

Wisconsin Court Interpreter Program (CIP) Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2014

CIP News

SJI Grant

In 2014, the CIP received a State Justice Institute (SJI) grant through the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) to assess court operations, language usage, attitudes and technology capabilities in Wisconsin courts related to interpreting services. A local working group along with NCSC consultants developed a survey that was completed by 64 out of 72 courts around the state. Consultants analyzed the results of the survey, conducted site visits in Dane, Dodge, Richland, Waukesha, Walworth counties; and wrote a final report that is posted on the court's website. Survey results showed considerable interest in remote interpreting with 52 counties reporting a willingness to expand the delivery of services using technology. Of the 52 counties, 25% had no experience using remote interpreting but were eager to explore, while 75% of the counties already had experience using audio and/or video technology. To read the full report, see <http://www.wicourts.gov/services/interpreter/news.htm>

Budget Proposals

Every biennium the Supreme Court submits a budget request to the legislature and the governor for their consideration. For 2015-17, the budget includes two interpreter-related proposals. The first request which is supported by the survey findings of the SJI grant proposes establishing a pilot project in three counties in which the state would take over all interpreter scheduling using onsite and remote audio and video interpreting services. The proposal would involve hiring one scheduler and one half-time Spanish interpreter. It would also entail entering into a contract with a sign language agency to provide interpreting services. The pilot counties have yet to be identified; however the ideal county should have useable video conferencing equipment and moderate interpreter use. The second proposal seeks funding for a change in the reimbursement format from hourly to a half-day and full-day formula. Both proposals are awaiting action from the legislature and governor.

Brown Bag Lunches

Several brown bag lunches were held in Madison, Milwaukee and Appleton. These informal gatherings were open to interpreters of all languages. While it was an opportunity to discuss CIP initiatives, it was also an opportunity to hear about concerns from interpreters working in the field. Issues discussed were affordability of continuing education, team interpreting, use of unqualified interpreters, oral exam pass rates, interpreter compensation, and attorneys' misunderstanding of the interpreter's role. These brown bags will continue being offered in 2015.



CE Compliance Period Begins Jan 1

The two-year continuing education (CE) compliance period for certified and other qualified spoken language interpreters listed on the roster will commence on Jan. 1, 2015. Interpreters who

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obtained certification or whose roster activation date falls between Jan. 1, 2004 and Dec. 31, 2014 will be required to report CE credits by April 1, 2017. All forms, including those related to CE can be found here <http://www.wicourts.gov/services/interpreter/forms.htm> For answers to more questions on CE, see inside story on page 3.

2015 Schedule of Training and Testing

In 2015, the CIP will offer orientation training and written test in two locations instead of three. The 2015 sites will be in Milwaukee (March 21-22) and Wisconsin Rapids (June 20-21). The oral exam will be offered in Madison three times in 2015.

Related Links

National Association of
Judiciary Interpreters and
Translators (NAJIT)
www.najit.org

American Translators
Association (ATA)
www.atanet.org

Registry of Interpreters
for the Deaf (RID)
www.rid.org

Midwest Association of
Interpreters & Translators
(MATI)
www.matiata.org

Upper Midwest
Translators & Interpreters
Association (UMTIA)
www.umatia.cloverpad.org

Wisconsin RID
www.wisrid.org

InterpretAmerica
www.interpretamerica.net

California Federation of
Interpreters
www.calinterpreters.org

Cross Cultural
Communications
www.cultureandlanguage.net

Critical Link
www.criticallink.org

European Legal
Interpreters & Translators
Association
www.eulita.eu

Online Interpreter Opportunities

de la Mora Interpreter
Training
www.interpreter-training.com/index.html

Interpreter Education
Online
www.site.interpretereducationonline.com/

New Mexico Center for
Language Access
(NMCLA)
www.nmcenterforlanguageaccess.org/

Translated Court Forms Available

Due to legislative changes,
many of Wisconsin's
injunction and TRO court
forms that had been
translated into Spanish and
Hmong were removed from
the website for updating.

All forms have been
completed and are now
posted here:
http://www.wicourts.gov/forms1/circuit/ccform.jsp?FormName=&FormNumber=&Language=es&beg_date=&end_date=&SttuteCite=&Format=&Category

In total, 38 forms are
available in Spanish and
13 forms are available in
Hmong. New translated
documents include court
forms used during
firearms surrender
proceedings.



Website Provides Interpreter Data

A newly launched
website provides current

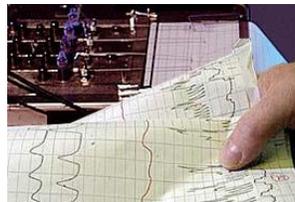
data on the court
interpreting profession
Developed by Robert Joe
Lee, former manager of
the Court Interpreter
Program for the state of
New Jersey, it offers a
national database on
interpreter compensation
established from the
results of a national
survey conducted in 2013.
You can find the link at
this site:

<http://www.courtinterpret.org/research.com/>

Judge Rules Forcing Court Translators to Take a Polygraph Test is Illegal

A federal judge found that
when a translation company
forced its employees to take
lie-detector tests it violated
federal law. U.S. District
Judge Jeffrey Miller
concluded that Metropolitan
Interpreters and Translators,
Inc. was liable for requiring 9
translators in San Diego to
take what they described as
highly invasive polygraph
tests in order keep their jobs
as contractors with the Drug
Enforcement Agency (DEA).
The ruling paves the way for
a trial in which a jury will
determine how much the
company will have to pay in
damages. The decision,
which was issued Oct. 24,
comes after the DEA agreed
to pay 14 plaintiffs a total of
\$500,000 to settle the lawsuit.
The contract employees
translated Spanish
conversations collected
during court-authorized
wiretapping of the DEA's

criminal suspects.
Metropolitan fired the
employees after they failed or
refused to take the polygraph
tests.



The Employee Polygraph
Protection Act of 1988 banned
most private employers from
polygraphing their workers
because of questions about the
technique's reliability and
after accounts of employer
abuses. Before being
polygraphed, the translators
had already undergone credit
checks, screening interviews
and criminal background
checks. In January 2011, the
DEA began demanding the
company send its translators
to complete lie-detector tests,
claiming there had been a
"leak" of wiretap information.

As a result, it polygraphed
about 100 translators from
the company. DEA
polygraphers asked the
translators very personal
about their lives, including
about their sexual practices
and crimes such as
bestiality, court documents
said. Twelve of the
plaintiffs were told they'd
failed their tests and two
refused to be polygraphed.
The company then told
them they weren't
permitted to work for the
DEA and laid them off.
Sources say no translator
was found culpable in the
leak and none of the 14
who ultimately sued was
ever implicated. To read
the full story, see here:
http://www.mcclatchydc.com/2014/10/31/245357_forcing-court-translators-to-take.html?rh=1#storylink=copy

Meet Jacqueline Jugenheimer: Certified German Interpreter



My love of languages started with my first English class in Germany. I spent a lot of time listening to the accent of the British English speakers on my language records (!) in the late 1970s. In 1982, I participated in an exchange program with a high school in a Chicago suburb and fell in love with America. As a

consequence, I first wanted to become an English and Biology teacher, later a translator and interpreter with a legal focus, and finally a lawyer. I graduated from law school in Germany, where I also studied French and British law and legal language. While in law school, I was an exchange student at a small liberal arts college in Washington State and decided that I wanted to study public policy in the US rather than continue the path to becoming an attorney in Germany after law school. With my public policy degree, I first worked for Wisconsin state government.

After the birth of our first son, I started my own translation and interpreting business. In lieu of a T&I degree, I attended many continuing education sessions both in Germany and the US. Since German is considered a “rare” language for interpretation, it was difficult finding a qualified rater for my written and oral exams on my path to becoming a certified court interpreter in 2007. One of my favorite experiences as a translator was meeting a friend from law school during an interpreting assignment for a political delegation from

Wisconsin’s German partner state of Hesse, whom I had not seen in 20 years. My most difficult assignment was interpreting for a victim in an alleged rape case. I enjoy the variety of assignments and topics I deal with on a regular basis. I went to law school instead of becoming a translator and interpreter after high school because I did not want to be “just” a conduit. Little did I know at the time being a translator and interpreter is much more complex and difficult than being a conduit. I am glad I changed my mind on the profession.

MATI Webinar Series

The Midwest Association of Translation and Interpretation (MATI) has announced a new webinar series for 2015 entitled Research & Practice in Legal Interpretation and Translation. The first webinar “Anatomy of a Business Transaction” will be presented on Weds., January 21 at 6 pm CST by Hadassah Weiner, PhD. A subsequent webinar entitled “Criminal Terminology” will be offered on March 19 at 6 pm CST by Emily Ortiz Alfonso. The cost to register for these events is \$20 for MATI members and \$30 for non-MATI members. For more details and to sign up, see <http://www.matiata.org/event-1831972>. All MATI webinars have been approved by the CIP for 1 CE credit each.

FAQs on CE

Why is CE being required?

Most professions require some form of continuing education to ensure practitioners’ knowledge and training within the field is current. Legal interpreting should be no exception. The law changes, as languages do so it is vital for interpreters to be up to date on recent trends in order to better perform their jobs.



Who are preapproved sponsors of CE?

The CIP maintains a list of entities that sponsor activities preapproved for CE credit, e.g. MATI, NAJIT, ATA. An interpreter can be assured an event offered by a listed

sponsor automatically qualifies as CE and requires no preapproval. The list can be found here: <http://www.wicourts.gov/services/interpreter/contedu.htm>

What if I want to take a class from a sponsor that is not listed?

Complete the CE Approval Request Form (Participant) and submit it to the CIP at least 30 days in advance of the event with the required documentation.

If I host an event can I request it qualify as CE?

Sponsors of CE can request approval of an event being offered by submitting the CE Approval Request Form (Provider) to the CIP at least 30 days in advance of the event along with required documentation.

Newsletters, Blogs, & Other Online Pubs

Proteus
www.najit.org/publications/proteus.php
Newsletter about judiciary interpreters and translators

Intersect: A Newsletter about Language, Culture and Interpreting
www.cultureandlanguage.net
Newsletter on community interpreting and cultural competence

The Chronicle
www.atanet.org/chronicle
Published 11 times a year and is included in annual membership fees.

The Professional Interpreter
<http://theprofessionalinterpreter.com/>
An online interactive magazine devoted to the professional interpreter

The Interpreter Diaries
www.theinterpreterdiaries.com
Blog that takes readers through different phases of an interpreter’s life and work

Translation and Interpretation in America
www.translationandinterpretationinamerica.blogspot.com/es/
Blog on teaching interpretation and translation in America

Contact:

Court Interpreter
Program
Office of Court
Operations
110 East Main St. #410
Madison, WI 53703
608.266.8635

Carmel A. Capati, Manager
carmel.capati@wicourts.gov

2015 Schedule of Testing
and Training is now posted.

<http://www.wicourts.gov/services/interpreter/certification.htm>

Interpreters are encouraged to submit relevant material for the newsletter which will be distributed twice a year in the Spring and Fall.

Members of the Committee to Improve Interpreting and Translation in the WI Courts

Patrick Brummond
Hon. John Damon, Chair
Fayme Filipiak
Debra Gorra-Barash
Hon. Barbara Key Hart
Hon. Dan Koval
Hon. Mike Moran
Sheila Reiff
Hon. Stephanie Rothstein
Comm. Ann Sayles
Jacqueline Thachenkary

The committee serves the Director of State Courts office by setting policy and procedural guidance on interpreting and translation issues throughout the Wisconsin court system. Meetings are held in the Spring and the Fall in Madison.

Spring 2015 Meeting

Fri, April 17, 2014
10:00 am-2:30 pm
110 E Main Street
Madison WI 53703

Institutions of Higher Learning

Community Interpreting Certificate Program

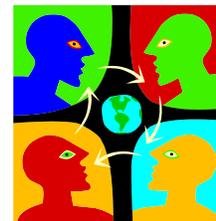
Viterbo University, La Crosse, WI

www.viterbo.edu/interpret/

Online Graduate Program in Translation

UWM, Milwaukee, WI

www4.uwm.edu/letsci/translation/



2015 Calendar of Get-Togethers & Conferences (Big & Small; Near & Far)

Jan 29 | Translators & Translations Open Mic | Lakeside St Coffee House | Madison, WI

Mar 22-25 | think! Interpreting 2015/GALA Language of Business Conference | Seville, Spain

Apr 24-26 | International Medical Interpreters Association Annual Conference | Washington, DC

May 15-17 | NAJIT Annual Conference | Atlanta, GA

Jun 5-6 | National Council on Interpreting in Health Care Annual Membership Meeting | Minneapolis, MN

Jun 12-14 | InterpretAmerica Summit 5 | Monterey, CA

Aug 8-12 | Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) | New Orleans, LA

Nov 4-7 | ATA Annual Conference | Miami, FL

Spotlight on Resources

“Interpreters’ Anatomy of a Civil Lawsuit” by Ramon M. del Villar (Nov 2013) This bilingual English/Spanish book lays the foundation for steps followed in a traditional civil lawsuit. Readers will learn more about the “terms of art” used in both languages. Understanding the procedural rules that apply to civil litigation will better prepare court interpreters to perform their jobs.

“Police Investigative Interviews and Interpreting: Context, Challenges and Strategies” by Sedat Mulayim, Miranda Lai, and Caroline Norma (Sept 2014) This book explores the multi-faceted dynamics of conducting investigative interviews via interpreters and examines current investigative interviewing paradigms. It offers strategies

to help interpreters and law enforcement officers and provides examples of interpreted interview excerpts to enable understanding.

“The Legal Environment of Translation” by Guillermo Cabanellas (Jan 2014) Translation is subject to legal rules that are complex and international. This book offers a broad overview of the legal rules applicable to different aspects of translation. It draws on the provisions of the main legal systems of the world and the relevant international agreements pertaining to this area. The book also examines the legal problems they pose, their practical implications and some possible solutions.

A few FREE ones...

InterpreTIPS is a series of short videos posted every

other week by Marjorie Bancroft and Katharine Allen who answer questions about interpreting such as “is consecutive mode acceptable” or “how do you slow down an out-of-control speaker.”

<http://www.thecommunityinterpreter.com/interpreters.html>

International Bridges to Justice (IBJ) has compiled a downloadable glossary of legal terms in three languages (English-French-Spanish) IBJ is a collaboration of attorneys, academics and business leaders based in Geneva, Switzerland dedicated to protecting legal rights of citizens in developing countries.

http://defensewiki.ibj.org/images/b/b4/Glossary_EN_FR_ES.pdf