



Supreme Court of Wisconsin

DIRECTOR OF STATE COURTS

P.O. BOX 1688

MADISON, WISCONSIN 53701-1688

J. Denis Moran
Director of State Courts

16 East State Capitol
Telephone 608-266-6828
Fax 608-267-0980

Tom Sheehan
Court Information Officer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Carmel Capati
Office of Court Operations
(608) 266-8635

Court interpreter training planned for Milwaukee

Madison, Wis. (Feb. 28, 2017) – The Director of State Courts Office is accepting applications for interpreter training to be held in Milwaukee on Saturday, March 25 and Sunday, March 26 at the Student Union on the UW-Milwaukee campus.

While Spanish interpreters are most often requested by the courts, increased efforts are being made to recruit qualified interpreters for many other languages, such as Arabic, Burmese, Cantonese, Mandarin, French, Hmong, Karen, Lao, Punjabi, and Vietnamese. In 2016, the courts used interpreters in more than 56 different languages. Limited scholarships may be available for some non-Spanish languages.

This orientation is intended as an introduction to the complexities of court interpreting, rather than as an in-depth training. Sessions are for individuals who are interested in learning the fundamentals of court interpreting and are designed to give participants an overview of the needs and expectations of the court with emphasis on ethical conduct, legal terminology, court procedure, and basic legal interpreting skills. Small group practice exercises will help to develop interpreting skills. Faculty includes judges and certified court interpreters. A \$195 fee covers the sessions, lunch, and all training materials. Each session will run 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on two consecutive days. The application deadline is Friday, March 10.

Applications are also sought from people already interpreting in a legal or administrative hearing setting and in other fields, such as healthcare and education, who want to broaden their experience. Bilingual advocates who wish to learn more about the court interpreting profession are also encouraged to apply. Participants who complete orientation, achieve minimal testing levels, and meet other requirements will be placed on a public roster of interpreters used by courts, law enforcement agencies, attorneys, and law-related agencies.

This training is part of the Director of State Courts Office Interpreter Program, which aims to improve interpretation in the courts. For more information on these training sessions, and to register, visit the court system website at

www.wicourts.gov/services/interpreter/orientation.htm

For more information contact Carmel Capati, Office of Court Operations at carmel.capati@wicourts.gov or (608) 266-8635.

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