Washington State Supreme Court Interpreter and Language Access Commission

December 2, 2022

Meeting Packet

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





Language Access and Interpreter Commission Quarterly Meeting

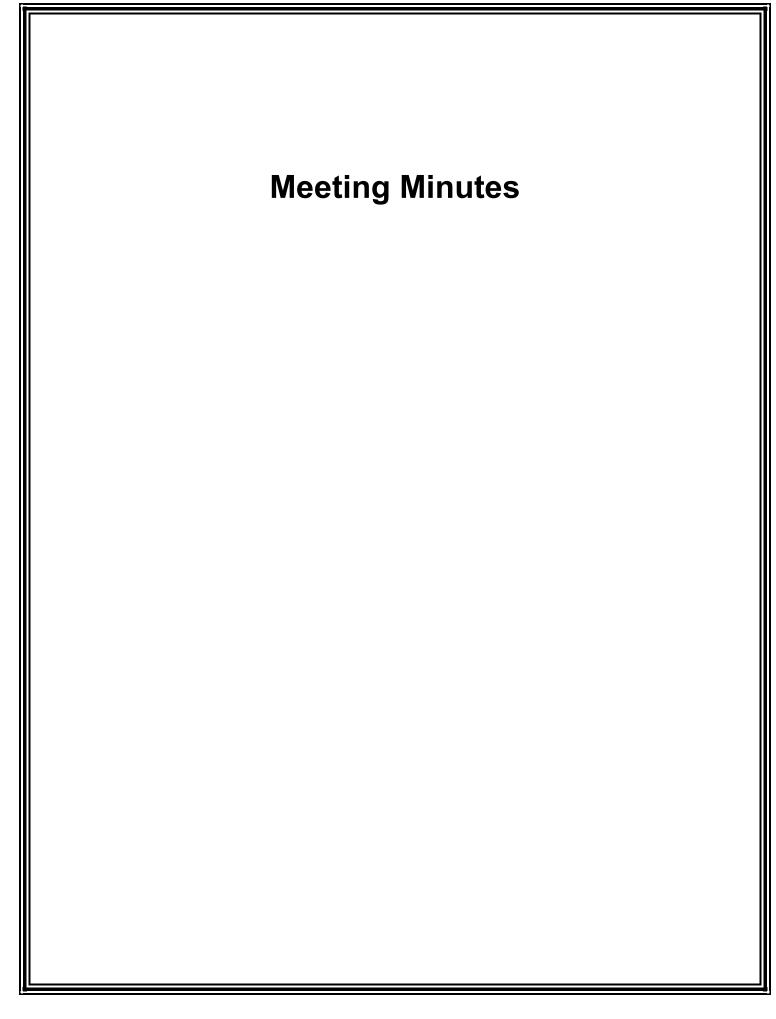
Friday, December 2, 2022, 8:30 AM to 12 Noon PM

https://wacourts.zoom.us/j/89825842854 Meeting ID: 898 2584 2854

One tap mobile +12532158782,,89825842854# US (Tacoma)

AGENDA					
 Call to Order Member Introductions & Meeting Rules 	Judge Michael Diaz				
Chair's Report (Order Subject to Change)					
Approval of September 23, 2022 Minutes	Judge Diaz	Pg. 2			
New Member Meet and Greet	Judge Diaz	Pg. 9			
New Member Committee Appointments	Judge Diaz				
Member Online Orientation	AOC Staff				
 In-Person/Hybrid Commission Meeting and Community Forum Partnership 	Judge Diaz				
Bylaws Adoption	Judge Oaks	Pg.17			
 Strategic Planning Workgroup and Commission Direction for 2023-24 	Judge Diaz				
BREAK					
Court Interpreter User Survey	Dr. Arina Gertseva/AOC Staff	Pg. 24			
Draft RCW 2.42 Revisions	Donna Walker				
Interpreter Program Update	Kelley Amburgey-Richardson James Wells	Pg. 33			
Committee and Partner Reports <u>Issues Committee Meetings Report</u>	Judge Lloyd Oaks	Pg. 42			
Topics TBD with Judge Oaks					

Education Committee Meetings Report> 2022 Fall Judicial Conference Presentation Evaluations> 2023 Judicial College Update> Future Judicial and Court Officer Training Report	Ashley Callan AOC Staff	Pg. 46
 <u>Disciplinary Committee Report</u> Disciplinary Process Manual Status 	Justice Helen Whitener or designee	
Liaison Reports (placeholder)	OAH and ODHH	
Commission Staff Report Reimbursement Program Report 	Tae Yoon	Pg. 54
Announcements: Issue Placeholder for February Meeting Discussion	Kristi Cruz	
Next Commission Meeting	February 12, 2023 8:30 AM-12 PM <i>Via Zoom</i>	





Interpreter Commission Meeting September 23, 2022 Zoom Videoconference

8:30 AM – 12:00 Noon PM

Meeting Minutes

Members:

Donna Walker Jennefer Johnson Kristi Cruz Luisa Gracia Katrin Johnson Michelle Hunsinger de Enciso Frankie Peters Ashley Callan Judge Lloyd Oaks Judge Michael Diaz Naoko Inoue Shatz Anita Ahumada Iratxe Cardwell Diana Noman Florence Adeyemi

Liasons:

Berle Ross Ernest Covington

AOC Staff:

Avery Miller James Wells

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 8:34 AM.

Welcome and Introductions:

• Judge Michael Diaz introduced himself as Chair of the Interpreter Commission. Members and Liaisons introduced themselves.

Robert Lichtenberg Alex Donnici Cynthia Delostrinos Dr. Carl McCurley Tae Yoon

Guests:

Shiki Izuka Chela Fisk Johannes Voogt Socorro Villedo Nancy Leveson Nicole Pierce Maria Lucas Yasemin Alptekin Chief Justice González Adrian Arias Emma Garkavi Maria Elena Montes De Oca Ricks Christian Sepulveda Michael Zheleznyak **Oromo Yoseph Petros** Pablo Sepulveda

CHAIR'S REPORT

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

• The June 3rd, 2022 Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.

Recognition to Departing Commissioners

- Chief Justice Gonzalez presented a plaque in recognition to Judge Rajul, who was unable to attend.
- Judge Michael Diaz presented appreciation plaques in recognition of the work done by departing Commission Members Luisa Gracia, Frankie Peters, Francis Adewale, and Katrin Johnson.

Current Member Reappointments

• Donna Walker, Naoko Shatz, and Florence Adeyemi were nominated for re-appointment to the Commission with no objections or concerns.

New Member Appointments:

- Jennefer Johnson, nominated to replace Frankie Peters in the DMCA Representative, described her background and interest in working for the Commission.
- Michelle Hunsinger de Enciso discussed her background and interest in the Public Member representative on the Commission.
- Maria Lucas discussed her background and interest in the Spoken Language Interpreter position.
- Iratxe Cardwell discussed her background and interest in the Spoken Language Interpreter position.
- As Judge Diaz is being nominated to the State Court of Appeals, he is no longer eligible for the Superior Court Judicial Representative. Judge Edirin Okoloko has been nominated to replace him. Judge Okoloko was unable to attend this meeting.

<u>ACTION</u>: The Commission split into a separate break-out room to discuss the candidates and vote for the nominee for the Spoken Language Representative position. Jennefer Johnson, Michelle Hunsinger de Enciso, Iratxe Cardwell, and Judge Okoloko were selected for nomination for appointment to the Commission by the Supreme Court.

Expansion of the Commission:

• Judge Diaz announced the Interpreter and Language Access Commission will be expanding membership, with four open vacancies: a Certified Deaf Interpreter Representative, a Deaf Community Representative, a Translator Representative and an Open Position. The Commission additionally has a vacancy for the Public Defender Representative as it received information from the nominee that they

will probably not be able to make a commitment for the length of the appointment term. Judge Diaz requested that people to reach out to Robert Lichtenberg to solicit individuals who would be a good fit for those positions.

• There was discussion of when to onboard those new representatives so as to ensure there isn't a huge turnover of members on the September 30th term end date currently in place. There was a suggestion that April 1 be the date for the appointment term to begin. This matter was referred to the Bylaws Committee which is working on a new Bylaws draft.

Ashley Callan announced as Chair of Education Committee

- Ashley Callan is appointed as the Chair of the Education Committee now that Luisa has stepped down. The focus in next few years will be on training best practices surrounding remote interpreting and to study how this medium affects access to justice using remote interpreters.
- Judicial training is important, but the Committee will also be focusing on getting court staff comfortable with Zoom, new technology features, remote interpreting best practices, and the reimbursement program (LAIRP), etc.

Announce 2023 Commission Meeting Dates and Times

- Interpreter Commission 2023 meeting dates were announced.
- The possibility of meeting in person next year at some point was discussed, with a hybrid option and suggestion to potentially make it an all-day meeting to make it worth the time.

Interpreter Recruitment Report - Shiki "Natsuya" Izuka

- Cynthia Delostrino introduced Shiki Izuka, a law student from Seattle University who conducted an internship research project for the Commission, to present his work on the current state of Interpreter recruitment and potential strategies to improve it.
- He identified two major issues for why interpreters don't take court/ legal interpreting: Interpreters don't get paid well and don't feel that they're respected. Some ideas to increase recruitment:
 - Expand/liberalize GR 11.3, which relates to VRI (making it available to all proceedings, including evidentiary ones). During the pandemic, attorneys appeared in court via remote video, so it is unclear why interpreters cannot do the same. He noted that because it is important to see visual cues/ facial expressions, some interpreters do prefer to be in person, but many like the remote appearances option so they don't have to travel.
 - Revise reciprocity practices to make it easier for out of state interpreters to provide services in our courts.
 - Utilize law students who are bilingual. Create a pipeline from schools to the interpreting profession. Seattle Central College has a few language

interpreting courses, so maybe the state can reach out to more schools in the state to provide funding for training for students to become professional interpreters.

- Retention: Mr. Izuka discussed the matter of retaining current interpreters for court jobs. A few suggestions were made:
 - Do an annual survey of court interpreters. Many interpreters have said that judges did not understand how to use them properly and that they weren't being paid appropriately. An annual survey could help them feel heard and create a baseline to address their concerns.
 - Implement a statewide online scheduling platform for easy scheduling of court interpreters that local courts can use.
 - Free seminars provided from the Interpreter Commission on continuing education topics. Interpreters want more training on using technology/ innovations in those areas.
- Equity: He noted that those who are most impacted by these issues are people of color, immigrants, women, individuals who rely on sign language, etc. Interpreters themselves are often from marginalized communities and are impacted by these language-related inequities themselves. This is a social justice/ racial justice issue as well for those interpreters given their language heritage.

Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Workgroup Formation

- The Interpreter Commission is creating an Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Workgroup to determine the focus/ priorities of the Commission for the next two years.
- Members: Ashley Callan, Kristi Cruz, Judge Lloyd Oaks, Luisa Gracia, Jeanne Englert, Donna Walker, and Judge Michael Diaz.
- Some ideas for the workgroup: focus on Interpreter recruiting, ASL Testing, training issues for staff/ judges, expanding to Deaf/Hard of Hearing Communities.

Bylaws Review and Adoption

- Interpreter Commission has not previously had formal bylaws. An ad hoc committee was set up to draft them after the matter was referred to the Issues Committee and present to the Commission. The draft was circulated and members noted a few grammatical errors and recommended changing the language in a few places.
 - A few substantive questions were raised: whether to say the Commission 'sets policy' for the Courts since WA doesn't have a unified court system; whether a one-year break between terms of membership is necessary. Wording to be consistent with GR. 11.3.3. Discussion of racial, ethnic, gender diversity lens, and concern of using 'citizen' as part of our programs. Discussion of Geographical diversity.
 - Since there are a few substantial questions, the committee will continue to meet to discuss them and finalize the bylaws for approval at the

December meeting. Judge Diaz asked members to submit suggestions, critiques and questions by Oct. 14th to Bob, Francis and Frankie.

Racial Justice Action Follow Up— Florence Adeyemi, Naoko Shatz, Francis Adewale

- Florence provided update on follow up actions from the Racial Justice Consortium, intersecting with the Strategic Planning Workgroup to set priorities.
- Naoko Shatz indicated 6 action items from the RJC Plan: Cultivating Spaces of Belonging, Child Welfare Dependency, Youth Justice, Sentencing, LFO's and Re-entry issues.
- Members of the Consortium are meant to pick action items that correspond to their work. Cultivating belonging was suggested as easy place to start, since the Commission works on access to justice. Other types of belonging work can involve making court forms more accessible to non-English speakers, having non-English signs in the courthouse, and sharpening racial and equity awareness.
- Francis discussed putting race equity at the center of our education outreach to judges, court administrators, etc, and encouraged the strategic planning committee to consider the priorities of the RJC in its planning.
- Florence discussed LFO issues and would like to discuss what's disproportionately affecting language communities. The matter will be placed on the February agenda for discussion.

Interpreter Program Report— James Wells

- James presented on the status of the Interpreter Program and will have a more comprehensive report at the December Meeting.
- Announced that the LAIRP has hired Tae Yoon, who will start in a few weeks, from the Snohomish Superior Court Language Services.
- The Interpreter Program has been busy with language access trainings this summer, covering new standards of practice for video interpreting and on core language justice principles ("From Margin to Center").
- The Program had three interpreter training sessions over the summer for newer interpreters and for older ones looking for continuing education credits.
- Registration is now open for the Interpreter Oral Exam in November in Shoreline, which will be the first one since 2019.
- He is creating additional modules for court interpreter orientation and moving certain trainings online.

COMMITTEE AND PARTNER REPORTS

Issues Committee— Judge Lloyd Oaks

• The Issues committee is working on many of the issues that were highlighted by Mr. Izuka's report, including reciprocity and the related issue of state reimbursement of non-credentialed interpreters. No clear recommendation had

emerged and the matter was referred back to the committee to prepare a full report before the next meeting.

- Judge Oaks discussed a whistleblower issue involving an interpreter who reported potential attorney misconduct and the need to preserve attorney/client privilege as well as the confidentiality requirements of GR 11.2.
- Provided written recommendation to the Education Committee to review best practices and add online trainings for DMCJA members.
- Dr. Carl McCurley offered to help interpret reports with statistics.

Education Committee— Luisa Gracia

- The Fall Judicial Conference took place this week, where the Education Committee hosted two sessions on remote interpreting and new ethics standards
- Committee is considering a standalone ASL training module for the Judicial College as it can't be covered in the 90 minute session.
- WSBA requested a training in November for family law coordinators on using interpreters.

Disciplinary Committee

• Justice Whitener plans to have a Disciplinary Manual complete for review at the December meeting if it is ready.

Liaisons Reports

• Berle Ross and Ernest Covington from OHHH shared they were excited to work with the commission and have changed focus a bit with the pandemic to work on trainings re ASL and VRI.

AOC Staff Report

- LAP: Bob provided a report on work on Language Access Plans. He noted that not every court has a description of their process that the public can understand. He will work with courts on key wording after he gets the third draft back from them. Once the plans are finalized, they will have to be updated annually. New courts in LAIRP are now just required to submit a draft, but the AOC will need someone within AOC to provide guidance on judicial officer and staff training for individual court jurisdictions related to their own language access services. He mentioned that courts should need to keep trying to make individualized court LAPs because one unified statewide LAP template will be hard to create because the language access service processes are different for many courts.
- **Commissioner Manager's Report:** Bob announced new staff members Avery Miller and Mishani Jack-Gonzalez. There were no other major updates to report.

Announcements: Next meeting will be via Zoom December 2nd, 2022 at 8:45 AM.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 AM



Steven C. González Chief Justice Temple of Justice Post Office Box 40929 Olympia, Washington 98504-0929



September 30, 2022

Florence Adeyemi afnconnect@aol.com (via email only)

Re: Reappointment to the Interpreter Commission

Dear Ms. Adeyemi:

You have been nominated for reappointment to the Interpreter Commission as the Public Member Representative. The Supreme Court Administrative Committee has approved your nomination. Your term will be effective October 1, 2022 and expire on September 30, 2025.

On behalf of the Justices of the Supreme Court, I want to thank you for your willingness to continue serving on the Interpreter Commission. I am confident that this important committee will benefit from your expertise and leadership.

Sincerely,

Steven C. González Chief Justice Washington State Supreme Court

cc: via email only Robert Lichtenberg, Interpreter Commission Staff, <u>Robert.Lichtenberg@courts.wa.gov</u> Honorable Michael Díaz, Interpreter Commission Chair, <u>michael.diaz@kingcounty.gov</u>

Steven C. González Chief Justice Temple of Justice Post Office Box 40929 Olympia, Washington 98504-0929



September 30, 2022

Iratxe Cardwell <u>i cardwell@hotmail.com</u> (via email only)

Re: Appointment to the Interpreter Commission

Dear Ms. Cardwell:

You have been nominated for appointment to the Interpreter Commission as the Spoken Language Interpreter Representative. The Supreme Court Administrative Committee has approved your nomination. Your term will be effective October 1, 2022 and expire on September 30, 2025.

On behalf of the Justices of the Supreme Court, I want to thank you for your willingness to serve on the Interpreter Commission. I am confident that this important committee will benefit from your expertise and leadership.

Sincerely,

Steven C. González Chief Justice Washington State Supreme Court

cc: via email only

Robert Lichtenberg, Interpreter Commission Staff, <u>Robert.Lichtenberg@courts.wa.gov</u> Honorable Michael Díaz, Interpreter Commission Chair, <u>michael.diaz@kingcounty.gov</u>

Steven C. González Chief Justice Temple of Justice Post Office Box 40929 Olympia, Washington 98504-0929



September 30, 2022

(360) 357-2030 E-MAIL J_S.GONZALEZ@COURTS.WA.GOV

Michelle Hunsinger de Enciso chellehunsinger@gmail.com (via email only)

Re: Appointment to the Interpreter Commission

Dear Ms. Hunsinger de Enciso:

You have been nominated for appointment to the Interpreter Commission as the Public Member Representative. The Supreme Court Administrative Committee has approved your nomination. Your term will be effective October 1, 2022 and expire on September 30, 2025.

On behalf of the Justices of the Supreme Court, I want to thank you for your willingness to serve on the Interpreter Commission. I am confident that this important committee will benefit from your expertise and leadership.

Sincerely,

Steven C. González Chief Justice Washington State Supreme Court

cc: via email only

Robert Lichtenberg, Interpreter Commission Staff, <u>Robert.Lichtenberg@courts.wa.gov</u> Honorable Michael Díaz, Interpreter Commission Chair, <u>michael.diaz@kingcounty.gov</u>

Steven C. González Chief Justice Temple of Justice Post Office Box 40929 Olympia, Washington 98504-0929



September 30, 2022

Honorable Edirin O. Okoloko edirin.okoloko@snoco.org (via email only)

Re: Appointment to the Interpreter Commission

Dear Judge Okoloko:

You have been nominated for appointment to the Interpreter Commission as the Superior Court Judges Association Representative. The Supreme Court Administrative Committee has approved your nomination. Your term will be effective immediately and expire on September 30, 2023.

On behalf of the Justices of the Supreme Court, I want to thank you for your willingness to serve on the Interpreter Commission. I am confident that this important committee will benefit from your expertise and leadership.

Sincerely,

Steven C. González Chief Justice Washington State Supreme Court

cc: via email only Robert Lichtenberg, Interpreter Commission Staff, <u>Robert.Lichtenberg@courts.wa.gov</u> Honorable Michael Díaz, Interpreter Commission Chair, <u>michael.diaz@kingcounty.gov</u>

Steven C. González Chief Justice Temple of Justice Post Office Box 40929 Olympia, Washington 98504-0929



September 30, 2022

Naoko Inoue Shatz <u>ninoue@shatzlaw.com</u> (via email only)

Re: Reappointment to the Interpreter Commission

Dear Naoko Inoue Shatz:

You have been nominated for reappointment to the Interpreter Commission as the Ethnic Organization Representative. The Supreme Court Administrative Committee has approved your nomination. Your term will be effective October 1, 2022 and expire on September 30, 2025.

On behalf of the Justices of the Supreme Court, I want to thank you for your willingness to continue serving on the Interpreter Commission. I am confident that this important committee will benefit from your expertise and leadership.

Sincerely,

Steven C. González Chief Justice Washington State Supreme Court

cc: via email only

Robert Lichtenberg, Interpreter Commission Staff, <u>Robert.Lichtenberg@courts.wa.gov</u> Honorable Michael Díaz, Interpreter Commission Chair, <u>michael.diaz@kingcounty.gov</u>

Steven C. González Chief Justice Temple of Justice Post Office Box 40929 Olympia, Washington 98504-0929



September 30, 2022

Donna Walker donnainterpreter@gmail.com (via email only)

Re: Reappointment to the Interpreter Commission

Dear Ms. Walker:

You have been nominated for reappointment to the Interpreter Commission as the American Sign Language Interpreter Representative. The Supreme Court Administrative Committee has approved your nomination. Your term will be effective October 1, 2022 and expire on September 30, 2025.

On behalf of the Justices of the Supreme Court, I want to thank you for your willingness to continue serving on the Interpreter Commission. I am confident that this important committee will benefit from your expertise and leadership.

Sincerely,

Steven C. González Chief Justice Washington State Supreme Court

cc: via email only

Robert Lichtenberg, Interpreter Commission Staff, <u>Robert.Lichtenberg@courts.wa.gov</u> Honorable Michael Díaz, Interpreter Commission Chair, <u>michael.diaz@kingcounty.gov</u>

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November 7, 2022

Kelly Vomacka 14900 Interurban Ave. S., Suite 271 Tukwila, WA 98168 <u>Kellyvomackalaw.com</u> (via email only)

Re: Appointment to the Interpreter and Language Access Commission

Dear Ms. Vomacka:

You have been nominated for appointment to the Interpreter and Language Access Commission as a Public Defense Representative for a three-year term. The Supreme Court Administrative Committee has approved your nomination. Your term will be effective upon appointment and expire on September 30, 2025.

On behalf of the Justices of the Supreme Court, I want to thank you for your willingness to serve on the Interpreter and Language Access Commission. I am confident that this important commission will benefit from your expertise.

Sincerely,

Steven C. González Chief Justice Washington State Supreme Court

cc: via email only

Robert Lichtenberg, Interpreter Commission Staff, <u>Robert.Lichtenberg@courts.wa.gov</u> Honorable Michael Díaz, Interpreter Commission Chair, <u>michael.diaz@kingcounty.gov</u>



October 20, 2022

VIA EMAIL diaz.court@kingcounty.gov

Judge Michael Diaz Interpreter Commission

Re: Access to Justice Board's Liaison to the Interpreter Commission

Dear Judge Diaz:

I want to let you know that Vanna Sing will serve as the ATJ Board liaison to the Interpreter Commission through September 2023. The ATJ Board is committed to maintaining an open dialogue with our justice system partners as we work towards our shared commitments to equity and justice. I believe Vanna's participation with the Interpreter Commission will be valuable for both of our groups.

The role of the ATJ Board liaison is to attend your meetings as scheduling permits, stay abreast of access to justice topics that you are discussing and identify ways for us to work collaboratively, and to serve as a conduit for the ATJ Board and the Interpreter Commission.

Please include Vanna in your communication channels to receive notices of meetings and other pertinent information. Vanna can be reached at <u>253thac@gmail.com</u>.

Sincerely,



Access to Justice Board

cc: Vanna Sing Robert Lichtenberg

Terry Price, Chair

MEMBER

DRAFT BYLAWS

WASHINGTON STATE SUPREME COURT INTERPRETER AND LANGUAGE ACCESS COMMISSION BYLAWS

PREAMBLE

On September 1, 2005, the Washington Supreme Court established the Washington State Interpreter Commission by General Rule 11.1, and further amended the Rule on September 1, 2022 under Supreme Court Order No. 25700-A-1448. The Supreme Court charged the Commission to develop policies for the Interpreter Program and to provide courts with guidance on the translation of legal forms and documents in order to support the courts in providing equal access to justice and access to court services and programs for all individuals regardless of their ability to communicate in the English language. These bylaws have been promulgated by the Commission to provide an orderly framework for carrying out its mission.

ARTICLE I. Name of Commission

1.1 This Commission shall be known as the Washington State Court Interpreter and Language Access Commission (Commission).

ARTICLE II. Purpose

2.1 The mission of the Commission is to support the courts in providing equal access to justice and access to court services and programs for all individuals with hearing loss or limited English proficiency.

2.2 The Commission shall share information about its activities and projects with all levels of Washington State government, local governments, the court community, interpreter communities, and the public at large.

2.3 The Commission shall serve as a policy making and advisory body to the Washington Courts, including the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), concerning court interpreters and language assistance in general. The Commission shall set policy for the AOC Court Interpreter Program, and carry out its functions as set in General Rule 11.1. The Commission is also responsible for strategic planning and working with educational institutions and other interpreter program stakeholder groups to develop resources to support court interpreting in Washington.

2.4 The Commission shall exercise leadership in partnering with other organizations in addressing language access issues in the law and justice community.

2.5 The Commission shall cooperate and coordinate with municipal, county, state, national and regional language access programs, networks, committees, task forces and commissions. The purpose of this cooperation is to develop effective language access programs and to research projects, to share ideas, and to develop policies that will ensure equal access to justice.

2.6. The Commission shall provide support for the AOC Court Interpreter Program and the language access needs of the courts, as well as advocate for sufficient funding to implement key components of language planning, programs and recommendations to ensure provision of language access services. The Commission shall also have authority to promulgate provisions of the AOC Court Interpreter Program Policy Manual.

2.7 The Commission shall engage in periodic strategic planning to evaluate its efforts and plan for implementation of its prioritized goals.

2.8. The Commission may also be tasked with other works by the Washington State Supreme Court and state legislature. Such tasks may include but are not limited to carrying out the work assigned by legal statute, resolving challenges to language access as they arise, and looking for ways to promote and enhance language access across the state.

ARTICLE III. Officers

4.1 The Supreme Court shall appoint a person with knowledge of court interpreting and language access best practices to serve as Commission Chair, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Supreme Court, subject to three-year terms without limit. The person shall count as one of the 20 Commission members.

4.2 The Supreme Court shall appoint one of the remaining Commission Members as Co-Chair, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Court for the length of their representative term.

ARTICLE IV. Membership

3.1. The Commission shall consist of no more than 20 members to be appointed by the Washington State Supreme Court. Members terms, transitions and procedures are as set out in Appendix A of these bylaws.

3.2. When vacancies occur on the Commission, the Commission Chair shall request the Supreme Court to appoint replacements. As described in Appendix A, selection of certain replacements will require a majority vote approval of the Commission.

3.3 The Commission shall consider subject matter expert nominees for new members. The Commission will keep an eye to the continued racial, ethnic, gender, geographical, and professional diversity and balance of the Commission with particular emphasis on recruitment of individuals with knowledge and experience in providing and receiving interpreter services in Washington courts. The Commission may task a short-term recruitment subcommittee consisting of members of the Commission with the task of membership recruitment.

3.4 Attendance at meetings is expected. If a member misses three consecutive Commission meetings or three consecutive meetings of a standing committee, they will be deemed to have resigned from the Commission, unless meetings were missed due to unavoidable or unplanned reasons (such as illness or injury). An absence may be excused with advance notice to the Commission Chair or upon determination of good cause by the Commission Chair. If a Commission member knows in advance that they are unable to attend three consecutive meetings for any reason, they shall notify the Commission Chair and tender their resignation. The Commission Chair has discretion to choose to accept or decline the resignation.

3.5 Terms of membership on the Commission shall be maximum of two terms of three years. Terms should be staggered so that approximately one-third of the terms expire in any given calendar year. Members appointed to a full term may be reappointed only once to another full term without a break in service. Members appointed initially to a partial term may be reappointed only twice to full terms without a break in service. The Chair appointed by the Supreme Court may exceed the two-term limit.

3.6 The break in service period shall be at least one year after the date of completion of two full terms by a member.

Α

ARTICLE V. Standing Committees

5.1 The Commission shall have four standing committees: Issues, Education, Disciplinary, and Translation.

5.2. The Commission Chair shall appoint a Chair for each standing committee, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Commission Chair.

5.3 The Commission Chair shall appoint members to two or more standing committees as the work of the Commission shall require. Chairs of each standing committee need not serve on more than one committee.

ARTICLE VI. Ad Hoc Committees

6.1 The Commission and its committees may appoint an ad hoc committee, subcommittee, and/or taskforce to work on specific time-limited projects or assignments.

6.2 The Commission may, as needed, establish a Priorities Committee which shall work to establish the priorities of the Commission for the forthcoming years.

6.3 Commission and non-Commission members may serve on these committees, as directed by the Commission Chair.

ARTICLE VII. Quorum and Majority Vote

7.1 A quorum shall consist of 50 percent or more members present at the commencement of the meeting. Vacancies shall not be considered. A member participating in a meeting by a remote means approved by the Commission shall be counted in the determination of the quorum.

7.2 A majority vote of the Commission is required on all action items.

7.3 On time-sensitive decisions, and in the absence of a quorum, absent Commission members will be contacted via email requesting their vote on the issue before the Commission. An agreement of a majority of a Commission shall entitle the Commission Chair to go forward with the approved decision.

7.4 No proxy voting shall be allowed.

ARTICLE VIII. Commission Meeting Procedure and Scheduling

8.1 Meetings may be conducted informally and Commission decisions may be made by consensus. In instances where consensus cannot be reached, Roberts Rules of Order shall apply.

8.2 AOC shall assign professional staff support to the Commission. Meeting minutes and materials shall be sent to the Commission members 7 days prior to the next meeting. A limited number of materials may be added later in exceptional circumstances. The Chair shall call for any corrections of the minutes,

which shall be approved as written or corrected. After approval, the minutes shall be deemed to reflect the action of the Commission and made available for public access.

8.3 Commission meetings shall be held at least quarterly. Additional meetings may be regularly scheduled or specially called at the discretion of the Chair. Regular and specially called meetings of the Commission may be held by remote means as approved by the Commission.

8.4 Meetings shall be scheduled in advance with notice being sent to Commission members in July for meetings taking place in the following calendar year.

ARTICLE IX. Special Funding

9.1 The Commission is authorized to seek and accept funding from grants, pilot project funds, and scholarships. Any funds so obtained shall be administered under proper auditing controls by AOC.

9.2 The Commission Chair shall appoint a committee to work with staff in identifying and recommending to the Commission which grants, pilot projects and/or scholarships would be appropriate for the Commission to seek.

ARTICLE X. Amendments to Bylaws

10.1 These bylaws may be amended by the following process:

(1) proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Commission Chair at least one month in advance of any regularly scheduled Commission meeting;

(2) at the discretion of the Commission Chair, such proposed amendments will be placed on the agenda for said upcoming meeting;

(3) action may be taken at said meeting, or deferred for final action to the next succeeding meeting, by majority vote of the Commission;

(4) if final action is not taken by adjournment of the second meeting, the proposed amendment shall be deemed rejected.

ARTICLE XI. Continuing Nature of Bylaws

11.1. These bylaws, as now written or as hereafter amended, shall continue to govern until such time as the Commission may cease to exist.

11.2 These bylaws will be reviewed at time of renewal of the order establishing the Commission.

APPENDIX A

Current Supreme Court Interpreter Commission Membership Procedures Approved by Commission

WASHINGTON STATE COURT INTERPRETER COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP PROCEDURES

September 2022

Per GR 11.1(c), the Interpreter Commission shall consist of no more than 20 members. The Commission shall include representatives from the following areas of expertise:

3 judicial officers, one each from the appellate and trial court levels

- 2 spoken language interpreters
- 1 sign language interpreter
- 1 certified deaf interpreter
- 1 court administrator
- 1 attorney

2 public members one of whom shall have received services from the court and the other shall have knowledge and understanding of the judicial system.

- 1 representative from an ethnic organization
- 1 AOC representative
- 1 deaf community representative

1 translator or translation services representative who shall hold a certified interpreting credential from the AOC and be a practicing professional translator

The five additional members may be appointed by the Supreme Court and will be considered membersat-large. Priority will be given to appointing a second court administrator that is geographically diverse from the existing member and one additional attorney who may come from criminal or civil practice areas. The Commission Chair may be appointed without being a designated stakeholder representative.

MEMBERSHIP TERMS

- Commission member appointments are for a three-year term commencing on October 1 of the year of appointment and ending September 30 three years later. In the event the fall Commission meeting is moved to a date beyond September 30, a member whose appointment would otherwise expire on September 30 is to continue to serve on the Commission until the next scheduled meeting.
- 2. Commission members are eligible for reappointment to the Commission for one additional term. The Appellate Court member, who is appointed to serve as ex officio Chair, may serve for an unlimited number of consecutive terms at the pleasure of the Supreme Court.
- Mid-term vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as original appointments, provided, however, the solicitation period for nominations may be abbreviated.
- 4. The appointee for a mid-term vacancy shall fill the remainder of the vacated term and shall be eligible for reappointment for up to two additional terms.

5. Commission terms should be staggered in an effort to avoid more than one-third of the positions being open in any given year.

MEMBERSHIP VACANCIES

For association representatives, the Commission shall request nominations from the association leadership. For other membership positions, the Commission shall make every effort to notify interpreter organizations, bar associations and other relevant professional and community organizations/groups of upcoming vacancies to solicit viable and interested candidates. Nominations or applications will be reviewed at or before the fall Commission meeting for the terms beginning October 1 of that year.

Where there is an unfilled or unexpected vacancy, review or consideration of the applicants and recommendation for appointment to the Commission may be done by email prior to the next scheduled Commission meeting.

Seat Name as Specified in GR 11.1	Current Seat Title					
Chair Position	Chair of Interpreter and Language Access Commission*					
Judicial Officer - Appellate	Appellate Court Representative*					
	Superior Court Judges' Association Member					
Judicial Officer - Superior	Representative*					
	District and Municipal Court Judges' Association Member					
Judicial Officer - District/Municipal	Representative*					
	Association of Washington Superior Court Administrators					
Court Administrator	Representative*					
	District and Municipal Court Management Association					
Other	Representative*					
Other	Public Defender Organization*					
AOC Representative	Administrative Office of the Courts Representative*					
Attorney	Attorney Representative					
Public Member	Public Member Representative (1)					
Public Member	Public Member Representative (2)					
Spoken Language Interpreter (1)	Spoken Language Interpreter (1)					
Spoken Language Interpreter (2)	Spoken Language Interpreter (2)					
Sign Language Interpreter	ASL Interpreter					
Ethnic Organization Representative	Ethnic Organization Representative					
Other	Community Organization Representative					

MEMBERSHIP AS OF NOVEMBER 8, 2022

CDI Interpreter Representative	CDI Interpreter Representative
Deaf Community Representative	Deaf Community Representative
Translator Representative	Translator Representative
Open Position	Vacant

* Member is nominated by an association or group.

Section 1: Court experience

1. Which county do you live in?

2. How did you access your court hearing or services today (or on your most recent visit)?

- □ In-person, at courthouse
- □ Videoconference (audio and video)
- □ Phone conference (audio only)
- □ Using court website (only)

3. Why were you at court today (or on your most recent visit)?

Note: Court refers to court business done either in any in-person or remotely, using your computer or mobile device.

- Visit clerk's office (e.g., get information, file papers, make a payment)
- □ Appear as a witness
- □ Appear as a victim
- □ Appear for Jury Duty

□ Make a payment

- □ Attend a hearing or trial
- Party in a case
- □ Probation appointment
- □ Support a family member/or a friend
- Other_____

4. What type of case brought you to court today (or on your most recent visit)?

□ Traffic

□ Civil matter

□ Small claims

Divorce

- Paternity
- Juvenile case

Criminal matter

□ Other

5. Were you represented by an attorney today (or during your most recent visit)?

- 🗌 Yes
- 🗌 No

Section 2: Language access in court proceedings

- 6. [SCREENIN Question]: What language do you speak at home?
 - English
 - Other than English (Please specify)_____

[If "English" to Q7], the R. leaves the survey]

[If "Other than English" to Q7], the R. continues with the survey]

- 7. Are you aware that FREE professionals interpreters services are available to people with limited English proficient (LEP) under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964?
 - Aware, but did <u>not</u> use them in the past 12 months
 - \Box Aware and have <u>used</u> them in the past 12 months
 - □ Unaware, but intend to learn more

8. How did you communicate with court staff today (or during your most recent visit)? *Note: Court staff can be a judge, attorney, court clerks, etc.*

- □ I spoke with court staff in English
- □ Professional interpreter

- □ Court staff member
- □ A friend

- □ Adult family member
- □ Child family member (younger than 18 years old)

- Other
- 9. Did you ask for court's help with interpretive services today (or during your most recent visit)?
 - ☐ Yes
 - □ No
- 10. [If "Yes" to Q10] If you received court's help with interpreters services, how satisfied were you with the help you got?
 - □ I did not receive court's help with interpretive services
 - □ Very satisfied
 - □ Satisfied
 - □ Dissatisfied
 - □ Very dissatisfied

11. On average, how often do you use interpretive services?

- □ I have never needed an interpreter
- □ Rarely (1-2 times)
- □ Infrequently (3-6 times)
- □ Frequently (at least once per month)
- □ Regularly (at least once a week)

Section 3: Believes and Satisfaction with language services

12. Select the response that best describes your attitudes towards the following statements....

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I know how to access a professional interpreter when necessary					
When I come to court, I am usually asked which language I am most comfortable speaking					
When I come to court, I am usually offered to participate in my preferred language					
When I come to court, I usually receive paperwork in my preferred language					
The court staff treated me with respect					
Court staff paid attention to my needs					
I had an opportunity to say the things I wanted to say in my court hearing					
I was satisfied with my court experience					
I was treated the same as everyone else					

Section 4: Background Information

Although the choices listed below may not represent your full identity or use the language you prefer, for this survey please select the choice(s) that most accurately describes your racial/ethnic identity.

13. Please tell us the racial or ethnic background that best describes you. [Check all that apply]

- □ American Indian or Alaska Native
- □ Asian
- □ Black or African American
- Hispanic, Latinx or Spanish Origin
- □ Middle Eastern or North African

□ Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Island

- □ Other (Please
 - specify)___
- □ Prefer not to answer

- 14. What is your age?
 - Less than 21
 - 21-25
 - 26-35

15. Which best describes your gender identity?

- Woman
- 🗌 Man
- □ Transgender woman
- □ Transgender man

- 36-45
- 46-59
- \Box 60 or above
- □ Genderqueer/Gender non-conforming
- Questioning
- Other___
- □ Prefer not to answer

Section 1: Court experience

County of residence Court services access on the most recent visit (via in-person, video, audio, or website) Reason for using court services, including case type Frequency of using courts services Legal representation during the most recent visit

Section 2: Language assess in court proceedings

Self-identification of language spoken at home as a Screening questions for the rest of the survey Awareness and usage of interpreter services Self-perceived obstacle to using and/or securing interpretive services

Section 3: Believes and Satisfaction with language services

Perception of equitable treatment Perception of trust in the court system Perception of fairness

Section 11: Background information

1. Which county do you live in?

2. How did you access your court hearing or services today (or on your most recent visit)?

- □ In-person, at courthouse
- □ Videoconference (audio and video)
- □ Phone conference (audio only)
- □ Using court website (only)

3. Why were you at court today (or on your most recent visit)?

Note: Court refers to court business done either in any in-person or remotely, using your computer or mobile device.

- □ Visit clerk's office (e.g., get information, file papers, make a payment)
- □ Appear as a witness
- □ Appear as a victim
- □ Appear for Jury Duty

- □ Make a payment
- □ Attend a hearing or trial
- □ Party in a case
- □ Probation appointment
- □ Support a family member/or a friend
- Other_____

4. What type of case brought you to court today (or on your most recent visit)?

- □ Traffic
- Civil matter
- □ Small claims
- □ Criminal matter

- □ Divorce
- □ Paternity
- □ Juvenile case

Other____

5. In the last 12 months, have many times have you been to court?

- □ Today is my first time in court
- □ Rarely (1-2 times)
- □ Infrequently (3-6 times)
- □ Frequently (at least once per month)
- □ Regularly (at least once a week)

6. Were you represented by an attorney today (or during your most recent visit)?

- □ Yes
- □ No

Section 2: Language access in court proceedings

- 7. [SCREENIN Question]: What language do you speak at home?
 - English
 - Other than English (Please specify)_____

[If "English" to Q7], the R. leaves the survey

[If "Other than English" to Q7], the R. continues with the survey

8. Are you aware that <u>FREE</u> professionals interpreters services are available to people with limited English proficient (LEP) under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964?

- Aware, but did <u>not</u> use them in the past 12 months
- □ Aware and have <u>used</u> them in the past 12 months
- □ Unaware, but intend to learn more

9. How did you communicate with court staff <u>today</u> (or during your most recent visit)? *Note: Court staff can be a judge, attorney, court clerks, etc.*

- □ I spoke with court staff in English
- □ Professional interpreter
- □ Adult family member
- □ Child family member (younger than 18 years old)

- □ Court staff member
- □ A friend
- □ Other_____

10. Did you ask for court's help with interpretive services today (or during your most recent visit)?

- 🗌 Yes
- 🗌 No

11. [If "Yes" to Q10] If you <u>received</u> court's help with interpreters services, how satisfied were you with the help you got?

- $\hfill\square$ I did not receive court's help with interpretive services
- Very satisfied
- □ Satisfied
- Dissatisfied
- □ Very dissatisfied

12. On average, how often do you use interpretive services?

- □ I have never needed an interpreter
- □ Rarely (1-2 times)
- □ Infrequently (3-6 times)
- □ Frequently (at least once per month)
- □ Regularly (at least once a week)

13. [If "Used" to Q12] When you are looking for interpretive services, what is your first choice?

- □ Certified in-person interpreter
- □ Telephonic interpreter
- □ Bilingual court employee
- □ Friend or family member
- □ Translation of court forms (e.g., booklets, brochures, directions, FAQs, and instructions)
- Other_____

14. [If "Used" to Q12] Based on your <u>personal</u> experience, have easy or difficult is to secure an interpreter?

- □ Very easy
- Fairly easy
- □ Fairly difficult
- □ Very difficult

15. In the last 12 months, have you declined a professional/certified interpreter?

- 🗌 Yes
- 🗌 No
- **16.** [If "Yes" to Q15] Thinking about the <u>last time</u> you declined a professional interpreter, who was an alternative?
 - □ None
 - □ Adult family member
 - □ Child family member (younger than 18 years old)
 - □ Bi-lingual court staff member
 - □ Family friend
 - Other_____

17. What is your MAJOR concern about working with interpreters?

- 18. <u>In the last 12 months</u>, have you known anyone who needed interpretive services, but could not get them?
 - 🗌 Yes
 - 🗌 No
 - Not sure
- 19. [If "Yes" to Q18] Without disclosing identifying information, please tell us what was the main reason for not being able to secure interpretive services for this person?

Section 3: Believes and Satisfaction with language services

20. Select the response that best describes your attitudes towards the following statements....

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I know how to access a professional interpreter when necessary					
There is no difference between using a professionally trained interpreter and a fluent speaking family member/or a friend					
I would rather have a fluent speaking family member as my interpreter over a professional interpreter					
Non-English-speaking persons are more likely to be satisfied with their court experience when a family member is used as an interpreter					
When I come to court, I am usually asked which language I am most comfortable speaking					
When I come to court, I am usually offered to participate in my preferred language					
When I come to court, I usually receive paperwork in my preferred language					

21. For each sentence below, please mark how much you agree or disagree.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The court staff treated me with respect					
Court staff paid attention to my needs					
I had an opportunity to say the things I wanted to say in my court hearing					
Court staff are willing to be flexible and provide alternative approaches and services to meet my language needs					
I was satisfied with my court experience					
I was treated the same as everyone else					
I could follow what was happening in the hearing					
I was comfortable enough to say what I really thought about things					
I felt that I was part of decision-making for my case					

22. Is there anything else that you would like to tell us?

Section 4: Background Information

Although the choices listed below may not represent your full identity or use the language you prefer, for this survey please select the choice(s) that most accurately describes your racial/ethnic identity.

- 23. Please tell us the racial or ethnic background that best describes you. [Check all that apply]
 - American Indian, Alaska Native, First Nations, or Other Indigenous Group Member
 - Asian
 - □ Black or African American
 - □ Hispanic, Latinx or Spanish Origin
 - □ Middle Eastern or North African
 - □ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 - White
 - □ Some other race, ethnicity, or origin (Please specify)_____
 - □ I prefer not to answer

Using a write-in space below, please enter your national origin or a cultural group you identify with. (for example, Chinese, English, East Indian, French, Italian, Filipino, German, Cree, Scottish, Irish, Dutch, Ukrainian, Portuguese, Polish, Korean, Iranian, Vietnamese, Jamaican, Pakistani, Lebanese, Colombian, Mexican, Somali, etc.)

24. What is your age?

- Less than 21
- 21-25
- 26-35

- 36-45
- 46-59
- □ 60 or above

25. Which best describes your gender identity?

- Woman
- 🗌 Man
- □ Transgender woman
- □ Transgender man

- Genderqueer or gender nonconforming
- Questioning
- Other (Please specify)_____

26. Which of the following best describes your current relationship status?

- □ Married and live with a spouse
- □ Not married, but live with a domestic partner (of any gender)
- □ Single and live alone
- Other (Specify)

Washington State Judicial Branch 2023-25 Biennial Budget Support Language Access Planning

Agency: Administrative Office of the Courts

Decision Package Code/Title: S2 – Support Language Access Planning

Agency Recommendation Summary Text:

The Administrative Office of the Courts requests 2.0 FTEs and \$589,200 in ongoing funding to fully implement meaningful language access throughout Washington State courts. This proposal will improve the courts' response to Limited English Proficient and deaf and hard of hearing individuals by supporting courts through technical assistance, resource development, education, coordination of peer learning, and timely reimbursement for courts to enhance language access for all Washingtonians. (General Fund-State)

Fiscal Summary:

	FY 2024	FY 2025	Biennial	FY 2026	FY 2027	Biennial
Staffing						
FTEs	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Operating Exp	enditures					
Fund 001-1	\$299,400	\$289 <i>,</i> 800	\$589,200	\$289 <i>,</i> 800	\$289 <i>,</i> 800	\$579 <i>,</i> 600
Total Expendit	ures					
	\$299,400	\$289,800	\$589,200	\$289,800	\$289,800	\$579,600

Package Description:

The Language Access Interpreter Reimbursement Program (LAIRP) was created in 2008 to "provide equal access to the courts for non-English speaking persons by ensuring professional interpreters are provided in all languages in all levels of court.¹" In 2019, the Board for Judicial Administration (BJA) and Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) were successful in obtaining a significant increase in funding to bring new courts into the program. The number of participant courts has increased from 33 contracted courts in FY18 to 101 courts in FY22 (about 30 percent of all 341 courts). Over half of all Superior Courts in Washington State are now participating in the program, with a heavy focus on rural courts. The program has a goal of serving all courts in Washington.

The LAIRP is currently supported by only two AOC staff, 1.0 FTE Court Program Specialist, who is the sole administrator and project manager for the entire program, and 1.0 FTE Senior Web Developer, who focuses on building and maintaining the web application for the program. While support for the web application has been sufficient, the programmatic level of staffing is insufficient to cover all program tasks, which include: communications with all participant courts, managing funding and contracts, processing invoices, collecting and analyzing data submitted by courts, developing education and resources about the program, and partnering with web staff on development and ongoing functionality of the new web- based application. The sheer volume of participant court inquiries following the launch of the new application was, in itself, a full-time job for the existing programmatic staff person, pushing other programmatic tasks to the backburner and causing significant delay to the courts in the program.

¹ House Bill 2176 Report – An act relating to interpreter services.

An additional problem is the lack of staff capacity to support courts with development and use of their Language Access Plans (LAPs). RCW 2.43.090 requires each trial court in the state to develop a written language assistance plan "to provide a framework for the provision of interpreter services for non-English-speaking persons accessing the court system in both civil and criminal legal matters." Courts participating in the LAIRP are required to have their plans approved by the Interpreter Commission. Although the Commission produced an LAP desk book which includes a template plan, it has become clear that courts need more technical assistance than AOC staff currently have capacity to provide. Specifically, courts need help making their LAPs responsive to their communities' needs so that they provide meaningful access to the court for Limited English Proficient (LEP) people and those who are deaf and hard of hearing.

When the original Language Access Interpreter Reimbursement Program was created in 2008, the AOC had a staff position that was responsible for providing technical assistance to courts on their Language Access Plans. Due to 2008-2009 budget cuts, this position no longer exists. The position of Language Access Plan Program Coordinator should be reinstated as it is an essential function of the LAIRP. Having a dedicated staff person who can work directly with courts in Washington to support their compliance with that requirement, and most importantly, provide meaningful language access throughout Washington State courts is essential.

In addition, a new Court Program Assistant position should be added to support the LAIRP and other groups within the AOC's Commissions team focused on language access. This court program assistant would be dedicated to supporting the staff on the team who work on language access issues, including: LAIRP program staff, Interpreter Commission staff, Interpreter Program staff, and the proposed LAP Program Coordinator position.

Fully describe and quantify expected impacts on state residents and specific populations served:

This decision package would impact Washingtonians who have Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and those who are deaf and hard of hearing. Approximately eight percent of Washington's total population is considered Limited English Proficiency (LEP), approximately 488,800 Washingtonians, and about four percent are deaf and hard of hearing, approximately 254,619 Washingtonians. Every courthouse in Washington State has served, will serve, or currently is serving people from the LEP and deaf and hard of hearing community.

This decision package would ensure that courts have the support they need to serve these communities well, including: technical assistance, education from experts about emerging issues and innovative solutions, development of new resources, coordinating peer learning amongst courts, and timely processing of invoices for courts participating in the LAIRP.

Explain what alternatives were explored by the agency and why they were rejected as solutions:

This year, AOC contracted with an independent consultant to review the courts' LAPs and provide feedback. Due to limited time and funding, the consultant was not able to work with all program courts or provide the level of assistance all courts needed. The remaining tasks fell on staff, who did not have capacity in light of existing job duties. In addition, hiring a contractor required staff time to find a person with expertise, negotiate terms, ensure deliverables were met, and serve as the liaison between the contractor and program courts. The review of LAPs is a task that needs to happen on an annual basis. Hiring a permanent staff position is the most efficient and effective solution.

What are the consequences of not funding this request?

If this request is not funded, courts will have insufficient support for developing and implementing their Language Access Plans to adequately serve LEP persons and persons who are deaf and hard of hearing. In addition, LAIRP courts will continue to experience delays with the administrative functions of the program due to insufficient staff capacity. For example, current staffing levels do not allow for timely analysis of data submitted by over 100 courts, which is required to ensure reimbursement requests meets contractual requirements for distribution of funds.

Is this an expansion or alteration of a current program or service?

This would be an expansion of current programing that the Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) provides to support the trial courts in ensuring high quality interpreter services and access to the courts for LEP individuals and deaf and hard of hearing individuals.

Current programs include the Court Interpreter Program that oversees the training and testing of certified and registered spoken language interpreters. The Language Access Interpreter Reimbursement Program (LAIRP) that channels state funding to trial courts for the provision of interpreter services, and the Interpreter Commission that focuses its work on identifying policy and programming to support the courts in providing access to persons who are Limited English Proficient and deaf and hard of hearing.

As noted above, the AOC previously had a staff position responsible for providing technical assistance to courts on their Language Access Plans, which was eliminated due to 2008-2009 budget cuts. This request proposes to reinstate this position, which is even more critical now due to the expansion of the LAIRP. In addition, it proposes to add a court program assistant to provide administrative and program support to that position and the three staff coordinating the above programs. The expansion of the AOC's critical work on equity issues has resulted in an unmanageable workload for the only assistant position on the Supreme Court Commissions team.

Decision Package expenditure, FTE and revenue assumptions:

Staffing Assumptions

Court Program Analyst. Beginning July 1, 2023 and ongoing, AOC requires salary, benefits, and associated standard costs for 1.0 FTE to provide technical assistance to courts on their Language Access Plans (LAPs) to support their compliance with RCW 2.43.090, develop LAP templates and other resources, update and maintain the LAP Deskbook with statutory changes and evolving best practices, develop and facilitate education for courts about providing language access to court customers, and coordinate court work groups on related practices.

Court Program Assistant. Beginning July 1, 2023 and ongoing, AOC requires salary, benefits, and associated standard costs for 1.0 FTE to review data submitted by courts through the Language Access Interpreter Reimbursement Program (LAIRP) web application, assist with coordination of contracts for the 100+ courts participating in the LAIRP, track interpreter reimbursements to courts, assist with responding to court inquiries about the LAIRP, and provide administrative staff support to the Interpreter Commission, Interpreter Program, LAIRP, and related committees and programs dedicated to improving language access in Washington courts.

Ex	penditures by Object	<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	FY 2026	<u>FY 2027</u>	<u>FY 2028</u>	FY 2029
А	Salaries and Wages	166,600	166,600	166,600	166,600	166,600	166,600
В	Employee Benefits	53,100	53,100	53,100	53,100	53,100	53,100
Е	Goods and Services	7,600	7,600	7,600	7,600	7,600	7,600
G	Travel	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
J	Capital Outlays	12,800	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200
Т	Intra-Agency Reimbursements	54,300	54,300	54,300	54,300	54,300	54,300
	Total Objects	299,400	289,800	289,800	289,800	289,800	289,800

Staffing							
Job Class	Salary	<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>	<u>FY 2028</u>	<u>FY 2029</u>
COURT PROGRAM ASSISTANT	75,100	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
COURT PROGRAM ANALYST	91,500	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Total FTEs		2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00

Explanation of standard costs by object:

Salary estimates are current biennium actual rates at Step L.

Benefits are the agency average of 31.89% of salaries.

Goods and Services are the agency average of \$3,800 per direct program FTE.

Travel is the agency average of \$2,500 per direct program FTE.

One-time IT Equipment is \$4,800 for the first fiscal year per direct program FTE. Ongoing Equipment is the agency average of \$1,600 per direct program FTE.

Agency Indirect is calculated at a rate of 24.73% of direct program salaries and benefits.

How does the package relate to the Judicial Branch principal policy objectives?

This package directly advances two Judicial Branch policy objectives: Fair and Effective Administration of Justice and Accessibility. This package supports these objectives by ensuring people of different cultures and backgrounds, including those who are LEP or deaf and hard of hearing, will be treated fairly and with respect. Having an approved Language Access Plan in place promotes efficiency and effectiveness in court proceedings and helps ensure equal access to justice for LEP and deaf and hard of hearing individuals.

Are there impacts to other governmental entities?

This package would impact trial and appellate courts by providing technical assistance and expert education about Language Access Plans. It would result in the development of innovative materials courts could use to improve their services to LEP and deaf and hard of hearing communities. In addition, it would greatly improve the timeliness of completing administrative tasks related to the LAIRP, which will allow courts to receive their reimbursement funds sooner. We have heard directly from many trial courts over the course of the last year that they need more from us, and this package would allow us to meet their needs. The Administrative Office of the Courts expects that the courts will support this package. We also expect that court entities focused on other equity issues will support this proposal.

Stakeholder response:

Credentialed Court Interpreters Members of the Legal Aid and Access to Justice Community Washington State Coalition for Language Access Persons who are Limited English Proficient Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advocates of Immigrant and Refugee Populations

The Administrative Office of the Courts anticipates that these stakeholders will be supportive of this package as it will allow courts to better serve their LEP and deaf and hard of hearing community members.

Are there legal or administrative mandates that require this package to be funded?

RCW 2.43.090 requires that all trial courts must develop written language assistance plans. This budget package requests funding to help courts meet that requirement.

Does current law need to be changed to successfully implement this package?

No changes to current law are required to successfully implement this package.

Are there impacts to state facilities?

This request does not impact any state facilities.

Are there other supporting materials that strengthen the case for this request?

Not applicable

Are there information technology impacts?

There are no information technology impacts related to this request.

Agency Contacts:

Christopher Stanley, 360-357-2406, <u>christopher.stanley@courts.wa.gov</u> Angie Wirkkala, 360-704-5528, <u>angie.wirkkala@courts.wa.gov</u>

Court Interpreter Program Update

Language Access and Interpreter Commission Meeting 12/02/22

New Interpreters

Thirteen new interpreters become credentialed in Washington in 2022:

1 Arabic	2 Russian
1 German	3 Spanish
1 Marshallese	2 Somali
1 Portuguese	1 Ukrainian
2 Punjabi	

Training Summary for 2022

Training Title	Date	Further Information
Ethics and Protocol Class	March	• Final training requirement for interpreters in the credentialing process.
Interpreting is a Performance Art	March	Training for credentialed Interpreters.Partnered with NOTIS.
Introduction to the Standards of Practice and Ethics for Judiciary Interpreters Part 1: Accuracy, Honesty & Integrity, and Competence	Мау	Introduction to new manual.Partnered with NOTIS.
Introduction to the Standards of Practice and Ethics for Judiciary Interpreters Part 2: Confidentiality and Neutrality & Impartiality	June	Introduction to new manual.Partnered with NOTIS.
Language Justice: From Margin to Center	August	 Over 200 participants from the courts, government agencies, and community groups. Partnered with WASCLA.
Weekend Skill Building Sessions for Up- and-Coming Interpreters	August	 Two-weekend training for interpreters taking the certified oral exam. 20 participants in several languages.
Skills Building for the Experienced Interpreter - Language Neutral	August to October	 Multi-week training for interpreters taking the certified oral exam. Included interpreters in 8 languages.
Skills Building for the Experienced Interpreter – Spanish Specific	August to October	 Multi-week training for interpreters taking the certified oral exam. Included 20 Spanish interpreters.
Diving Deep: Take A Deep Dive with Us into the Icy Waters of Consecutive!	December	• Training for credentialed Interpreters Partnering with NOTIS.

Credentialing Process



A summary of the steps that interpreter go through is:

Written Exam

Before the outbreak of the COVID, the Court Interpreter Program was already in the process of moving the Written Exam to a computer-based format. The computer-based format allows candidates to schedule their own exams at testing centers across the state, which replaced the paper-based format which was offered only once per year.

As the restrictions around COVID are removed, we will increase outreach about the exam in the near future since we are more able to offer other components of the credentialing process

Orientation

In 2021, the first online version of the Orientation is now ready. The Orientation is hosted on Rise 360, an online course development platform. It consists of video content, reading materials, and interactive elements that check and reinforce learning.

The current version includes a mix of old and new content that covers the topics included in our traditional day-long class. The topics include the structure of Washington State courts, an introduction to criminal procedure and terminology, modes of interpreting used in courts, interpreter skill building, and an overview of the oral exams.

Future plans for the Orientation include:

- Incorporating new content that was created in 2022.
- Add back an in-person and/or live component.
- Add a new component as an introduction to court interpreting that would be given prior to the written exam and increase awareness of the profession.

Oral Exams

Certified Exams

In October and November, we held our first general administration of the certified oral exam since out outbreak of COVID. The exam was given to 33 candidates at sites in Seattle and Spokane for Filipino (Tagalog), French, Korean, Mandarin, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish.

Registered Exams

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In the past, test candidates in registered languages took their exams at the AOC office in Olympia. The exams taken by interpreters in registered languages now have versions of their exams that can be taken remotely. Several candidates have already taken these exams and received their credentials. We are working on a plan to expand the availability of these exams

Ethics and Protocol Class

In May of 2020, an online version of the Ethics and Protocol class developed and has been used since that time. Our next class is planned for March of 2023. Commission members will be invited attend the class.





Interpreter Commission – Issues Committee Meeting Tuesday, October 11th Videoconference Meeting 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

Present:

Robert Lichtenberg, Tae Yoon, James Wells, Ashley Callan, Naoko Shatz, Kristi Cruz, Anita Ahumada, Jennefer Johnson, Iratxe Cardwell, Judge Lloyd Oaks, Michelle Hunsider de Inciso

Approval of September 13th Minutes

• Minutes were approved as presented.

Reciprocity

- James Wells presented on issue of reciprocity. AOC has heard from Court administrators on the issue and came away with two questions:
 - Only reimburse interpreters if they're credentialed or if they speak a language we don't have any credentialed interpreters for. The question is if we can make an exception to this policy to, for example, reimburse for a non-certified Arabic interpreter if the court couldn't find a certified one.
 - Concern about opening up the policy in all situations and how to create an exception for only languages that there aren't a reasonable number of interpreters for. Recruitment is also an issue for many interpreters.
 - Bob will follow up with Kristi re: legislative intent of the RCW, not just a close literal reading.
 - Discussion of courts using the Language Line when they can't find interpreters, no way to check the credentials. James confirms LAIRP does not reimburse for language line.
 - Suggestion to create a list of languages with too few interpreters that might be eligible for this exception. Other than the top 5 languages, most only have one or two interpreters.
 - Discussion ties into reciprocity discussion as well. For ASL, courts have to look for an interpreter certified in legal situations, but some courts are sending out the requests to everyone. Concern that opening this issue up will lead to race to the bottom, as new/unqualified interpreters take jobs.
 - Discussion of the shortages of Interpreter issue more broadly. Suggestion
 of creating a way to look at ways to encourage/ train people in a middle
 tier, close to passing the exam, have them show up in court with a mentor
 for a while, something like that.

- Some other states have different levels of credentials, while WA is an 'all or nothing' state. Setting up a middle tier for mentoring may be challenging for court staff.
- Request to speed up the reciprocity process, which currently takes a few months, but unclear if this will solve the problem, will still need some kind of process and may not be much to cut in the required class.
- Judge Oaks suggests creating a best practices training on these issues to present at Judicial College, materials on credentialing process/ interpreters that could be sent out.
 - Right now, no solution on LAIRP to pay for non-credentialed interpreters.
 Will need to go back to DMCJA to discuss reasons we can't reimburse non-credentialed interpreters.
 - Start with a write-up of this issue: Kristi and James will work on drafting something to discuss, then solicit comments, and come to consensus on this.

12:59 pm Meeting Adjourned.



Interpreter Commission – Issues Committee Meeting November 8th, 2022 Videoconference Meeting 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

Present:

Robert Lichtenberg, Avery Miller, James Wells, Ashley Callan, Iratxe Cardwell, Judge Lloyd Oaks, Kelly Vomacka, Diana Walker, Naoko Shatz, Kristi Cruz, Jennefer Johnson

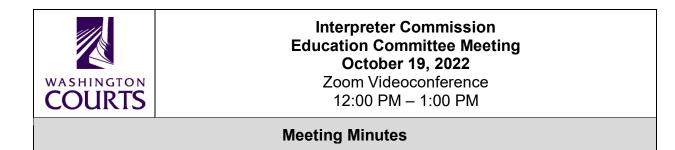
Approval of October 11th Minutes

• Minutes were approved as presented.

Notes:

- Introduction of Kelly Vomacka, public defender representative, works in Pierce and King County as well as private practice with Immigrant youth, Spanish-speaker.
- Approval of Bylaws
 - Bylaws reviewed earlier this year, draft in the meeting packet at the last commissions meeting, but more work that needs to be done. Bylaws subcommittee met twice/three times since last commission meeting, attached draft. Track changes are in the document, comments made my members and a few people sent in potential edits, some structural changes as well
 - Five additional members: the five additional members may be appointed by the Supreme Court and will be considered as members at large: the chair may be appointed without being a designated stakeholder rep. beyond that, a priority or preference will be given to appointing a second court admin and second attorney
 - Clarification of use of the word "meeting" when referring to attendance requirements.
 - Discussion of requirements to attend meetings, when the Chair should intervene, since most of the work of the Commission is done on the committee level. Maybe both Commission and subcommittee attendance component?
 - James shared an updated, simplified table of seat names/ bylaws chart.
 - Hoping to have finalized draft before the December Commission Meeting. Judge Oaks will circulate a draft for comments.

Meeting adjourned at 1 PM.



Present: Robert Lichtenberg, Ashley Callan, James Wells, Avery Miller, Tae Yoon, Kristi Cruz

Notes:

- With only two members of the Committee present, no quorum was found. The previous months minutes were not approved.
- Members and AOC staff had an informal discussion regarding outreach to new members of the Interpreter and Language Access Commission via email, coordination with AOC educational staff on their materials for training/onboarding and discussion of ensuring equal consideration of ASL interpreters vs. spoken language in judicial college or other trainings.



Interpreter Commission Education Committee Meeting November 16, 2022 Zoom Videoconference

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

Present: : Ashley Callan, Jeanne Englert, James Wells, Tae Yoon, Kristi Cruz, Robert Lichtenberg, Iratxe Cardwell, Judge Oaks, Naoko Shatz, Jennefer Johnson

Notes:

- Iratxe Cardwell indicated she was interested in formally joining the education committee.
- Discussion of judicial college trainings with both ASL and spoken language interpreters. Seeking to have Donna Walker participate in the session.
- Priorities for 2023:
 - Training for court staff, particularly front line, public-facing court clerks and interpreter coordinators.
 - Turning some of the core trainings into modules/ online, so judges can take that before taking other training, a prerequisite course.
 - Strategic Planning Workgroup setting up priorities for the upcoming year.
 - Kristi notes two tracks: routine things the commission does (i.e. Judicial College, Fall Conference) and potential new projects.
 - Work on getting an inventory of what resources we currently have, detailed list of what trainings, modules, Rise360 etc.
 - Potential to host a CLE in 2023
 - Ideally, expand the role of the education committee to other people: bar members, advocates, interpreters, public citizens.
 - Working with AOC educators for onboarding materials for new members of the commission.
 - Create good signage for all courts to use to ensure the public is informed about their rights accessing the justice system.
 - Think about community education to empower LEP communities.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

2022 - 63rd Washington Judicial Conference - Feedback - Remote Interpreting

Please assess the panel of presenters: MS. CLAUDIA A'ZAR, MS. CINDY NOSKO, JUDGE JACQUELINE SHEA-BROWN, and MS. DONNA WALKER.

	Total Received	Average Score
Clarity of presentation	42.00	4.57
Responsiveness to participants	42.00	4.43
Degree to which MY interest was maintained	42.00	4.19
Total Average	42.00	4.40

It is essential to have interpreters back in the courtroom. Procedural Due Process for defendants requires nothing less.

Ms. Nosko's presentation was a bit unclear and difficult to follow.

I had a hard time following Judge Shea-Brown's presentation and Ms. Donna Walker's presentation.

Fantastic session.

Helpful tips. Thank you.

It felt like a couple of the presenters were just reading a script.

The ASL information was especially helpful.

Fascinating and highly informative.

I would like to call out Donna Walker as I found her to be the most articulate and engaging out of all the presenters.

	Total Received	Average Score
This session enhanced my professional knowledge	42	4.31
The content of the session was relevant to my work needs	42	4.52
Effectiveness of instructional materials	41	4.12
Effective use of instructional engagement	42	4.12
Total Average	40	4.27

Diversity.

It was diverse

Was included.

Diversity issues are clearly implicated in this program.

Working with interpreters implies diversity and there was discussion between difference of ASL and spoken language.

What aspects/parts of the session did you find the most beneficial? What did you learn that you can implement immediately?

Practical advice for judges.

Positioning of the interpreter in the courtroom relative to the computer screen.

The presentation regarding deaf culture. It's a topic that does not get attention at conferences so the information was enlightening and so relevant to our work.

I learned so much about ASL interpretation that I did not know, specifically as it relates to remote interpretation. Thank you for this important information!

Our court has a difficult time finding interpreters for certain languages. I will look at the AOC interpreter guide to see how we can improve getting interpreters in advance of the hearings.

The practical tips, like having a laptop for ASL interpreting.

Hearing the interpreters' perspectives and what they have to go through.

Lots of new information.

The new information on the updates in the law. However, much of this was repetitive or could have been delivered differently and outside of a conference.

General Comments.

Helpful information.

Very well done.

Very informative. Seeing what a remote courtroom looks like, and how far away the LEP participant and interpreter are from each other, was insightful. Good ideas for technology and courtroom design as well as practices.

Many courts cannot afford to have laptops available to facilitate defendants and their attorneys, who are in person, to have private conversations with interpreters when a question arises during a guilty plea, motion hearing, trial, or other remote hearing. This is not a solution to having interpreters appear remotely when defendant and attorney are in person. To truly provide a defendant with access to justice and to promote true procedural fairness/justice for a defendant, the interpreter must be in person in the courtroom.

I learned a great deal even though I strive to meet the expectations of clear and inclusive interpretation. I intend to review the online materials since it was a lot to take in during the presentation. My goal is to make improvements on what I am currently doing to ensure access to justice for all non-English speaking court participants.

Great program.

The presenters were knowledgeable. It seemed though that this was more basic with the information. What I found the most helpful was the conversations and Q&A happening in the chat box. I would suggest 1) the Interpreter Commission consider doing training outside of the conferences - with Zoom. There is no reason why the IC can't promote and hold education in a more timely fashion. Potentially looking at the regularly scheduled informational sharing Zooms - many within the agency are already doing this and have developed some good models to look at.

2) There is repetitive information that could be put into an online format and accessible to all much sooner. This would take the repetition out as I've heard and seen much of the same information over the past few years. 3) Too much info in too short of a time. Again, we've all heard about the types of interpretation - put that info online and start directing people to it.

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2022 - 63rd Washington Judicial Conference - Feedback - Newly Published Standards of Practice and Ethics for Judiciary Interpreters and Court Rule Revisions - Feedback

Please assess the panel of presenters: MS. EMMA GARKAVI, MS. LINDA NOBLE, JUDGE MAFÉ RAJUL, and DR. LAURIE REINHARDT.

	Total Received	Average Score
Clarity of presentation	41.00	4.59
Responsiveness to participants	40.00	4.38
Degree to which my interest was maintained	40.00	4.28
Total Average	40.33	4.41

The panel failed to answer a question posed by one of the judges as to whether the best practice is to have interpreters in person in the courtroom when the defendant or other litigant and their attorney are present in the Courtroom.

This was an excellent session, very helpful for judicial officers.

This was slightly repetitive in information as the preceding session.

Relevancy.

	Total Received	Average Score
This session enhanced my professional knowledge	38.00	4.50
The content of the session was relevant to my work needs	37.00	4.54
Effectiveness of instructional materials	35.00	4.23
Effective use of instructional engagement	37.00	4.35
Total Average	36.75	4.41

Diversity.

It was diverse.

It was balanced and present as necessary.

It did.

Diversity is part and parcel of this presentation.

What aspects/parts of the session did you find the most beneficial? What did you learn that you can implement immediately?

Identification and sharing about the newly published practice standards.

The difference between certified and registered.

The materials are going to be invaluable.

No one addressed whether it is a best practice to have the interpreter present in the courtroom when the defendant or other litigant and their attorney is present in the Courtroom. The excellent presenter who was the ASL interpreter said that it is best to have ASL and deaf interpreters present in the courtroom, but then went on to suggest that a way around that best practice is to provide a laptop for a defendant/litigant in the courtroom. Many courts cannot afford to do this. And, even if the court were provided with laptops, many courts do not have the funds or staff to maintain, repair, replace, sanitize laptops. Nor do they have the staff to assist defendants or other litigants with logging on or other technical issues. Providing laptops to parties who are present in the courtroom so that interpreters can appear remotely is not an appropriate solution. The only way to provide true access to justice and procedural fairness/justice to a defendant who is present in the courtroom is to have the interpreter present in the courtroom as well. PLEASE pass this on to the BJA and other task forces working on this issue.

Very informative. Lots of new information.

We don't often have an opportunity to interact with interpreters. It was very helpful to hear directly from them about how courts should handle these matters. Excellent.

General Comments.

This is a topic area that I believe is incredibly important as courts move forward with more diverse communities appearing on a daily basis. Unfortunately, ZOOM fatigue negatively impacted my ability to fully engage with the presentations.

This panel and the remote interpreting seemed to be a bit of an overlap. The remote interpreter seemed a bit off subject/not true to topic by panel. This panel was more informative.

Very well done.

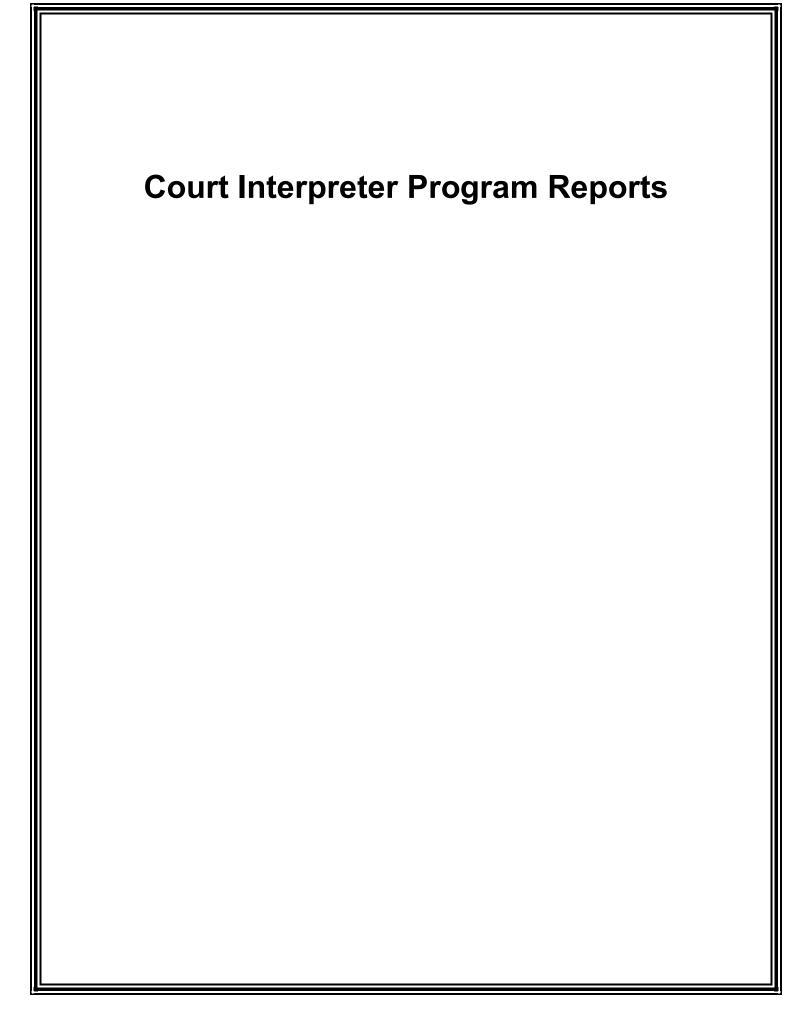
I thought that I was doing an effective job with interpreter matters; however, this vast wealth of knowledge helped me recognize that I have lots of room for improvement. It is my goal to review the materials, once online, to assist in this process and implement suggested action to better our current protocols.

Excellent presenters. Very helpful to hear from interpreters directly.

Great program.

The presenters were knowledgeable. I did find this one kept my interest a bit more, but the repetition of the information was disappointing. I think that in some ways these sessions become a time for the presenters to somewhat express their dissatisfaction with how things are going. There's a fine line that sometimes is missed. I think that the information that is more basic should be delivered differently and outside of these venues. It's a waste of time to hear the same thing over and over. I am not finding that much of the information being imparted is not much different than what have heard in the last 5 years. However, the speakers were engaging, knowledgeable, and conveyed the information quite well and effectively.

Maybe the IC should rethink what they are trying to get across to judges and find newer and more on demand ways to do so.



LANGUAGE ACCESS AND INTERPRETER REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

December 2022 Update

PARTNERS, SOLUTIONS, AND NEXT STEPS



PARTNERS -RURAL AND URBAN COURTS

Total number of courts in the program increased to 99 in FY22

Returning Courts - 57 New Courts - 42



PARTNERS -REIMBURSEMENT

Total dollar amount \$3,142,312 for FY23 Executed contracts - 59 *as of November 22, 2022*



SOLUTIONS -INVOICE AND DATA TOOL

Upgraded version of the application was launched -Most courts started entering data for FY23

"Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this partnership to provide improved interpreter access to the community."

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NEXT STEPS -COMMUNICATION

- Continued support for participating courts
 Email: InterpreterReimbursement@courts.wa.gov
- Technical Issues: AOC Helpdesk



NEXT STEPS -MORE PARTNERS

Outreach to recruit additional courts

- Further expansion of the program

PARTNERS - LIST OF CONTRACTS *Returning Courts From FY21*

1. Benton County District Court

- 2. Benton County Superior Court
- 3. Benton/Franklin Counties Juvenile Court
- 4. Bremerton Municipal Court
- 5. Burlington Municipal Court
- 6. Chehalis Municipal Court
- 7. Chelan County Superior Court
- 8. Clallam County Superior Court
- 9. Clark County District Court
- 10. Columbia County District Court
- 11. Cowlitz County Superior Court
- 12. Des Moines Municipal Court
- 13. Douglas County District Court
- 14. Douglas County Superior Court
- 15. Everett Municipal Court
- 16. Federal Way Municipal Court
- 17. Franklin County District Court
- 18. Franklin County Superior Court
- 19. Garfield County District Court
- 20. Grant County District Court
- 21. Grays Harbor County District Court
- 22. Island County Superior and Juvenile Court
- 23. Jefferson County District Court
- 24. Kent Municipal Court
- 25. Kitsap County District Court
- 26. Kitsap County Superior Court
- 27. Kittitas County District Court/Lower Kittitas
- 28. Kittitas County District Court/Upper
- 29. Kittitas County Superior Court
- 30. Lincoln County District Court
- 31. Lynnwood Municipal Court
- 32. Mason County District Court
- 33. Mason County Superior Court
- 34. Mount Vernon Municipal Court
- 35. Okanogan County Superior Court
- *36. Pasco Municipal Court*
- 37. Pend Oreille County District Court
- 38. Pierce County Superior/District Court
- 39. Port Orchard Municipal Court
- 40. Poulsbo Municipal Court
- 41. Renton Municipal Court
- 42. San Juan County District Court
- 43. San Juan County Superior Court
- 44. SeaTac Municipal Court
- 45. Seattle Municipal Court
- 46. Shelton Municipal Court
- 47. Skagit County District Court
- 48. Skagit County Superior Court
- 49. Snohomish County District Court
- 50. Snohomish County Superior Court
- 51. Stevens County District Court
- 52. Tukwila Municipal Court
- 53. Walla Walla Superior Court Dept. II
- 54. Whitman County District Court
- 55. Yakima County District Court
- 56. Yakima County Superior Court
- 57. Yakima Municipal Court

PARTNERS-LISTOF CONTRACTS

New Courts in FY22- Welcome!

- 1. Airway Heights Municipal Court
- 2. Battle Ground Municipal Court
- 3. Black Diamond Municipal Court
- 4. Bonney Lake Municipal Court
- 5. Bothell Municipal Court
- 6. Brewster Municipal Court
- 7. Buckley Municipal Court
- 8. Centralia Municipal Court
- 9. Cheney Municipal Court
- 10. Clallam County Juvenile Court
- 11. Cowlitz County District Court
- 12. Edmonds Municipal Court
- 13. Ferndale Municipal Court
- 14. Ferry County Superior Court
- 15. Fife Municipal Court
- 16. Fircrest Municipal Court
- 17. Gig Harbor Municipal Court
- 18. Issaquah Municipal Court
- 19. King County District Court all Divisions
- 20. Mercer Island Municipal Court
- 21. Kirkland Municipal Court
- 22. Lake Forest Park Municipal Court
- 23. Lewis County District Court
- 24. Marysville Municipal Court
- 25. Milton Municipal Court
- 26. Monroe Municipal Court
- 27. Olympia Municipal Court
- 28. Omak Municipal Court
- 29. Pend Oreille Superior Court
- 30. Puyallup Municipal Court
- 31. Ruston Municipal Court
- 32. San Juan Juvenile Court
- 33. Spokane County Superior Court
- 34. Spokane Municipal Court
- 35. Stevens County Superior Court
- *36. Tacoma Municipal Court*
- *37. Thurston County District Court*
- 38. Thurston County Superior Court
- *39. Walla Walla County Superior Court*
- 40. Whatcom County District Court
- 41. Whitman County Superior Court
- 42. Zillah Municipal Court