

Minutes	Court Interpreter Committee	
January 28, 2011	Education Room	
Members Present	Member Excused	
Evangelina Burrows	Judge Mary Noonan	
Darryl Hague	Craig Johnson	
Judge Vernice Trease		
Ghulam Hasnain		
Jennifer Storrer		
Deborah Kreek Mendez		
Branden Putnam		
Luther Gaylord		
Dinorah Padro		
Judge Karlin Myers		
Carolyn Smitherman		
Wendell Roberts		
Staff: Tim Shea and Rosa Oakes		
Guests:		
Topic: Approve minutes of January 28, 2011		
Discussion: None		
Motion: Evangelina moved to approve, Jennifer seconded the motion		
Vote: Yes X No Abstain Motion: Passed Failed		
Topic: Review of Application Denial		By Tim Shea
<p>Tim informed the members that an application to become a court interpreter was denied based on the results of a background check (DV in 2007). The applicant appealed the decision and he was given an opportunity to speak before this committee. The applicant stated that he was involved in a domestic violence situation in 2007. He was charged and he assumed that the case had been closed or dismissed. After some discussion and questions on how the applicant pleaded to the charges, it still remained unclear as to how he pleaded and to what charges.</p> <p>After discussion the committee concluded that the committee would comply with the Open and Public Meetings Act.</p>		
Motion: Deborah moved to grant the appeal, Darryl seconded the motion.		
Vote: Yes 5 No 7 Abstain 0 Motion: Passed Failed X		
Topic: Recognition of departing members		By Judge Trease
<p>Judge Myer, Carolyn Smitherman, and Branden Putnam were recognized for their work during their terms as members of the committee. They were presented with framed certificates.</p>		
Topic: Introduction of new member		By Judge Trease
Ghulam Hasnain was welcomed as the new committee member representing approved		

court interpreters.

Topic: Remote Interpreting

By Rosa Oakes

Rosa reported that two remote interpreting systems have been installed in rural courthouses (Vernal and Richfield). Luther gave his view on how the system in Vernal is working based on his interpreting experience. It seems to be working well – though not when using a cell phone.

Topic: Recruiting and Training

By Tim Shea

Tim reported that there are a few languages that have been requested by the court on various occasions and there are no approved interpreters listed on our roster. He asked members to make suggestions on how we can entice speakers of languages such as Dinka, Nuer, and Thai to go through the approval process. Ghulam suggested that we contact various agencies that work with refugee communities to engage interpreters. He also suggested that we consider modifying the approval process to make it easier for people who have native mastery of needed languages to pass the English test.

Topic: Implementation of Policy & Planning
Committee recommendations

By Tim Shea

Tim reported that the Brennan Center responded to the Policy & Planning Committee's report to the Judicial Council. They recommended two things – one of which was a technical change that has already been made. The other recommendation is an observation that the Dept. of Justice is requiring courts to pay interpreter fees without regard for the defendant/respondent's ability to pay. Utah's statute that gives judges the discretion to impose interpreter's fee on the person requiring language services has been in place for several years and yet it is very rarely ordered. Statutes can only be changed by the Legislature and while the Judicial Council can make a recommendation, they have not. Effective April 1, 2011 interpreters will be provided in all court matters.