MISSOURI FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURT INTERPRETER PROGRAM

To be added to the mailing list for notification of interpreter certification events scheduled for Missouri or to sign up for an event, please contact: Office of State Courts Administrator, Access to Justice Program, 573/751-4377, or email phyllis.launius@courts.mo.gov

For more information about court interpreting and this process in general, go to the National Center for State Courts website: **www.ncsconline.org**

Court interpreting is specialized and highly demanding, requiring skills that few bilingual individuals possess. *Paraphrasing and summarizing are not acceptable.* **Canon 1 of the CODE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR COURT INTERPRETERS states: "Accuracy & Completeness"** *Interpreters shall render a complete and accurate interpretation or sight translation, without altering, omitting, or adding anything to what is stated or written, and without explanation."*

The Court Interpreter Certification Program provides basic information for interpreters about the profession, the code of professional responsibility, and tests proficiency of sight translation, simultaneous and consecutive interpreting. Candidates must possess a native-like mastery of ***both*** English and the second language. Everyone working as an interpreter in court is encouraged to participate.

The three phases of the program must be completed in this order to obtain certification:

- **Phase I:** Orientation
- **Phase II:** Passing a written test with 80% or greater.
- **Phase III:** Passing each of the 3 parts of the oral proficiency exam with 70% or greater.

1. ORIENTATION:

A mandatory, introductory workshop that covers the interpreter's role, the modes of interpreting used in court, legal terminology & court protocol, and professional ethics.

Missouri residents pay $150.00. Out of state residents pay $225.00 Travel expenses, lodging and meals are the responsibility of the candidate.

DATES OFFERED
(Jefferson City, MO)
English-Spanish Interpreters Only
July 22 & 23, 2006

All Language Combinations
February 3 & 4, 2007

OPTIONAL Spanish Interpreting Skills Building Workshop:

After completing the orientation, English-Spanish candidates may take this advanced 2-day workshop. Missouri residents pay $100.00 for the workshop. Out of state residents pay $150.00

DATES OFFERED (Jefferson City, MO)
April 20 & 21, 2007

2. WRITTEN TEST:

After completing the orientation, candidates may take the written test. The 3-hour test covers English proficiency, legal terms, court protocol, ethical situations and translation. The written test must be passed with 80% or greater before a candidate can take the oral exam. The test is rated offsite so test scores are not known for several weeks. Missouri residents pay $50.00. Out of state residents pay $100.00

DATES OFFERED
(Jefferson City, MO)
Dec. 2, 2006
June 2, 2007

3. ORAL PROFICIENCY EXAM:

Candidates who pass the written test may take the 1-hour oral exam testing their proficiency in sight translation, consecutive and simultaneous interpreting. Oral exams are currently available in Arabic, Cantonese, Haitian Creole, Hmong, Korean, Laotian, Mandarin, Portuguese, Russian, Serbian, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Each part of this exam must be passed with 70% or greater for a candidate to receive certification. Missouri residents pay $150.00 for the complete test. Out of state residents pay $300.00.

DATES OFFERED
(Jefferson City, MO)
December 2 & 3, 2006
June 2 & 3, 2007

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