Iowa Interpreters Forum

Thursday July 1, 2004
8:30 to 4:00 pm
Pastoral Center (Diocese of Des Moines)
601 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa

With the passage of HF2441: the Iowa Interpreter's Bill the Iowa Division of Latino Affairs began working to develop a "mechanism for establishing the qualification" of interpreters by reaching out to all affected constituencies. We feel that process must be transparent, equitable, and open and the result must be a system that improves the quality of interpretation but is still cost-effective for providers, interpreters and clients. The first step in this process is the Iowa Interpreters Forum.

The goal of the Interpreters forum is:

- to educate constituencies on the legal, professional, and financial issues related to the creation of qualification standards for interpreters
- to guide the Administrative Rule making process by eliciting input from as many interested parties as possible
- to assist in the identification of individuals and organization whom will serve on a variety of interpreter related taskforces

Who should attend?

All Iowa citizens or visitors living in Iowa are welcome to attend. The Iowa Division of Latino Affairs (IDLA) especially encourages political leaders, government officials, social service providers, health care professionals, community organizations, interpreters, law enforcement professionals, business leaders, educational institutions, and individuals affected by interpretation services to attend.

Cost

The cost to attend the forum is free, however, a donation of $10.00 will be requested to recover costs associated with the forum (i.e.: lunch, coffee and supplies).

Iowa Division of Latino Affairs, Iowa Department of Human Rights, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, IA 50319 or fax to 515-242-6119

For more information, please, contact:

John-Paul Chaisson-Cardenas at 515-281-4070 or john.chaisson@iowa.gov

Agenda:

Thursday July 1st

8:00 to 9:00	Registration
9:00 to 9:15	Opening
9:15 to 9:30	Welcome by Lieutenant Governor (invited)
9:30 to 10:30	Presentation by **Bharathi Venkatraman** is attorney-advisor with the Coordination and Review Section of the Civil Rights Division.
10:30 to 10:45	Break
10:45 to 12:00	Panel presentation on the need of interpretation standards in Iowa: • Rep George Eichhorn (invited) • Michael J. Piper, President, Iowa Interpreters and Translators Association • Kathryn Baumann-Reese, Administrator Deaf Services, Commission • Carlos Rios, Immigrant Rights Network • Salome Raheim, Director, UI School of Social Work (moderator) • Tom Carney, Director, Office of Communications & Public Health Education, Iowa Department of Public Health • Isabel Framer is an Oregon and Tennessee State Court Certified Judiciary Interpreter
12:00 to 12:45	Lunch
12:45 to 1:30	Iowa Supreme Court: John Goerdt, Judicial Planner, Ongoing Efforts by Iowa Courts to serve Limited English Proficient Clients
1:30 to 2:00	Action Plan for he Development of an Interpreter's Qualification Process in Iowa – John-Paul Chaisson-Cardenas, Administrator of the Iowa Division of Latino Affairs
2:00 to 4:00	Constituency input collecting process

Friday July 2nd Interpreters Workshop 9:00 to 12:00

INTERPRETER'S AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

The workshop "Interpreters and Their Impact on the Criminal Justice System: Working with Interpreters," will be presented by Isabel Framer, Oregon and Tennessee State Certified Judiciary Interpreter. The workshop features Ms. Framer's presentation "Skills, Standards, Qualifications and Certification of Judiciary Interpreters." The workshop includes real-life case analyses with interactive applications, and instructive video materials. The workshop highlights case law and is conducted in a thought-provoking interactive manner.

Featured Presenters:

Bharathi Venkatraman is attorney-advisor with the Coordination and Review Section of the Civil Rights Division. She recently joined COR after a spending many years as a federal prosecutor and Special Counsel for Trafficking in Persons at the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division, where she prosecuted all manner of criminal civil rights abuses, including hate crimes and racial violence, and religious violence cases. The bulk of her time, however, was spent prosecuting human trafficking cases. Her achievements include functioning as one of the two lead prosecutors in U.S. v. Lakireddy, a high-profile human trafficking prosecution of the largest and wealthiest landowner in Berkeley, CA, for his role in trafficking numerous individuals, including juvenile sex victims, into the United States from India. Bharathi has lectured extensively on issues of human trafficking, investigative practices, interviewing techniques and use of interpreters, to United States law enforcement officials from the FBI, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (former INS), Assistant United States Attorneys, and local prosecutors and police officials from the NYPD and other agencies. She also travels abroad to train foreign government officials, and just returned in February from a trip to India with the Assistant Attorney General, where she was the primary U.S. official responsible for training Indian police, prosecutors and NGOs on human trafficking investigations, use of interpreters and treatment of victims. She routinely meets with foreign officials visiting the U.S. who are interested in learning about U.S. practices to combat trafficking, organized crime and related activity. She regularly serves as a faculty member at the National Advocacy Center, the official Department of Justice training facility, where she most recently taught a federal training course on use of interpreters in criminal investigations. The audience was comprised of Assistant United States Attorneys, FBI agents, and Immigration agents. Finally, Bharathi is the author of various human rights and trafficking-related articles, and, most recently, a chapter in a textbook focusing on child exploitation. Bharathi has also prosecuted domestic violence and sex offense cases as a Special Assistant United States Attorney in the District of Columbia. She was selected for service at the U.S. Department of Justice in 1996

under the Attorney General's Honor Program, and initially served at the Executive Office for Immigration Review before moving to the Civil Rights Division. As a result of the broad range of experience she has acquired in working with LEP populations in human trafficking cases, Bharathi, who is recently married, is changing her focus to work on broader immigrants' rights initiatives involving Limited English Proficient individuals. Her interest in LEP stems also from the fact that her family has faced limited English proficiency issues. She now works to ensure better provision of court, 911 and police services to limited English proficient individuals, including victims of trafficking, domestic violence, immigration violations and other crimes.

Friday Workshop

Isabel Framer is an Oregon and Tennessee State Court Certified Judiciary Interpreter living in Copley, Ohio. She served on the Interpreter Services Subcommittee of the Supreme Court of Ohio's Racial Fairness Implementation Task Force and on the Board for the Racial Fairness Report Project, Cleveland Ohio. She currently serves on the Summit County Sheriff's and City of Loraine Police Dept. LEP Model Program for Law Enforcement, on the Board for The National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators and is President of Community and Court Interpreters of the Ohio Valley. Isabel devotes much of her time in advocating for standards and certification of judiciary interpreters and translators. She has testified as an expert in court proceedings regarding interpreter standards and has served as an expert consultant to judges, defense and prosecuting attorneys and law enforcement. She presents CLE courses thru the Ohio Judicial College and Bar Associations, including training of law enforcement regarding legal issues, ethics, role and professional responsibilities of the interpreter. She also presents workshops on ethics and professional responsibilities to interpreters and court personnel. Isabel is the author of Through the Eyes of an Interpreter and Suggested Guide for Interpreted Proceedings that were published by The Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy's legal journal "The Advocate" and is author of Interpreters and Their Impact on the Criminal Justice System: The Alejandro Ramirez Case, that was published in the Proteus. In 1997 The Summit County Sheriff's Office, awarded Isabel Framer a certificate of appreciation for demonstrating devotion and professionalism in her work. On May 16, 2001 she was commissioned a Kentucky Colonel by the Governor of Kentucky for being instrumental in a statewide recognition for creating changes on judiciary interpreting and translating services for the state of Kentucky.