

Meeting Date	Court Interpreter Committee	
January 25, 2013	Conference Rooms B&C	
Members Present	Member Excused	
Judge Vernice Trease - Chair	Judge Mary Noonan	
Judge Rick Romney	Greg Johnson	
Jennifer Andrus	Maureen Magagna	
Evangelina Burrows	Dinorah Padro	
Robert Engar	Wendell Roberts	
Ghulam Hashain		
Miguel Medina		
Jennifer Storrer		
Staff: Tim Shea, Rosa Oakes		
Guests: Luther Gaylord, Nini Rich, Scott Joyce, Israel Gonzalez		
Topic: Approve minutes of November 16, 2012		
Discussion: Paragraph 4 of the previous meetings minutes was changed.		
Motion: Judge Romney moved to pass the minutes, as changed. Jennifer Storrer seconded the motion.		
Vote: Yes	Motion: Passed	
Topic: Staff Court Interpreters		By Tim Shea
<p>Tim Shea stated he recently completed a survey with other states to obtain information on wages for court interpreters. He found the median wage and the average wage were within approximately \$1.00 of each other.</p> <p>The Judicial Council approved the \$21.90 per hour, plus regular benefits for employees. Mr. Shea discussed the wages may seem lower but taking benefits into account will help that. The pilot program will include an annual budget of \$63,000. Mr. Shea will be evaluating other districts to get an idea of what is needed.</p> <p>A member discussed interpreters being assigned to a specific court. Evangelia Burrows explained that it will most likely not be a staff interpreter being sent to other districts. A gentleman explained that he recently waited for a Spanish interpreter in court for 45 minutes. Mr. Shea explained that sometimes, though not often, all interpreters will be spoken for. Ms. Burrows explained the process of locating an interpreter.</p> <p>A member questioned having a staff interpreter in the Second and Fourth Districts. Mr. Shea stated the Fourth has not requested a staff interpreter. As for the Second, Mr. Shea stated that there is some difficulty in having a staff interpreter available when there are multiple locations throughout the county.</p> <p>Mr. Shea listed the current staff interpreters. He further stated the vacancy for the fourth interpreter has been posted.</p>		

Topic: On-going Strategic Planning Process

By Tim Shea / Nini Rich

Nini Rich stated the plan will cover the next two to three years. Ms. Rich explained the various plans including expanding languages, education, and mentoring. She further discussed issues on when a staff interpreter is needed over an employee who speaks the language.

Ghulam Hasnain discussed the variety of languages in Israel along with the cultural differences.

The committee had a brief discussion on cultural competency. They also discussed training for judges.

Mr. Shea stated the last strategic plan was completed six years ago. He stated the plan was sound but the new plan would need to adjust to today's technology.

The committee discussed changing the pass rate on the interpreter testing from 70% to 80% to match what other states are currently doing.

They further discussed potential issues with e-filing. Mr. Shea stated he will discuss this further to see if one possibility might be to tag the court interpreters when a document is filed electronically. Mr. Shea noted that the juvenile court does not have a start date for implementing e-filing.

The committee discussed training court staff and attorneys on what the interpreters need to make them more efficient. Mr. Shea stated that Tom Langhorne and the education department will be working on implementing some of the necessary training with the clerks program.

Ms. Rich noted that several members of the committee felt the most important goal was cultural sensitivity, followed by recruit, and then mentoring.

Mr. Shea will present the approved plan to the Judicial Council. Ms. Rich was thanked for her time.

Topic: New Committee Member

By Tim Shea

Mr. Shea discussed potential new members to the committee. Mr. Shea explained that he is trying to recruit either a prosecutor and/or a juvenile court judge to the committee. The committee discussed Mr. Engar or Paul Boyden as new members.

Mr. Shea stated the importance of attending each meeting.

Topic: Meeting adjourned

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m. The next scheduled meeting is March 22, 2013.