia Camón
Kristi Cruz
Katrin Johnson
Diana Noman
Frankie Peters
Judge Mafé Rajul
Naoko Inoue Schatz
Judge Joshua Sundt
Fona Sugg
Donna Walker

AOC Staff:

Michelle Bellmer
Robert Lichtenberg
James Wells

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

- Members of the Commission and guests identified themselves.

APPROVAL OF JUNE MEETING MINUTES

- Meeting minutes approved without modification.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Commission Service Recognition Awards

- The Commission thanked Judge Beall for her service on the Commission and heading the Issues Committee.

Welcome Judge Antush as new Supreme Court member

- Judge Antush was introduced as the newest member of the Commission and was assigned to the Issues Committee as its chair.

Expansion of Scope of Commission

- The Commission discussed the scope of the Interpreter Commission's work and whether it should move beyond language access to both language and physical and barriers.
- The AOC has a staff person who is assigned to help courts with issues involving the ADA, but that is only on part of that person's responsibility. There was staff whose main responsibility as about ADA issues, but this was cut during the recession and budget cuts.
- There was a concern that the Commission did not have the expertise to properly address the myriad of issues that courts need to address regarding physical barriers.

Member Vacancies: Community Organizations Representative and AOC Representative

- The Community Organizations Representative seat is currently vacant. The Commission discussed if that seat should be re-assigned for a different kind of stakeholder.
- The Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) has expressed interest in having a seat on the Commission. Currently there is a limit on the number of seats on the Commission.
- The Commission felt the seat should remain for a community organization for the time being. If the role of the Commission expands, there may be an opportunity to create a seat for the ODHH. ODHH is currently able to attend and contribute during meetings and committee work.

Reimbursement Program Funding Update

- Ramsay Radwan from the AOC updated the Commission the status of the funding from the legislature.
- Prior to 2019-2020 biennium, there was about \$610,000 per year for the reimbursement program. During the last full legislative session, a request was submitted to increase funding for the program over a multi-year period to ramp up the program.
- The legislature approved the initial stages of the request, but required a further request to complete the final stages of the multi-year plan.
- The AOC is submitting an additional request for the difference between the funding that has already approved and the funding that was originally requested.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee

- The Committee has submitted proposals for the District and Municipal Court Judges Spring Conference.
- New members have been recruited for the education panel for the interpreter session at the Judicial College.
 - Claudia A'zar will be joining as an interpreter and Judge Laura Riquelme will join as a judicial officer. The new members will shadow at the 2021 session and be on the panel for the following year.
- The Committee has created resources to help courts provide interpreter services during COVID. These resources are available on the AOC website.
- Non-Commission members are welcome to participate in the Education Committee's work in developing training materials and presenting in training events for court staff and judges

Issues Committee

GR 11.4 - Team Interpreting

- A draft rule was presented at the previous Commission meeting and an ad hoc committee has been continuing work on the rule.
- Budget considerations and lack of understanding of how interpreters do their work have led to courts not providing team interpreting. This can cause barriers to providing meaningful access for LEPs, mistakes on the record, and issues with due process.
- There was a concern about how sign language used by Certified Deaf Interpreters was described in part of the rule
- There no consensus in the Committee to recommend passing the rule as it is.

MOTION: Approve the new version of 11.4 subject to revision regarding the language around standard sign language.

- Subject to clarifications about the work of CDIs, the Commission voted to review and vote on a new version of GR 11.4 to be submitted to the Supreme Court Rules Committee by the submission deadline.

Rule 11.3 – Remote Interpreting

- Courts may look to remote interpreting as the default after the pandemic while in-person interpreting is considered the best way to provide interpretation.
- GR 11.3 initially did have a good cause finding, but it was later removed. There were questions about whether or not there was authority to require that finding.
- Some members felt that a rule should have good cause language and that without requiring judges to make this finding, it may lead courts to take shortcuts
- Some commission members expressed concern about extra burdens being placed on interpreters during remote interpreting.
- Commission discussed whether or not the rule should be delayed to allow more editing.
- A number of comments and short suggestions were made about the language in the rule. As it would not be possible to create the final version of the language at the meeting given the mid-October deadline to submit the revision of the rule for this year, the majority of the Commission voted in favor of the following motion:

Motion: Further editing will take place by email. The revised draft rule vote to approve would be held electronically prior to submission to the Supreme Court Rules Committee by the deadline.

Proposed Timeline:

- Commission members / others have two weeks to get the comments or edits to AOC staff.
- On or before October 9, the new versions of GR 11.3 and GR 11.4 rules go out to Commission members for an online vote.
- Commission members have until October 14 to vote.
- On October 16, submit new rule to the Supreme Court rules committee.

Rule for Recording Interpretation in GR 11.3

The Commission discussed the issues involving capturing simultaneous interpretation on the record so that it can be reviewed at a later date. The discussion of this matter was referred for consideration to the Issues Committee.

Disciplinary Committee Report

- There was an appeal made Andrei Medvedev to the decision regarding the sanction imposed.
- The Committee then decided that reduce the amount of money that he was being asked to repay and sent a letter. No response to a request for a payment plan arrangement with the AOC nor has any payment yet been received.
- The Committee continues to address a second complaint against Mr. Medvedev.

STAFF REPORT

Reimbursement Program Expansion Update:

- The AOC hosted a webinar about the expansion of the program with courts already in the program and a webinar for courts interested in joining the program. These webinars allowed the AOC to identify frequently asked questions and create an information sheet.
- Currently, approximately 25 new courts plan on joining the program.
- The AOC has been working with the University of Washington to review the formula that has been used to allocate funds to courts each year.

Interpreter Program Update:

- Recent Activities
 - One new Spanish interpreter received her credential.
 - A webinar about remote interpreting was created and is now available on the AOC website. A live version that allowed interpreters to ask questions and participate was offered in July.
- Written Exam Update
 - It has not been possible to administer any written exams in-person this year.
 - Prior to the outbreak of the pandemic, the Court Interpreter Program began the process of transitioning the written exam to a computer-based format which will allow interpreters to schedule their exams individually at several testing centers across the state throughout the year.

The AOC is in the testing phase of using the online platform for the written exam and we plan to have the exam available for interpreter to take by the end of 2020.

Interpreter Commission
9/25/2020 Meeting Minutes
Page 6

- Oral Exam Update
 - Due to the pandemic the oral exams cannot be administered on schedule in the all.
 - The Program is monitoring other states as they begin to resume oral exam testing. Because of the uncertainty of when Washington state government and AOC safety restrictions will be, we don't have a projected date when oral exam testing will be resumed.
 - Because we were not able to hold the written exam earlier this year, we don't have as large a pool of candidates as normal waiting to take the exam.
- Interpreter Groups affected by Testing Delay
 - The delay in testing will affect two groups of interpreters who face deadlines that were created with our normal testing scheduling in mind:

Group 1 – Candidates Whose Written Exam Results Will Expire

Test candidates who pass the written exam have a six-year window to take and pass the oral exam. If candidates do not pass the oral exam within that time period, they need to re-pass the written exam before attempting the oral exam again.

Decision: Interpreters who passed the written exam in 2015 will be given an additional year to take the oral exam without having to pass the written exam again.

Group 2 – Interpreters in Transitioning Languages

The languages Portuguese and Tagalog are transitioning from the registered category to the certified category. Registered interpreters in these languages were given a one year extension to take and pass the oral exam at the Interpreter Commission meeting last February.

Decision: Interpreters in transitioning languages will be given an additional year to retain their credentials

The Supreme Court
State of Washington

DEBRA L. STEPHENS
CHIEF JUSTICE
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE
POST OFFICE BOX 40929
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON
98504-0929



(360) 357-2050
E-MAIL Debra.Stephens@COURTS.WA.GOV

November 25, 2020

Honorable Maria Fernanda (Mafé) Rajul
King County Courthouse
401 4th Ave N, RJC-SC-0203
Kent, WA 98032

Re: Appointment as Chair to Supreme Court Interpreter Commission

Dear Judge Rajul:

Justice Steven González, Chair of the Supreme Court Interpreter Commission (SCIC), has nominated you to serve as the Chair of the SCIC. The Supreme Court's Administrative Committee has confirmed your appointment. Your term will commence January 11, 2021 and will end on September 30, 2023.

On behalf of the justices of the Supreme Court, I wish to thank you for your continued willingness to serve on the Interpreter Commission. I am confident that this important Commission will continue to benefit from the expertise and experience you have to offer.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra L. Stephens".

Debra Stephens
Chief Justice
Washington State Supreme Court

cc: Justice Steven González, Chair, Interpreter Commission
Robert Lichtenberg, AOC

The Supreme Court
State of Washington

STEVEN C. GONZÁLEZ
JUSTICE
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE
POST OFFICE BOX 40929
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON 98504-0929



(360) 357-2029
FAX (360) 357-2103
E-MAIL J.S.GONZALEZ@COURTS.WA.GOV

November 19, 2020

Honorable Debra L. Stephens
Chief Justice of the Washington State Supreme Court
PO Box 40929
Olympia, WA 98504-0929

Dear Chief Justice Stephens:

RE: Appointment of New Chairperson to Washington Supreme Court Interpreter Commission

Since 2012, I have had the distinct pleasure of serving as the Chair of the Supreme Court Interpreter Commission. The Commission has advanced the use of best practices in court interpreting services and has provided crucial guidance to our state courts in navigating the new virtual approach to participating in court and court services using spoken and signed language interpreters. It is filled with passionate and dedicated members and it is with regret that I must relinquish my direct role as Commission Chair now that I am assuming other responsibilities with my upcoming service as the Chief Justice to this Court. The purpose of this letter is to make a recommendation for my replacement as Commission Chair.

It is my pleasure to nominate Judge Mafé Rajul to serve as the new Chairperson of the Commission. She currently serves on the Commission as Superior Court Judge Representative and will continue to serve in that role due to limitations on the number of members the Commission may have. Her term as Superior Court representative will end on September 30, 2023 and she will be eligible to serve a second term in that representative role while continuing to chair the Commission. She currently serves as chair of the Disciplinary Committee, a role she will have to relinquish if appointed to serve as Commission Chair due to the process in which the Commission hears complaints on appeal. I believe that she will be a very positive asset to the Commission and recommend that you appoint Judge Rajul to fill my seat on the Commission. Her experience as a certified interpreter in our state courts, an AOC-credentialed Spanish language interpreter, as well as serving as a jurist in our King County courts, makes her a unique candidate. She will be of value in guiding the Commission in meeting its mission to ensure that the highest quality of interpretation services is ensured persons who are limited-English proficient or who rely on sign language to communicate in our state's justice system.

Thank you for your consideration of this nomination.

Sincerely,

Justice Steve González
Interpreter Commission Chair
cc: Robert Lichtenberg, AOC

Hon. Mafé Rajul

King County Courthouse
401 Fourth Ave N RJC-SC-0203
Kent, Washington 98032
mafe.rajul@kingcounty.gov
(206) 477-1540

Professional Experience

King County Superior Court – Dept 35 *Superior Court Judge*

May 2018 to present
Seattle and Kent, Washington

General jurisdiction trial court responsible for: civil matters involving more than \$300, unlawful detainers, and injunctions; felony criminal cases; family law, including dissolutions, child support, adoptions, parentage, and domestic-violence protection matters; probate and guardianship matters; juvenile offender matters; juvenile dependencies; and involuntary commitment matters.

King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office *Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney*

2005 – 2018
Seattle, Washington

Extensive experience in all areas of criminal practice

- Lead of the High Priority Repeat Offender unit
 - Established the unit and implemented filing and disposition standards.
 - Supervised deputies in their trial practice.
 - Responsible for outreach to local law enforcement.
- Legal Advisor for the Valley Narcotics Enforcement Team (VNET)
 - Advised law enforcement on complex criminal investigations including the use of confidential informants, the drafting of search warrants, and the use of recorded conversation authorizations.
 - Updated law enforcement on legal trends and changes in the law.
 - Litigated civil asset forfeitures for VNET and for the Port of Seattle Police Department.
- Identity Theft Lead Prosecutor
 - Managed an average caseload of 55 cases involving complex financial crimes.
 - Worked closely with local law enforcement, federal agents, task force crime analysts, and various financial and banking representatives.
- Managed an average trial caseload of 25 cases involving violent crimes: murder, felony assaults, robbery, rape, and gang-related offenses.
- Drafted appellate briefs and presented oral argument before the Washington State Supreme Court and The Court of Appeals.
- Repeat Burglar Initiative Lead Prosecutor
 - Designed and implemented policies to prosecute prolific offenders.
 - Trained law enforcement on criminal investigations and procedure.
 - Led meetings with detectives and crime analysts in an effort to work collaboratively and exchange intelligence.
 - Organized community meetings keeping citizens informed of crime trends in their area.

U.S. Department of State
International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs
Justice Advisor to Special Victims Task Force

October 2012 – May 2013
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

- Advised Honduran prosecutors on trial strategies and case development of homicides involving human rights allegations.
- Advised Honduran detectives on homicide investigations, including witness interviews, evidence gathering, report writing, and indictment preparation.
- Mentored Honduran prosecutors and detectives on establishing positive working relationships and teamwork in order to obtain successful prosecutions.

Mafé Rajul Interpreter and Translator Services, Business Owner
Spanish Certified Court and Medical Interpreter and Translator

1996 – 2005
Washington State

- Interpreted in English and Spanish for civil and criminal court proceedings in Superior Court, District and Municipal Courts; in civil arbitrations, depositions, and mediations; and in administrative hearings for child support, immigration, welfare, and labor disputes.
- Translated legal documents and transcriptions.
- Interpreted at the Department of Social and Health Services for people requiring assistance requesting a variety of social services, and for participants in substance abuse programs.
- Responsible for recruiting new clients, marketing, and contracting.
- Managed billing, budgeting, and planning.

Law Offices of Mark A. Burke
Bilingual Paralegal and Office Manager

July 1995 – April 1998
Bellevue, Washington

- Maintained communication with clients, court officials, attorneys, vendors, and experts.
- Managed attorneys' calendars; responsible for office budget, payroll and billing.

Education

University of Washington School of Law

J.D. 2006

- Awards:
 - First Place and Best Speaker: In-House Greenlaw Appellate Competition
 - First Place and Best Speaker: In-House Mock Trial Competition
 - Finalist: Texas Young Lawyers Association, Mock Trial Regional Competition
- Graduated Order of the Barristers
- Moot Court Honor Board – Vice President of Finances
- Publications:
 - E-Discovery: Can The Producing Party Get Away With Not Paying For The Costs Of Electronic Discovery? The New Trend And How To Reduce Production Costs!
 - "I Didn't Know My Client Wasn't Complying!" The Heightened Obligation Lawyers Have To Ensure Clients Follow Court Orders In Litigation Matters.
- Associate Editor-in-Chief: Shidler Journal of Law, Commerce, and Technology.
- Student Attorney, Innocence Project Clinic.

University of Washington

B.A. 2003

- Bachelor of Arts in Society and Justice, Minor in Philosophy.
- Honors
 - National Dean's List.
 - Golden Key National Honor Society.
 - University of Washington Dean's List.

Volunteer Work and Memberships

- *Washington State Coalition for Language Access (WASCLA)* 2017 to present
 - Board of directors (treasurer)
- *University of Washington Mock Trial Coach* 2007 – 2012
 - Coached law students regarding the rules of evidence, pre-trial motions and basic trial skills.
- *Family Law Court Appointed Special Advocate of King County* May 2004 – June 2005
 - Advocated for children in divorce, paternity, third party custody and modifications.
- *Latino/a Bar Association of Washington (LBAW)*
- *King County Bar Association Diversity Committee*

The Supreme Court
State of Washington

STEVEN C. GONZÁLEZ
JUSTICE
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE
POST OFFICE BOX 40929
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON 98504-0929



(360) 357-2029
FAX (360) 357-2103
E-MAIL J_S.GONZALEZ@COURTS.WA.GOV

November 25, 2020

Honorable Debra Stephens
Chief Justice of the Washington State Supreme Court
PO Box 40929
Olympia, WA 98504-0929

Dear Chief Justice Stephens:

RE: Appointment of Appellate-Court Representative to Washington Supreme Court Interpreter Commission

It is my pleasure to nominate Justice G. Helen Whitener to serve her first three-year term on the Supreme Court Interpreter Commission as the Appellate Court Representative on the Commission. GR 11.1 specifies that the Commission shall have an appellate-level jurist as one of the three judicial officer member positions. I am making this nomination in consideration of the responsibilities I will assume in January, which will necessitate my leaving the Commission as the appellate-level representative member, as well as its Chair.

I believe that Justice Whitener will be a very positive asset to the Commission and our Court as it will be important for the Court to have her represent the Commission when the Court is engaged in deliberations related to rules and policies of the Commission that are advanced to the Court for consideration. Of equal importance is the voice of the Court she will represent on the Commission as our Supreme Court must serve a role of leadership and set an example of its support for access to justice for all through the Commission's policy making responsibilities.

On behalf of the Commission I respectfully recommend that you appoint Justice Whitener to fill the position I am vacating effective January 11, 2021. As established by GR 11.1, she will have her first three-year term of office as Appellate Court representative ending on September 30, 2024 if appointed and she will be eligible for reappointment for an additional three years if her nomination is advanced by then-current Commission Chairperson for appointment consideration again.

Thank you for your consideration of this nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve González", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Justice Steve González
Interpreter Commission Chair
cc: Robert Lichtenberg, AOC

The Supreme Court
State of Washington

DEBRA L. STEPHENS
CHIEF JUSTICE
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE
POST OFFICE BOX 40929
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON
98504-0929



(360) 357-2050
E-MAIL Debra.Stephens@COURTS.WA.GOV

December 9, 2020

Honorable G. Helen Whitener
Washington Supreme Court
Temple of Justice
PO Box 40929
Olympia, WA 98504-0929

Re: Appointment to Supreme Court Interpreter Commission

Dear Justice Whitener:

Justice Steve González, as Chair of the Interpreter Commission, has recommended you be appointed as the Appellate Court Representative to the Washington Supreme Court Interpreter Commission (SCIC). The Supreme Court's Administrative Committee has confirmed your appointment. Your term will commence on January 11, 2021 and end on September 30, 2024.

On behalf of the justices of the Supreme Court, I wish to thank you for your willingness to serve on the SCIC. I am confident that this important Commission will continue to benefit from the expertise and experience you have to offer.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debra L. Stephens".

Debra Stephens
Chief Justice
Washington State Supreme Court

cc: Justice Steven González, Chair, Interpreter Commission
Robert Lichtenberg, AOC

The Supreme Court
State of Washington

DEBRA L. STEPHENS
CHIEF JUSTICE
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE
POST OFFICE BOX 40929
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON
98504-0929



(360) 357-2050
E-MAIL Debra.Stephens@COURTS.WA.GOV

November 25, 2020

Jeanne M. Englert
Administrative Office of the Courts
PO Box 41170
Olympia, WA 98504-1170

Re: Appointment to Supreme Court Interpreter Commission

Dear Ms. Englert:

State Court Administrator Dawn Marie Rubio has recommended you be appointed to the Supreme Court Interpreter Commission (SCIC) to fill out the remainder of Sharon Harvey's term as the AOC representative on the SCIC. The Supreme Court's Administrative Committee has confirmed your appointment. Your term will commence immediately and end on September 30, 2021.

On behalf of the justices of the Supreme Court, I wish to thank you for your willingness to serve on the Interpreter Commission. I am confident that this important Commission will continue to benefit from the expertise and experience you have to offer.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debra Stephens".

Debra Stephens
Chief Justice
Washington State Supreme Court

cc: Justice Steven González, Chair, Interpreter Commission
Dawn Marie Rubio, State Court Administrator
Caroline Tawes, AOC
Robert Lichtenberg, AOC
Crissy Anderson, AOC



WASHINGTON COURTS

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

Dawn Marie Rubio, J.D.
State Court Administrator

November 13, 2020

Honorable Debra Stephens
Washington State Supreme Court
PO Box 40929
Olympia, WA 98504-0919

Dear Chief Justice Stephens:

General Rule 11.1(c) provides that the Supreme Court shall appoint representatives to the Interpreter Commission, including the AOC representative, for three-year terms. Please accept this letter as a recommendation to the Supreme Court to consider Ms. Jeanne Englert for the AOC position recently vacated by Ms. Sharon Harvey. Ms. Englert serves as the manager of the Board for Judicial Administration (BJA) at the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and was instrumental in supporting the BJA Interpreter Services Funding Task Force (Task Force), developing talking points and other communication materials, and organizing meetings with legislators to obtain adequate and sustainable funding for interpreter services. The Task Force submitted a legislative funding proposal of \$2.1 million during the 2019–21 biennium and was successful in obtaining funding.

Prior to working with the AOC, Ms. Englert was very involved in increasing access to community services for non-English speaking or deaf or hard of hearing individuals. During her tenure with a statewide nonprofit technical assistance provider, she worked with community organizations across Washington to identify and institute language access services for survivor advocates and for survivors of sexual violence. Ms. Englert implemented Spanish language training opportunities to support bilingual sexual assault advocates, worked with American Sign Language interpreters to serve advocates participating in statewide meetings and learning opportunities, and worked with community groups to develop culturally and linguistically appropriate resources.

I think you will find Ms. Englert to be a valuable contributor to the Interpreter Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dawn Marie Rubio".

Dawn Marie Rubio, J.D.
State Court Administrator

cc: Jeanne Englert

November 20, 2020

Robert Lichtenberg
Administrative Office of the Courts
P.O. Box 41170
Olympia, WA 98504-1170
Robert.Lichtenberg@courts.wa.gov

Re: Community Representative to serve as a member of the Interpreters Commission.

Dear Mr. Lichtenberg:

By means of this letter I want to express my interest in the position of Community Representative as a member of the Interpreters Commission.

I believe I have the needed education, the specialized experience in the field of language access, as well as extensive experience in working and connecting with diverse communities, specifically with Limited English Proficient (LEP) persons in a broad realm of environments.

My thirty eight (38) years as public servant, and eight (8) years as a Commissioner for the Washington Commission on Hispanic Affairs, afforded me the unique opportunity of being on the front lines with members of the LEP communities in a variety of environments. I was in the “trenches” with them during wildland fires, during flooding in Eastern Washington, during labor unfair practices incidents, etc. and in instances where language access meant life or death.

I consistently collaborate with the Military Department, Emergency Management Division and with other agencies and organizations, to resolve language access issues that affect our LEP communities in a variety of emergency situations. I serve as a bridge of communication between LEP communities and government organizations in diverse circumstances.

Throughout my many years of public service I have acquired the knowledge, skills, cultural humility, and the passion that moves a person to perform effectively as a member of this Commission and its laudable mission.

Attached is a condensed resume for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anita E. Ahumada

Anita E. Ahumada
7549 Young Rd. N.W.
Olympia, WA 98502

Telephone: 360-866-9151 – H
360-451-2490 – C

E-mail: commissioner.ahumada@gmail.com

Attachment: Condensed Resume

RESUME

Anita E. Ahumada
7549 Young Rd. N.W.
Olympia Washington 98502
Home phone: (360) 866-9151
Cell phone: (360) 451-2490
Email: Commissioner.ahumada@gmail.com
AnittaEA@Gmail.com

People oriented
Bilingual skills
Competent interacting in diverse elements and a multicultural society
Experienced mentoring, leading, directing, and training
Utilize unique skills to work in harmony and for the progress of all concerned

OBJECTIVE

To continue my life as a public servant with dedication and selflessness for the benefit of the State of Washington and its diverse communities.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

University of Chile	1968 –MA Social Sciences/Humanities
Air France Academy, Chile	1968 – Protocol, First Aid, Social Skills, French
Olympic College, Bremerton, Washington	1973 /1976 English Composition, speech, psychology, government, history, languages, writing
Bremerton Business College, Bremerton, WA	1980/1981- Business course
University of Arizona, Tucson AZ	1987 - Graduate - Federal Court Interpretation Institute
National Center for Interpretation	
Office of the Administrator for the Courts	1990 – Certified as Court Interpreter
University of Washington	1991 – Professional Translation

RECENT AND CURRENT AFFILIATIONS

Commissioner for the Commission on Hispanic Affairs – 8/2012 – 8/2020
Board Member - Washington Coalition for Language Access (WASCLA) - 2016-Present
Board Member – Governor’s Council on Health Disparities 2018 – Present
Member, Language Access Task Force – OSPI - 3/2020 – 10/2020
Member, Department of Commerce Homeless Youth Workgroup – 2018-Present
Member, Language Access Plan Steering Committee – L&I – 2016-2019

EMPLOYMENT AND EXPERIENCE

CONTRACTS CONSULTANT: 11/1/2007 – 8/31/2018 – State of Washington Department of Social and Health Services, Central Contracts and Legal Services.

Supported the Department's various administrations and programs in the contracting and procurement process.

Ensured statewide agency compliance with laws, rules, and policies related to the agency's Client Service, Purchased Service, and Personal Service Procurement, and contracting, as well as Interlocal Agreements, Service Level Agreements and Data Sharing Agreements.

Provided expert consultation to ensure that agency staff complied with all pertinent authorities; Represented the agency in relevant actions; identified and resolved problems.

Oversaw the process of evaluating contracts proposals and contract award. Had authority over an average of \$900,000.00 per year.

MANAGER, INTERPRETER SERVICES PROGRAM: 11/1/2006 – 10/30/2007 – State of Washington Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Health and Recovery Services Administration (HRSA), Office of Transportation and Interpreter Services (OTIS).

In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, ensured quality interpreter services were made available to all Medicaid clients statewide.

Developed, negotiated, implemented, and managed statewide interpreter contracts serving approximately 160,000 eligible Limited English Proficient (LEP) Health and Recovery Services Administration clients.

Removed systemic barriers and improved access to interpreter services for clients accessing appropriate medical and health care services, and other authorized state services.

Essential skills and abilities:

- Specific and extensive knowledge of the interpreter services industry.
- Knowledge of regulations and practices in interpreter and federal Medicaid regulations.
- Knowledge of: Advanced principles of management including budget development; strategic planning; contract negotiations, monitoring, auditing, and compliance; program operations; services delivery systems; public/media relations; and legislative processes.
- Knowledge of applicable RCWs, WACs, and State Plan; eligibility systems and billing/payment procedures; Medicaid eligibility, and Medicaid scope of care.
- Skills to: Effectively communicate orally and in writing across a broad spectrum of professional/managerial levels, with medical care providers, and with public assistance clients; effectively and efficiently interact with the public and media to resolve problems; interpret policy; make timely and critical independent decisions, and independently determine when to report and inform a higher level; conduct contract negotiations, provide leadership, motivation, and training for contractors; conduct needs assessments, on-site program reviews, independently interpret policies, and program monitoring; build consensus; plan and conduct meetings; make presentations.

- Represent HRSA and work out solutions at public meetings with advocates, consumers, medical providers, and the public.
- Independently interpret applicability of RCWs, WACs, State Plan, and state policies and share this information as appropriate to other parties.
- Independently serve as technical expert and professional consultant to other state staff on Medicaid interpreter issues, including reviewing proposed legislation on interpreter services.

CONTRACTS CONSULTANT: 7/17/2002 – 10/31/2006 – State of Washington Department of Social and Health Services, Office of Legal Affairs, Central Contracts Services.

As the official consultant for several administrations and department programs, determined appropriate genre of contract, drafted, managed, and monitored contracts.

Ensured statewide agency compliance with laws, rules, and policies related to the agency’s Client Service, Purchased Service, and Personal Service Procurement, and contracting, as well as Interlocal Agreements, Service Level Agreements and Data Sharing Agreements.

Provided expert consultation to ensure contracts were legally sound and that agency staff complied with all pertinent authorities.

Researched, led, and coordinated development of Pre-approved contract formats for Psychiatric and Psychological services for department-wide use.

As part of the Secretary’s leadership team, contributed to evaluation tool development and selection of directors for different administrations.

Essential skills and abilities:

Well-grounded knowledge of contracting law and sound general contracting practices; requirements, rules, policies, and procedures pertaining to Client Service, Personal Service, Purchased Service contracts, and Service Level, and Interlocal Agreements.

LANGUAGE SERVICE QUALITY CONTROL MANAGER: 4/1/91 – 7/16/2002 - State of Washington Department of Social and Health Services, Administrative Services Division

Co-founded the Language Interpreters Services, and Translations (LIST) Office. Managed statewide coordination and planning for contract compliance and performance monitoring, and for the translation quality control and review program in the LIST office.

Ensured the equitable provision of social and health services to Limited English Proficient populations served by the department in the State of Washington.

Had influence/impact on revenues expenditure by providing ongoing input, recommendations, and consultation to DSHS contracts, division, and program staff, on contract compliance, performance and project deliverables.

Statewide – Responsibilities:

- Administered and coordinated a state-wide translation quality assurance program utilized by DSHS programs for multiple languages.
- Monitored state-wide contract compliance and performance of language services including interpreter and translation contract performance by multiple vendors.

- Conducted state-wide, on-site reviews of interpreter and translation contract compliance and contractors' performance.
- Managed and administered state-wide DSHS operational policies and procedures to ensure timely and accurate translations of DSHS public information and written communications to Limited English Proficient clients and populations.
- Exercised direct control over an approximate annual amount of \$350,000.00.
- Conducted statewide, on-site monitoring to perform actual review of interpreter and translator services personnel files to ensure compliance with contract terms and conditions.
- Presented findings to programs for subsequent corrective action and/or financial recovery, contract modification, suspension, or termination.
- Supervised 50 independent contracted translation reviewers of more than 40 languages.

Other Functions:

Developed and implemented the first statewide agency training and technical assistance program focusing on the use of interpreters, and working with, and providing services to Limited English Proficient (LEP) clients.

Participated in the development of the first state-issued language proficiency exam in the five standard languages, as per requirement under provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the United States District Court for Western District of Washington. (Reyes vs Thompson Consent Order)

Conducted ongoing research and evaluation to train personnel in service delivery within a culturally diverse organizational environment.

Trained bilingual personnel to becoming language interpreter. Incorporated specialized training curricula addressing the issues of effectively working with interpreters and translators, cultural awareness and sensitivity, working with cultural and ethnic communities, skills enhancement for bilingual staff and interpreters, explaining and implementing the Interpreters/Translators Code of Ethics, and the issue of confidentiality. I developed inter-agency glossaries of terms to standardize terminology within the agency in the required foreign languages.

Prepared and dictated customized training sessions targeting the department's trainers (Training the Trainer). I designed and prepared practice tools for language test candidates.

November 19, 2020

Justice Steven Gonzalez, Chair
Court Interpreter Commission
Temple of Justice
P.O. Box 40929
Olympia, WA 98504-0929

Dear Justice Gonzalez,

I am in receipt of your letter seeking a Community Representative for the Court Interpreter Commission. I have attached my Resume for your consideration.

I currently work in a Legal Aid agency which covers Cowlitz and Wahkiakum Counties and our agency has as it's central goal to improve Access for all people to the courts. I serve on the Cowlitz Superior Court Access to Justice Committee and have provided feedback and worked on projects related to improving Access here locally. I reviewed and suggested improvements to the Language Access plan, and recently coordinated a phone survey of the Legal Aid client base to determine whether or not our low income and possibly marginalized clients were experiencing any issues with access during the implementation of COVID procedures at the local court. We made suggestions to the Clerk and the Court based on that survey and will work to ensure those suggestions are implemented.

I finished a cohort training with Just Lead in early 2016, and have been dedicated to connecting in various ways with my local community to improve court Access, and examine various structures in our community that unknowingly oppress marginalized people. I am currently attending a second cohort training from The Center for Equity and Inclusion in Portland, OR. I live in the 19th Legislative District, and Equity work here is challenging and requires building relationships and leading with accurate data and examples. I continue to push progress here, though it is often difficult and controversial.

The agency has sought grant funds and created a position called an Equity and Justice Community Coordinator (EJCC) to reach out to marginalized populations in our community. The EJCC has had a significant impact on services provided to the Hispanic population in our community and has connected with a network of providers in order to reach out via community events as well. We continue to apply for continued funding for this position and are creating funding and space for an additional staff member to work in this same capacity.

Serving on volunteer projects and volunteer boards is something I do on a regular basis and always have in my various life roles. My 18 year old son is finishing up his Senior year of high school this year and he is launching into a new phase as a young adult. So, some of my everyday time is about to open in my life.

I would therefore ask that you consider me for this position because I believe I can provide a way for information to flow back and forth, to and from our community, as we work together to address access for all people to the courts. Our community is in need of more connections to State level groups working on Equity issues. I believe I can be an effective Community Representative.

I appreciate your consideration of my letter and resume.

Sincerely,

Lori Sarancik
cwlap@live.com
360-560-3142

Lori Sarancik
P.O. Box 1824 – Longview, WA 98632
360-560-3142
cwlap@live.com

Profile

I seek appointment to the Washing State Supreme Court Interpreter Commission as a Community Member, bringing my genuine care and respect of Customers, Clients, and Community Members, my local community involvements and my authentic dedication to Equity practices.

- Strong analytical and planning skills, combined with organizational strength and fiscal responsibility.
- Strategic thinker and problem solver.
- Takes great pleasure and care in the development of individuals and teams.
- Excels in writing, communication, public relations, marketing, human resources, and process improvement.
- Leader of cross-functional teams for project management and positive results.
- Articulate and persuasive in dealing with all levels of management, peers, staff and a diverse clientele.

Experience

- 22 Years in positions of increasing responsibility with a Fortune 500 Company

Project, Process and Program Development

- Developed a new business concept to create sales for a subsidiary within the corporation
- Tested, modified, and proved the concept.
- Led a cross-functional team to scale the business up to a larger level.
- Exceeded sales goals for the new business for the first full year.
- Created a training video to sell the program internally across a nationwide organization

- Opened Many new large concept Home Improvement Stores as Buyer, Operations Manager and Store Manager.

- Advocacy for Equity issues in our local community: in creating a more diverse Board of Directors, in suggesting policy and procedural improvements for the local court, in reviewing the language access plan for the local Access to Justice Committee and suggesting improvements.

- Brought Legal Aid services to off-site locations and met the clients one on one in the community, like drop-in legal clinics at the courthouse, Latinx Legal Clinics at local schools, Legal Clinics taking place at the Head Start facility, Legal Clinics taking place inside a local homeless shelter. All of these reach out specifically to marginalized groups in places where they are already receiving case management and services and make it convenient for clients to access our direct help from Legal Aid.

- As Team Manager, started a new Soccer Premier Franchise Team in Cowlitz County for High School Boys from Multiple School Districts.

Employment

The Home Depot, 1988 to 2010

*Store Manager *Operations Manager *Product Manager *Buyer *Administrator
*Assistant Buyer *Customer Service Manager *Coordinator

Cowlitz Wahkiakum Legal Aid, 2011 to Present

Executive Director: Operator, Staff and Client Supervision, Board Relations, Community Partnerships and Outreach

Education

- Concord Law School, Los Angeles, CA, Juris Doctorate 2016
- UCLA, Los Angeles, California, Bachelor of Arts in English, 1989
- Fullerton College, Fullerton, California, Associates Degree in English, 1986
- The Home Depot, Management Training Sessions, Train the Trainer, Diversity Training, Inclusion Training, Corporate Compliance Training, 'Change' Training
- Just Lead Fellow, 2016
- Community Training on Motivational Interviewing, Case Management, Human Resource Topics
- Numerous Continuing Legal Education Classes on Family Law and Civil Law Topics, and Race/Equity issues arising in Legal Aid.
- Currently Attending Cohort Training through the Center for Equity and Inclusion in Portland, OR

Community Involvements

State Board, 211 Services, July 2020 to Present

Cowlitz County Access to Justice Committee, 2016 to Present

Several Local Political Committee Groups, working on campaigns and issues

Housing Opportunities of Southwest Washington Commissioner, 2012 to 2018

Past President, League of Women Voters of Cowlitz County

Past President, Toastmasters Club

Longview Early Edition Rotary Member, 2018 to Present

VanCity Soccer Club, Former Team Manager 2018-2019

P.E.O Sorority Member

Longview School District Facilities Committee Member

Washington State Pro Bono Council and Executive Board

Access to Justice Committee, Disco Committee work group for mapping of Legal Aid services.

Housing Alliance Legislative Lead

Meal Sharing Program for homeless people in the Highlands Neighborhood, volunteer

References:

Judge John Hays, Cowlitz County District Court: 360-751-2086

Judge Debra Burchett, Cowlitz County District Court: 360-560-8552

Judge Thad Scudder, Cowlitz County Superior Court: 360-577-3085

Twylla Corrie, Guardian Ad Litem: 360-270-7785

Shawn Nyman, Local Labor Leader: 360-270-5096

Donna McLain, Retired Educator: 360-355-6320

Patricia Franz, former co-worker: 503-706-4631

Connie Priest, former co-worker: 503-807-3308

Iona Kerby, local Non-Profit Director: 360-25-3430

BILL REQUEST - CODE REVISER'S OFFICE

BILL REQ. #: S-0073.1/21

ATTY/TYPIST: JO:eab

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Concerning language understanding of documents
used in dissolution proceedings.

1 AN ACT Relating to language understanding of documents used in
2 dissolution proceedings; and adding a new section to chapter 26.09
3 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 26.09
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 In any matter brought pursuant to domestic relations proceedings
8 under this chapter, when a limited English proficiency party requests
9 interpretation services, or when a court has reason to know that the
10 party may require an interpreter has limited English proficiency or
11 is deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing and relies on sign language
12 to communicate, any orders being presented to the court for signature
13 on behalf of that party, or by agreement of the parties, must include
14 a certification from an interpreter that the order has been
15 interpreted to the party in the relevant language. The interpreter
16 appointed for this purpose for a person with limited English
17 proficiency must be an interpreter certified or registered by the
18 administrative office of the courts pursuant to chapter 2.43 RCW or a
19 qualified interpreter registered by the administrative office of the
20 courts in a noncertified language, or where the necessary language is
21 not certified or registered, the interpreter must be qualified by the

1 judicial officer pursuant to chapter 2.43 RCW. In the event the party
2 who is deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing relies on any form of
3 manual communication, the interpreter appointed for this purpose must
4 be an interpreter appointed pursuant to chapter 2.42 RCW. When
5 requested, and upon reasonable advance notice, an interpreter must be
6 provided for limited English proficiency litigants by the court at no
7 cost to the party for this purpose.

--- END ---

LEGAL DIVISION response to CrossCut article “COVID-19 delays justice for King County inmates who need interpreters”

On November 18th CrossCut published an article by David Kroman entitled **“COVID-19 delays justice for King County inmates who need interpreters - ‘Non-English speakers are receiving substandard legal representation because interpreters won’t appear in person’, attorneys say.”**

NOTIS, the Northwest Translators and Interpreters Society, is compelled to present a very different perspective on the dire situation faced by Limited English Proficient (LEP) inmates today.

The very same week that CrossCut published this article, the New York Times printed an op-ed by its editorial staff: “America Is Letting the Coronavirus Rage Through Prisons.” The NYT article sites horrifying statistics about infection rates in correctional facilities, summarizing them with this conclusion: “The American penal system is a perfect breeding ground for the virus.” And yet, not only are interpreters being asked to work inside these facilities, they are blamed for the miscarriages of justice suffered by non-English speaking inmates because of their “unwillingness” to do so.

In Washington State, while court interpreters are officers of the court, they are not employees of the court, nor of the city or county that the court serves. Thus, they do not receive any of the benefits of employees, notably medical insurance and paid sick leave. Interpreters are independent contractors for whom illness has a direct financial impact.

COVID has wreaked economic hardship far and wide—on interpreters as well. When an interpreter declines an assignment, it is due to the extraordinary risk it entails and not to an overabundance of alternative assignments. Interpreters are eager to render their professional services when provided a safe and effective way to do so.

The responsibility of providing safe conditions for adequate interpretation for LEP inmates in King County lies squarely at the feet of the county. Interpreters who decline assignments requiring them to expose themselves and others to substantial risk of infection are behaving rationally and responsibly. When attorneys meet with inmates in the jail, it is in a cubicle slightly larger than a phone booth, with the inmate seated on the other side of a glass barrier and both parties using an old-fashioned telephone handset.

The problems described in David Kroman’s article are solvable without subjecting interpreters to high risk or scapegoating them for their “unwillingness” to assume this risk themselves. The notion that an interpreter needs to be in a huddle with the recipient of their interpretation is arcane. Indeed, many courts and correctional facilities have found excellent solutions, that simply require modern technology and advanced planning.

When COVID struck in March, 2020, everyone scrambled to find safe ways to interact and continue to provide just about every conceivable type of service. Indeed, most municipal and district courts in King County and elsewhere have utilized platforms such as Zoom and WebEx

to hold court and provide access to interpretation for anyone who needs it. They quickly figured out how to facilitate confidential attorney-client communications, bringing interpreters into the confidential virtual “room” whenever needed. SCORE jail in south King County has been successfully connecting interpreters remotely by video.

As for documents, such as guilty pleas, that attorneys wish to review with their clients with the assistance of an interpreter, they need only be sent electronically to the interpreter so that the interpreter can sight translate the document to the defendant. This is nothing new, and given their importance, the interpreter should always be provided a copy of any documents.

For most interpreters, particularly in high-demand languages, interpreting is their livelihood. They are highly skilled professionals who must pass rigorous examinations to become certified court interpreters and must maintain this credential through many hours of continuing education and in-court experience. Their job is cognitively demanding and emotionally taxing.

Court Interpreters’ professional ethics and standards of practice exist to maintain a very high quality of interpretation. Court Interpreters are often the direct providers of language access in the justice system, but they are not the ones creating access problems, nor do they have the power to fix them on their own. May this letter serve as the catalyst to dispel misinformation, find solutions, and acknowledge the proper respect due to this profession.

Respectfully submitted,

NOTIS – LEGAL DIVISION – Luisa Gracia, María Farmer and María Lucas
and Linda Noble and Laura Hurley

Court Interpreting During COVID

Survey Overview

Summary

The AOC distributed a survey to court interpreters about their experiences during the pandemic. The survey asks questions about the general working situation of interpreters and their experiences working both in-person and remotely in courts and jail settings during the pandemic. A copy of the survey is attached.

This information will help Court Interpreter Commission and Program better understand the situations interpreters are facing and where we can make improvements to safety measures or current policies. Some of the survey questions are open-ended and give interpreters a chance to provide additional feedback.

Audience

Credential and non-credentialed interpreters who work in courts and other legal settings.

Outreach

The AOC sent the invitation to complete the survey directly to interpreters who have been credentialed by the AOC. The AOC also used the Court Interpreter Coordinator listserv to ask courts to send the survey to the non-credentialed interpreters they work with. Interpreters were asked to complete survey by December 13.

Survey Structure

The survey questions were dynamic – which questions interpreters saw depended on answers to previous questions. For example, if an interpreter indicated they had not worked in a jail setting, then they were not asked questions associated with working in jails.

Survey Topics:

- General demographic questions.
- Compliance requirements for credentialed interpreters.
- Work history pre-COVID and during COVID.
- Interpreting remotely for court proceedings.
- Interpreting in-person for court proceedings during COVID.
- Interpreting in-person in jail settings during COVID.
- Interpreting remotely in jail settings during COVID.

Interpreter Survey - Court Interpreting During the Pandemic

General Background Questions

Page exit logic: Skip / Disqualify Logic

IF: #4 Question "Which of the following credentials do you hold? (*Select all that apply*)" is not one of the following answers ("Washington State Court Interpreter Credential (certified or registered)") **THEN:** Jump to [page 4 - Recent Work History](#)

1. What language(s) do you work in as a professional interpreter?

2. In what court(s) do you most frequently work? (*List up to five*)

3. What is your age?

- 18-30
- 31-45
- 46-60
- 61 or older

4. Which of the following credentials do you hold? *(Select all that apply)*

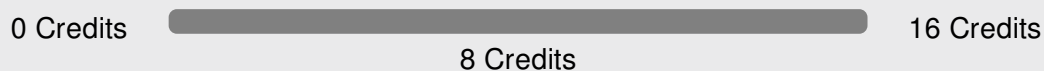
- Washington State Court Interpreter Credential (certified or registered)
- Federal Court Certification
- Court Interpreter Credential from a state other than Washington
- DSHS Medical
- DSHS Social
- Other - Write In

Compliance Requirements

5. Do you believe that you will be able to complete your 16 education credits December 31, 2021?

- Yes
- No

6. How many education credits have you already completed?



7. If you are a certified interpreter, do you believe you will be able to complete the required 20 court hours by December 31, 2021?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable, I am a registered interpreter.

8. How can the Interpreter Commission or Interpreter Program help you in reaching your compliance requirements?

9. If the Interpreter Program or Interpreter Commission were to sponsor additional classes, what topics would you most like to see?

Recent Work History

10. Before the outbreak of COVID in March of 2020, please indicate what settings you interpreted in both remotely and in person.

	Always	Frequently	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
court / legal /judiciary	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
medical / healthcare	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
public and social services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
business / private sector	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
educational / schools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
scientific / technical conferences	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
media / TV / radio	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
military / armed forces / intelligence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
religious / spiritual	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
sports / athletics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
international events	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

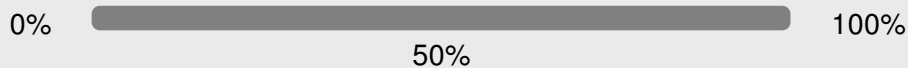
11. Before the outbreak of COVID in March of 2020, how many hours a week did you work as an interpreter in an average week both remotely and person?

- Less than 5
- 5-15
- 16-25
- 26-35
- More than 35

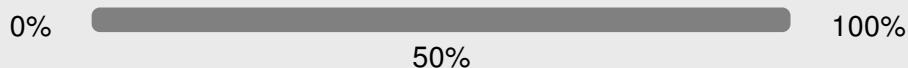
12. Since July 1, 2020 how many hours a week have you worked as an interpreter in an average week both remotely and in person?

- Less than 5
- 5-15
- 16-25
- 26-35
- More than 35

13. Before the outbreak of COVID in March of 2020, what percentage of your interpreting work was done in a court or legal setting?



14. Since July 1, 2020, what percentage of your interpreting work has been done in a court or legal setting?



15. Before the outbreak of COVID in March of 2020, please indicate how often you interpreted for a court proceeding by the following methods?

	Always	Frequently	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
In-person	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Telephone / Audio	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Video (working from home)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

16. Since July 1, 2020, please indicate how often you interpreted for a court proceeding by the following methods?

	Always	Frequently	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
In-person	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Telephone / Audio	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Video (working from home)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

17. Do you or any members of your household have any ongoing medical condition that might put you or them at a higher risk for severe illness from coronavirus (COVID-19)?

- Yes
- No

Video Remote Interpreting

Page exit logic: Skip / Disqualify Logic

IF: #18 Question "Have you performed video remote interpretation?" is one of the following answers ("No") **THEN:** Jump to [page 7 - In-Person Interpreting During COVID](#)

LOGIC Show/hide trigger exists.

18. Have you performed video remote interpretation?

- Yes
- No

Logic Hidden unless: #18 Question "Have you performed video remote interpretation?" is one of the following answers ("No")

19. If you have not performed video remote interpretation, why not?

- I have not been offered this kind of assignment.
- The financial investment in equipment that it requires is too costly.
- I am not familiar with the required technology.
- Lack of training.
- Not interested.
- Other - Write In

Video Remote Interpreting Questions

20. Which platform(s) had you used for Video Remote Interpreting (in any setting)?

(Select all that apply)

- Zoom
- WebEx
- Microsoft Teams
- VSee
- Skype
- None
- Other - Write In

21. From the Video Remote Interpreting platforms that you have used, which platforms have you found best for interpreting? Why?

22. From the Video Remote Interpreting platforms that you have used, which platforms would you recommend NOT be used when interpreters are required and for what reasons? Please be as specific and detailed as possible.

LOGIC Show/hide trigger exists.

23. Have you performed video remote interpreting in a court setting?

- Yes
- No

Logic Hidden unless: #23 Question "Have you performed video remote interpreting in a court setting? " is one of the following answers ("Yes")

24. While interpreting remotely for courts, how often was the following true?

	Always	Frequently	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Not Applicable
You were paid the same hourly rate you would have received if in you had interpreted in-person.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
You were given basic information about the case (such as case type, duration of hearing, names of parties) before the hearing began.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
You were given any documents that were discussed during the hearing before the hearing began.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
You were given clear instructions on how to login into the remote hearing.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
You were able to hear all of the parties involved in the hearing clearly.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

LOGIC Show/hide trigger exists.

25. Have you ever performed remote simultaneous interpreting while interpreting for a court?

- Yes
- No

LOGIC Hidden unless: #25 Question "Have you ever performed remote simultaneous interpreting while interpreting for a court? " is one of the following answers ("Yes")

26. What platform(s) did you use for the remote simultaneous interpreting and how well did the platform(s) work?

In-Person Interpreting During COVID

Page exit logic: Skip / Disqualify Logic

IF: #27 Question "Since July 1, have you interpreted in-person in court? " is one of the following answers ("No") **THEN:** Jump to [page 9 - Interpreting In-Person in a Jail Setting](#)

LOGIC Show/hide trigger exists.

27. Since July 1, have you interpreted in-person in court?

- Yes
- No

Logic Hidden unless: #27 Question "Since July 1, have you interpreted in-person in court? " is one of the following answers ("No")

28. If you have not interpreted in person, what is the reason?

- I have not been offered an in-person assignment.
- I (or a member of my household) have an ongoing medical condition causing a higher risk for severe illness from COVID.
- I do not believe the courts that have contacted me are safe to work in during COVID.
- Other - Write In

In-Person Interpreting in Court During COVID

29. Tell us about your experience working in-person at a court during the COVID pandemic.

	Always	Frequently	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
You were able to maintain a safe distances from others.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
You used interpreting equipment supplied by the court.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
You used your own interpreting equipment.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
You felt confident the court was taking proper safety precautions related to COVID.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

30. Have you purchased your own interpreting equipment (audio transmitter/receiver)?

- Yes
- No

31. What COVID-related best practices for in-person interpreting do you recommend that all courts follow?

32. What COVID-related practices for in-person interpreting should courts be instructed to avoid?

Interpreting In-Person in a Jail Setting

Page exit logic: Skip / Disqualify Logic

IF: #33 Question "Since the outbreak of COVID in March 2020, have you interpreted for jail visits in-person?" is one of the following answers ("No") **THEN:** Jump to [page 11 - Interpreting in Jail Settings Remotely](#)

33. Since the outbreak of COVID in March 2020, have you interpreted for jail visits in-person?

- Yes
- No

Interpreting for Jail Visits In-Person

34. Tell us more about your experience working in a jail setting during the COVID pandemic.

	Always	Frequently	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
You were able to maintain a safe-distance from others.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
You felt confident that the facility was taking proper safety precautions related to COVID.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

35. What COVID-related best practices for in-person interpreting do you recommend for jail visits that require interpreting?

36. What COVID-related practices for in-person interpreting do you recommend being avoided for jail settings?

Interpreting in Jail Settings Remotely

Page exit logic: Skip / Disqualify Logic

IF: #37 Question "Since the outbreak of COVID in March of 2020, have you interpreted by phone or by video for jail visits?" is one of the following answers ("No") **THEN:** Jump to [page 14 - Thank You!](#)

37. Since the outbreak of COVID in March of 2020, have you interpreted by phone or by video for jail visits?

- Yes
- No

Interpreting for Jail Visits Remotely

38. What technology worked best for interpreting remotely for jail visits?

39.

What COVID-related best practices do you recommend for jail visits that require interpreting?

40. What COVID-related practices should be avoided?

Washington State Racial Justice Consortium: Working Together to Eradicate Systemic Racism and Reform Our Judicial Branch

“The legal community must recognize that we all bear responsibility for this on-going injustice, and that we are capable of taking steps to address it, if only we have the courage and the will.”

Open Letter from the Washington State Supreme Court, June 4, 2020

In an effort to support the various responses to the Supreme Court’s invitation to take specific and concrete steps to eradicate racism, especially the devaluing of Black lives, a consortium of entities that make-up the judicial branch is hereby established.

The purpose of the Racial Justice Consortium is to maximize opportunities for collaboration and mutual support of judicial branch entities in exploring:

- a) Education of our workforce on racism, the causes of racism, and how it shows up in the courts and legal system;
- b) A comprehensive review of policies and practices that contribute to racial disproportionality and systemic racial injustice; and
- c) Meaningful reform of those policies and practices that can be measured and tracked for accountability and progress.

The specific goals of the Consortium are to develop specific plans that will result in structural change within the various judicial entities relying upon the principles and objectives outlined in the Supreme Court’s letter on racial justice.

The Racial Justice Consortium will be supported by the Supreme Court’s Minority and Justice Commission but shall remain distinct from the Commission and its governing structure. The Commission, through the Administrative Office of the Courts will secure funding to hire a staff person for this initiative. It requires an individual familiar with the breath and diversity of the various entities within the judicial branch, a deep skill set for facilitating difficult conversations and a resilient personality that is sensitive to the independent thinking of judicial officers.

Below is a preliminary outline:

Month 1:

- Help facilitate a Consortium meeting that results in goals and objectives, timelines, and commitments to lead at the local level
- Connect with the designated group members to learn more about their role in the branch and to help them develop priorities for racial equity support, training needs, support on specific projects, etc.
- Design training curriculum if necessary for Consortium
- Design workshops for hands-on racial equity muscle building

- Create calendar for consulting services and project support
- Communication re trainings, workshops and services

Month 2:

- Roll-out racial equity training series – make revisions, as necessary
- Create workshop calendar
- Schedule and respond to requests for services
- Communication and updates re trainings, workshops and services

Month 3 - 12:

- Continue with trainings, workshops and presentations
- If identified as necessary, help set-up listening sessions on specific projects with stakeholders, and local communities
- Help Consortium identify specific plans for reform (court rule changes, sentencing practices, services at courthouses, etc.); develop a public Racial Equity Initiative to guide the Courts' racial equity commitment and efforts
- Continue with consulting services, namely, supporting the use of the Racial Equity Toolkit
- Communication and updates re trainings, workshops and services
- Pilot the creation of Racial Equity Internal Change Teams to support racial equity efforts within institutional structures, (such as, superior/muni/district courts by jurisdiction, AOC, Appeals, etc.
- Engage and enhance community relationships
- Create and support a train-the-trainer cadre carryout racial equity trainings

Consortium members to date includes the following entities and their representatives:

- **Supreme Court** - Mary Yu, Helen Whitener, Raquel Montoya-Lewis, J.J.
- **Court of Appeals** - Cecily Hazelrigg, J. (Div. I)
- **Superior Court Judges Association (SCJA)** - Judith Ramseyer, J. (King Co.)
- **District and Municipal Court Judges' Association (DMCJA)** - Michelle Gehlsen, J. (King Co. Dist. Ct.)
- **Board for Judicial Administration (BJA)** - Gregory Gonzales, J. (Clark Co.)
- **Public Trust and Confidence Committee, BJA** - Kathryn Loring, J. (Pacific Co.)
- **Association of Washington Superior Court Administrators (AWSCA)** - Jessica Gurley (Clark Co.)
- **District and Municipal Court Management Association (DMCMA)** - Cynthia Davis (Seattle Muni.)
- **Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators (WAJCA)** - Christine Simonsmeier (Clark Co.) & TJ Bohl (Pierce Co.)

- **Washington State Association of County Clerks (WSACC)** - Grace Cross (Skamania Co.)
- **Gender and Justice Commission** -
- **Interpreter Commission** -
- **Commission on Children in Foster Care** -
- **Tribal State Court Consortium** -
- **Access to Justice Board** -
- **Administrative Office of the Courts** - Dawn Marie Rubio & Cynthia Delostrinos
- **Community Representatives** – (4 from each of the state’s 4 quadrants (NW, NE, SW, SE))

The Steering Committee includes: Mary Yu, Judith Ramseyer, Michele Gehlsen, Greg Gonzales, Cynthia Delostrinos . . . (a community representative, a court administrator, and a commission representative)

Preliminary Tasks:

Launch Racial Justice Consortium - (November 2020 – January 2021)

- Fill out the list of representatives from the remaining entities and identify community representatives
- Select representatives for the Steering Committee and meet to plan official launch
- Secure sufficient funds to hire Racial Equity consultant/employee
- Collect racial equity plans/goals each association already has in place
- Develop a strategic plan that outlines purpose/goals for Racial Justice Consortium
- Launch in January 2021



**WASHINGTON
COURTS**

District and Municipal Court Judges' Association

President
JUDGE MICHELLE K. GEHLSSEN
King County District Court
Redmond Facility
8601 160th Ave NE
Redmond, WA 98052-3548
(206) 477-3134

President-Elect
JUDGE CHARLES D. SHORT
Okanogan County District Court
149 N 3rd Ave, Rm 306
Okanogan, WA 98840
(509) 422-7170

Vice-President
COMMISSIONER RICK LEO
Snohomish County District Court
415 E Burke Ave
Arlington, WA 98223-1010
(360) 435-7700

Secretary/Treasurer
JUDGE JEFFREY R. SMITH
Spokane County District Court
1100 W Mallon Ave
PO Box 2352
Spokane, WA 99210-2352
(509) 477-2959

Past President
JUDGE SAMUEL G. MEYER
Thurston County District Court
2000 Lakeridge Dr SW, Bldg 3
PO Box 40947
Olympia, WA 98504-0947
(360) 786-5562

Board of Governors

JUDGE THOMAS W. COX
Garfield County District Court
(509) 382-4812

JUDGE ANITA M. CRAWFORD-WILLIS
Seattle Municipal Court
(206) 684-8709

JUDGE ROBERT W. GRIM
Okanogan County District Court
(509) 422-7170

JUDGE DREW ANN HENKE
Tacoma Municipal Court
(253) 591-5357

JUDGE TYSON R. HILL
Grant County District Court
(509) 754-2011

JUDGE AIMEE MAURER
Spokane County District Court
(509) 477-2961

JUDGE KEVIN G. RINGUS
Fife Municipal Court
(253) 922-6635

JUDGE LAURA VAN SLYCK
Everett Municipal Court
(425) 257-8778

JUDGE KARL WILLIAMS
Pierce County District Court
(253) 798-3312

COMMISSIONER PAUL WOHL
Thurston County District Court
(360) 786-5562

December 2, 2020

VIA EMAIL

Honorable Steven C. González, Chair
Interpreter Commission
Temple of Justice
PO Box 40929
Olympia, WA 98504-0929

RE: Proposal to Amend CrRLJ 3.4

Dear Justice González:

The Rules Committee of the District and Municipal Court Judges' Association (DMCJA) reviewed proposed changes to CrRLJ 3.4. The DMCJA Rules Committee identified a feasibility concern with language proposed for addition to the last sentence of section (d)(3) as follows:

In interpreted proceedings, the interpreter must be located next to the defendant and the proceedings must be conducted to assure that the interpreter can hear all participants.

Many courts are using video conferencing with interpreters and defendants both appearing remotely. In light of this current practice, the DMCJA Rules Committee recommended that the DMCJA raise this issue to the Interpreter Commission for consideration.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

s/Judge Michelle K. Gehlsen

cc: Judge Jeffrey Goodwin, DMCJA Rules Chair
Ms. J Benway, DMCJA Rules Staff
Mr. Robert Lichtenberg, Commission Liaison
Mr. James Wells, Interpreter Program Support

Committee Reports



Interpreter Commission – Education Committee
Friday, December 04, 2020
Zoom Meeting
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

Katrin Johnson
Francis Adewale
Luisa Gracia
Frankie Peters

AOC Staff:

Bob Lichtenberg
James Wells

Previous Meeting Minutes

- The meeting minutes from August 10, 14, 20, and 27 were approved.

Recorded Tutorials

- The Committee created several documents over the summer to help courts work with litigants who require interpreters.
- The Committee intended to create short video tutorials based on topics discussed in the summer.
- Creating a high-quality video may require working with a third-party and funding. This would likely take additional time in finishing the video.
- Simpler videos could be created using Zoom and a PowerPoint presentation.
- GR 11.3 and 11.4 are also being updated which will require updating bench cards.

Conferences

- Meaningful communication in difficult times
 - The conference organizers would like the presentation on remote interpreting before the conference.
 - A live 60-90 minute webinar on March 12.
 - A stand-alone presentation that is not part of a conference.
 - Components of this webinar could be used as a short, recorded tutorial on the topics the Committee has discussed.
 - The Committee can act as expert reviewers for the presentation.
 - A meeting can be scheduled with presenters to brainstorm. The Committee may be able to help provide a structure.
 - The August 14 meeting minutes have a list of topics that were brainstormed at the time.
 - The Committee can discuss what they think the take-aways from the session should be and what they really want judges to know
- Other Education Sessions

- Family Law Toolkit – much of the content has already been created.
- Inclusive Juries – an outline has already been created.

Next Meeting

- Next Friday at noon.

DRAFT



Interpreter Commission – Issues Committee Meeting
Tuesday, November 3, 2020
Videoconference Meeting
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Judge Antush, Judge Rajul, Bob Lichtenberg, Diana Noman, Frankie Peters, James Wells, Kristi Cruz, Francis Adewale,

Previous Meeting Minutes

- Approved without modification

Compliance with continuing education requirements

- The Committee reviewed the compliance requirements that interpreters must complete every two years and considered if any changes should be made as a result of COVID.
- A short survey could be used to find out what concerns interpreters have about their compliance requirements.
- The AOC has sponsored some free trainings and plans to have more in the future. Trainings can include a topic in technology.

Recognition of test instrument used for federal court interpreters for credentialing purposes or reciprocity recognition

- A company contracting for federal immigration court has created a training program with a final interpreting exam.
- This exam could be used in lieu of the oral proficiency interviews that are currently used for registered languages.
- A Marshallese interpreter who has passed this exam is requesting reciprocity in Washington.
- The Committee passed the following motion:
Motion: Accept the alternative exam results for the Marshallese interpreter in lieu of results provided by the exams the AOC typically administers.

Request to use DES-selected vendors for pattern forms translation/Exception to IC Translation protocol.

- AOC wants to use state master contract to find translators. Some of the requirements of the master contracts would not meet the requirements of the translation protocol established by the Commission.
- The master contracts are contracts with agencies and not individual translators. Agencies may hire translators that do not meet certain qualifications. Requirements for translating forms for other agencies may not meet the standards laid out by the Commission.

- DES does not require a final reviewer, which is part of the process approved by the Commission.
- There was concern about a proper level of review of the forms and qualifications of the translators regarding legal issues. These forms would be used for the long term and used by many individuals.

Expansion on the Scope of the Commission

- This issue will be discussed at the next meeting.



Interpreter Commission – Issues Committee Meeting
Tuesday, December 1, 2020
Videoconference Meeting
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Judge Antush, Judge Rajul, Francis Adewale, Kristi Cruz, Diana Noman, Frankie Peters, Fona Sugg, Stephannie Happold, Joy Moore, Bob Lichtenberg, James Wells, Moriah Freed

Previous Meeting Minutes

- Approved without modification

AOC Court Services advisory regarding translation of court forms using DES procurement contract.

- AOC Court Services is seeking input from the Interpreter Commission and the Pattern Forms Committee on the option of using a DES procurement contract to competitively bid for translation of forms and documents. The issue is being presented to the Issues Committee before the full Commission. Commission members can address concerns to Stephanie Happold and Joy Moore at AOC.
- AOC is trying to update as many form sets at once as possible, with as many as 5 languages. It was last done in piecemeal and didn't have to be competitively bid at the time.
- Concerns were expressed by both AOC and the Committee about the turnaround time in the contract. A more appropriate timeline will be negotiated given the amount of documents to be translated.
- ATA Certification
 - The Committee wants to ensure accurate translation through the use of ATA certified translators.
 - AOC can add an ATA certification requirement into the purchase order.
- Review process concerns
 - Page 42, tab 3 – translation proofreading and correction guidelines provide sufficient outline for the review process.
 - Page 20 – Corrections permitted where the customer discovers an error.
 - Sufficient for accuracy – there is a method to fix errors at any time.
- If the DES master contract route is not selected, AOC will have to manage the work, which is time and resource consuming. The current cost of the project is undetermined.
- AOC has not yet approached the Pattern Forms Committee, as they are waiting on approval of commission.

MOTION: The Issues Committee recommends the topic for discussion and approval at the December 18th Commission meeting.

Update to Interpreter Commission membership policy – GR 11.1

- Changes are being recommended to the membership policy so that Judge Rajul can chair the Commission. Currently the Chair has to be from the appellate level – this will be struck so that a judge not from the appellate level can chair the Commission.
- Suggested change to the language: “chair should be appointed by the supreme court”
- GR 11.1 – “each member shall serve a term of 3 years” – in conflict with indefinite appointment of chair – needs clarification

ACTION: Email suggested membership policy changes to Bob by 12/5 and he will compile them in the Commission meeting packet.

Expansion on the Scope of the Commission

- It has been proposed to expand the scope of the Commission to more language access issues. The Commission’s current focus is on the courtroom, but doesn’t have scope of outside the courtroom.
- New topic areas could include:
 - Best practices for translation, like on web pages.
 - Best practices for attorneys and other legal settings outside of court.
 - LEP, deaf hard of hearing – language and communication access
 - Oral – language; translation – written, signage
- In expanding the scope, knowing what other states are doing would be a helpful starting point.

Article about Interpreters Working in Jails

- There was a recent news article the discussed the problems of people held in King County jail getting access to interpreters.
- The article did not portray the situation for interpreters accurately and mislead readers.
- Public defenders in other parts of the state also reported problems similar to King County. Some jails have better access to interpreters.
- Interpreters are not invited to the table when language access in jails is being discussed.

Disciplinary Committee Meeting Notes

November 17, 2020

4:30 PM to 5:30 PM

Present: Judge Rajul, Florence Adeyemi, Katrin Johnson, Luisa Gracia, Diana Noman, Bob Lichtenberg, James Wells

Disciplinary Policy Updates

- The Committee discussed some of the edits that had been made to the policy so far.
- Consistency with GR11.1 could be an issue.
- Definition of legal proceeding does connote a event happening in court room.
- The phrase “any interpreter” expanded who the rules apply to but “legal proceeding” limits the context.
- It may be necessary to update GR 11.1 to expand the settings the policy applies to.
 - Comments could include examples of settings for clarification.
 - It may be possible to submit an emergency rule change to GR11.1.
- Three things should be brought into alignment regarding the settings and the interpreters they apply to: Disciplinary Rules, GR11.1, and GR11.2.
- A rule change isn’t necessary to impact who the Disciplinary Committee has authority over.
- When does the code of conduct apply and when is it enforced
- Sanctioning isn’t available for non-credentialed interpreters.
- If the scope for disciplinary policy expands, then there should be an education component. Non-credentialed interpreters need an opportunity to learn about the rules they are expected to follow.
- Some states have a tiered system that includes interpreter in non-credentialed languages. An ad hoc committee made recommendations to the Interpreter Commission about interpreters in non-credentialed languages. Testing and training is currently suspended in Washington and the recommendations cannot be put into practice at the moment.

Medvedev

- GR11.1 does indicate that the Committee does have jurisdiction. His credentialed status is not relevant and the alleged violation took place during a legal proceeding.

Next meeting:

- Wednesday, December 2 at 4:30 PM.

Action Items

- Judge Rajul will send out an updated draft of the policy.
- Bob will send email to all of the members of the Disciplinary Committee to let them know the Committee is considering in making a change to GR11.1.
- Bob will check to see if GR 11.1 can be submitted for an expedited change.
- Bob will check with Jeanne Englert about how she uses a Box account.

Program Reports

INTERPRETER REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

December 2020 Update

PARTNERS, SOLUTIONS, AND NEXT STEPS



PARTNERS - RURAL AND URBAN COURTS

Total number of courts in the program 57

Rural Courts 35

Urban Courts 22



PARTNERS - REIMBURSEMENT

Total dollar amount - executed contracts
\$1,244,805



SOLUTIONS - INVOICE AND DATA TOOL

December 2, 2020 - courts in the program received a new solution for submitting invoices and reporting data.

"I used to dread doing them - invoices and data, because the system never worked right and there were so many steps. This way was totally easy, fill in the blanks and submit!"



NEXT STEPS - WEBSITE AND WEBINARS

- Interpreter Reimbursement Program web page is coming soon!
- Recorded webinars including how to videos, and live webinars are coming soon!



NEXT STEPS - MORE PARTNERS

Expansion of the Program continues.

**PARTNERS -
RURAL AND URBAN COURTS
LIST OF CONTRACTS**

Rural Courts Grandfathered Into the Program

1. *Chelan County Superior*
2. *Douglas County District*
3. *Douglas County Superior*
4. *Franklin County District*
5. *Franklin County Superior*
6. *Mount Vernon Municipal*
7. *Okanogan County Superior*
8. *Pasco Municipal*
9. *Skagit County District*
10. *Skagit County Superior*

Rural Courts New to the Program

1. *Burlington Municipal*
2. *Clallam County Superior*
3. *Cle Elum Municipal*
4. *Columbia County District*
5. *Cowlitz County Superior*
6. *Garfield County District*
7. *Grant County District*
8. *Grays Harbor County District*
9. *Island County Superior/Juvenile*
10. *Jefferson County District*
11. *Kittitas County Superior*
12. *Lincoln County District*
13. *Lower Kittitas District*
14. *Mason County Superior*
15. *Pend Oreille County District*
16. *Ritzville District*
17. *Roslyn Municipal*
18. *San Juan County District*
19. *San Juan County Superior*
20. *Upper Kittitas District*
21. *Stevens County District*
22. *Walla Walla County Superior II*
23. *Whitman County District*
24. *Yakima County Superior*
25. *Yakima Municipal*

**PARTNERS -
RURAL AND URBAN COURTS
LIST OF CONTRACTS-CONT.**

Urban Courts Grandfathered Into the Program

1. *Benton County District*
2. *Benton County Superior*
3. *Benton/Franklin Counties Juvenile*
4. *Bremerton Municipal*
5. *Clark County District*
6. *Des Moines Municipal*
7. *Everett Municipal*
8. *Federal Way Municipal*
9. *Kent Municipal*
10. *Kitsap County District*
11. *Kitsap County Superior*
12. *Lynnwood Municipal*
13. *Pacific/Algona Municipal*
14. *Pierce County Superior/District*
15. *Port Orchard Municipal*
16. *Poulsbo Municipal*
17. *Renton Municipal*
18. *SeaTac Municipal*
19. *Seattle Municipal*
20. *Snohomish County District*
21. *Snohomish County Superior*
22. *Tukwila Municipal*

Additional Reading Material



BENCH CARD WAIVER OF INTERPRETER

You have either self-identified or been identified by a local representative of the criminal justice system as potentially requiring or benefiting from language assistance for **<LANGUAGE>**.

As a nonnative speaker of the English language, you are hereby advised that Spokane Municipal Court offers interpreter services provided by a skilled interpreter who is both trained in interpreting court proceedings and protecting your privacy and confidentiality. The interpreters used by the Court are both fluent in the **<LANGUAGE>** language and understand the specialized words and concepts commonly used in the justice system. The interpreter can assist you in understanding those words and concepts in **<LANGUAGE>** and will assist you at all court proceedings at no expense to you.

Understanding the information provided above and with the assistance of the interpreter in **<LANGUAGE>** today, do you, **<DEFENDANT NAME>**, hereby knowingly, voluntarily, and intelligently waive your right to the services of a qualified **<LANGUAGE>** interpreter at your upcoming **<HEARING TYPE>** scheduled on **<FUTURE DATE>**, and at all future proceedings in this case before the Court? Do you further understand that if the Court accepts this waiver, no qualified interpreter in **<LANGUAGE>** will be present at any future hearings to assist you?

Defense counsel of record, **<DEFENSE ATTORNEY>**, consents to this hearing, and future hearings to be held without the use of an interpreter for the defendant.

If at any point you feel that an interpreter would be helpful, even on a standby basis, remember you may always request one. Do you understand?

The Court finds that the defendant knowingly, voluntarily, and intelligently waives their right to an interpreter.

Interpreter Commission

2021 Meeting Dates

Virtual Meetings held via Zoom Videoconference/TBD

Date	Time	Location
Friday 02/26/21	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Zoom Videoconference
Friday 06/04/21	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Zoom Videoconference
Friday 09/24/21	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	<i>TBD</i>
Friday 12/03/21	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	<i>TBD</i>

Please contact Bob Lichtenberg at Robert.Lichtenberg@courts.wa.gov or 360-350-5373 if you have any questions.