

Interpreter's Digest

Winter 2012

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MODIFICATIONS TO SUPREME COURT RULES 41 AND 42

Effective July 1, 2012, the Tennessee Supreme Court's modifications to Rules 41 and 42 will become effective.

You can find the Petition to modify the Rules, the filed comments and the Court's order concerning the amendments at:

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/supreme_court_order_soliciting_comments_supreme_court_rules_41_and_42.pdf

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/comments_-_supreme_court_rules_41_and_42_0.pdf

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/sc_order_amending_sc_rules_41_and_42.pdf

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Winter

Newly Credentialed Interpreters



The Tennessee Court Interpreter Program is pleased to announce our newly certified Spanish interpreter: Pablo Davis.

We have newly registered Spanish interpreters: Berenice Chavarria, Felix Dominguez, and Olga Drucker.

The newly registered German interpreter is Cristina Lourido.

Congratulations to all!

Continuing Education Requirements and Opportunities

As you know, a registered or certified interpreter must have continuing education requirements met prior to renewal of their credentials. These requirements include:

- A minimum of 12 of the 18 hours must consist of foreign language or interpreting skills training.
- A maximum of 6 hours of online course instruction can be counted towards meeting the 12-hour foreign language/interpreting skills requirement.
- A maximum of 3 hours of online course instruction can be counted towards general credit.

Upcoming trainings are posted on our webpage as received by providers at:

<http://www.tncourts.gov/geninfo/Programs/Interpreters/Interpreters3b.htm>

If you wish to attend programs not listed on the web page, please get CEU approval from the AOC before attending!

Supreme Court Rule Changes



Effective July 1, 2012, the Tennessee Supreme Court modified Supreme Court Rules 41 and 42. A petition had been filed by the Access to Justice Commission to modify Rule 41 to include an aspirational pro bono goal for interpreters (note that attorneys have this aspirational goal also), and to modify Rule 42 to provide that the trial court is responsible for arranging for an interpreter and the efforts to find a credentialed interpreter should be in writing. The Court asked for comments (the petition and notification that comments were being requested was sent to all registered and certified interpreters) on these proposed changes. The Court received very few written filed comments. The Court modified the Rules stating that interpreters should aspire to render a "reasonable amount of pro bono publico interpreter services per year." The Court also modified the Rules to reflect that if a court determines that a party has limited English abilities, then the court should

appoint an interpreter and a summary of the efforts to obtain a credentialed interpreter and the capabilities of a non-credentialed interpreter should be made in open court.

With the effect of the new Supreme Court Rules on pro bono aspirational goals for interpreters, please note that here is no reporting requirement, however, it is strongly urged that there be hours of pro bono work provided. The AOC is considering having credentialed interpreters voluntarily report pro bono hours on their renewal forms. So please keep track of your pro bono hours so you can report the hours if you wish.

Resources for Interpreters



Resources can be found on the National Consortium for State Court Interpreters' webpage at:

<http://www.ncsc.org/education-and-careers/state-interpreter-certification.aspx>

Check for updates periodically.

You can view resources on the AOC website at:

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/courtinterpreters/becoming.htm>

Please note additional materials you may consider before you take the oral exam include:

1. National Center for State Courts Oral Exam Study Suggestions:

<http://courts.oregon.gov/OJD/docs/OSCA/cpsd/InterpreterServices/OralExamStudySuggestions.pdf>

2. Common Oral Interpreting Exam Performance Deficiencies:

http://www.ncsc.org/education-and-careers/~media/Files/PDF/Education%20and%20Careers/State%20Interpreter%20Certification/Consortium_CommonErrors.aspx

AOC Update

ATTENTION:

GRANT MOINES FOR INTERPRETERS FOR NON-INDIGENT RULE 13 CASES

As you know, the AOC has funding through the middle of June 2012, to pay for costs of interpreters in non-indigent Rule 13 cases. **The federal grant period ends on June 30, 2011 and any funds not used revert back to the federal government.**

SO – IF YOU INTERPRET IN THESE CASES, SEND IN YOUR INVOICES BEFORE JUNE 15, 2012 IF POSSIBLE!!!!!!

