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News on California Courts' Online Self-Help Center

Happy New Year!!! We are taking advantage of this first newsletter of 2014 to highlight some features of the [California Online Self-Help Center](#) and the Judicial Council site generally that you may not be aware of – resources for limited-English speakers.

First, as you may all know, every single page of the [California Online Self-Help Center](#) has a Spanish mirror page, which can be accessed by clicking on the small flag icon (labeled “Spanish”) on the right hand corner of every page. You can then switch back to the English page by clicking the flag again. We also have some resources in languages beyond Spanish available at <http://courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-languages.htm>. In resource-heavy sections, where possible, we link to resources in other languages as well as English, particularly if the websites we link to have versions or at least materials in other languages.

Translated forms:

- A large number of family law forms have been translated to Spanish, in particular critical forms like petitions, request for order, key supporting declarations, and financial forms.
- You can find the Spanish translations on the Forms pages for any of the topics you are looking for in the Spanish variant of the page (e.g. under <http://courts.ca.gov/1192.htm?rdeLocaleAttr=es>, you will see links to the Spanish version of the form in the form tables wherever one exists.). The translations, whenever available, are also linked to from the step-by-step guides that indicate forms to be used at different stages in a case.
- Most of the domestic violence forms and information sheets have been translated to Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese and Korean. In addition, the audio versions of the information sheets are available in English and in Spanish. For the English audio, see <http://courts.ca.gov/1271.htm> and for Spanish, see the mirror page at <http://courts.ca.gov/1271.htm?rdeLocaleAttr=es>.
- The information sheets on child custody mediation and child custody recommending counseling, [FL-313-INFO](#) and [FL-314-INFO](#) are available in Spanish, Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese.
 - For FL-313-INFO, click on the language you are looking for: [Spanish](#), [Chinese](#), [Korean](#), and [Vietnamese](#).
 - For FL-314-INFO, click on the language you are looking for: [Spanish](#), [Chinese](#), [Korean](#), and [Vietnamese](#).
- Fee waiver forms and information forms have been translated to Spanish. Find them all together at <http://courts.ca.gov/forms.htm?filter=FW>.
- Outside of the self-help website, you always find the translated forms at <http://courts.ca.gov/forms.htm>. Select a category of forms and you will see any translated forms listed right after the corresponding English form. You can identify the translated forms (and the language they are translated to) by the letter following the form number. For example, an “S” after the form number indicates that is the Spanish version of the form; similarly, a “K” means that is the Korean version; a “C” is the Chinese version; and a “V” is the Vietnamese version.

Please, let us know of any forms that you would like us to prioritize for translation because of their heavy use or particular criticality. Resources are limited so it is likely we would prioritize translation to Spanish only, for now. But do indicate if other languages are particularly necessary.

News on the Equal Access Project

Thank you to all of you who provided us information regarding which materials from your court to take down and which ones needed updating, and for sending all the new materials your centers have produced. We are still conducting a comprehensive clean up of outdated materials and organizing all the new material you have provided us. We hope to soon start uploading the new or updated materials you have provided. We are also still working on the painstaking process of reorganizing the site to improve its usability and searchability. Some sections, particularly the more administrative ones like the [Program Management](#) page have been

reorganized already, and we have eliminated an extra step in trying to reach the home page for Equal Access. We will be providing more specific updates to you as we make more significant progress in this area. As always, if you have feedback you have not yet shared with us, please do so.

Finally, if there are any materials you would like assistance in developing or translating, or if you want to find out what other courts have done and cannot find the information on these sites, please feel free to contact bonnie.hough@jud.ca.gov.