

COURT INTERPRETERS ADVISORY PANEL

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

Thursday March 30, 2023 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. Virtual

Advisory Body Members Present:

Hon. Judge Brian L. McCabe (Chair), Mr. Hector Gonzalez, Jr. (Vice-Chair), Mr. Hany Farag, Mr. Tam "Tyler" T. Nguyen, Ms. Iris Van Hemert, Hon. Maurice Sanchez, Ms. Angie Birchfield, Mr. Mark Crossley, Ms. Amelia Loera, Ms.

Jennifer De La Cruz, Ms. Shirley Luo, Hon. Michael P. Pulos

Advisory Body

Ms. Carol M. Palacio, Mr. Chris Ruhl, Ms. Luisa McEwen

Members Absent:

Others Present: Mr. Douglas Denton, Ms. Claudia Ortega, Ms. Cynthia Miranda, Mr. Juan

Palomares, Mx. Kaytlin Hancock

OPEN MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call

The chair called the meeting to order at 12:22 p.m. and Mx. Hancock took roll call.

Approval of Minutes

The advisory body reviewed and unanimously approved the minutes of the January 18, 2023, Court Interpreters Advisory Panel meeting. The committee also received one public comment that was reviewed by members prior to the meeting.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 1-2)

Item 1

Requirements for New American Sign Language (ASL) Court Interpreters (Action Required)

CIAP reviewed its draft proposal with recommendations to circulate for public comment, including potential recognition of the Texas Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services (DHHS) Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI) as a recognized testing entity for ASL court interpreter certification.

Presenters:

Mr. Douglas G. Denton, Principal Manager, Language Access Services Program

Ms. Cynthia Miranda, Senior Analyst, Court Interpreters Program (CIP)

Discussion: The committee received further information about the process to seek public comment on its proposal and the next steps for the report to be considered by the Judicial

Council. Members of the committee asked for clarification on the structure of the Texas BEI as well as how many interpreters are currently certified in the state of Texas. Other questions raised pertained to the compliance cycles for future ASL interpreters who are certified in Texas but enroll with the Judicial Council, as well as how CIP would promote the Texas credentialed interpreters who would be newly credentialed in the state of California. Committee members also raised questions concerning which state (California or Texas) would be responsible for addressing complaints against any future interpreter who is credentialed in California because he/she has passed the Texas BEI.

Action: The committee unanimously voted in favor of circulating the draft report and its recommendations for public comment for a 6-week period.

Item 2

Court Interpreter Testing (Information Only)

CIAP members received a presentation on court interpreter testing in 2022, as well as a preview of what is anticipated in 2023.

Presenter:

Mr. Juan Palomares, Analyst, CIP

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on 8/3/2023.