

February 21, 2025

Continuing Education

[Annual Interpreter Continuing Education Compliance forms](#) were due February 1st for all Registered and Certified interpreters. Did you turn yours in?

Interpreter Certification Ceremony

Myhanh Che's certification ceremony will be held Tuesday, February 25th at 2:30pm at the Douglas County Courthouse, Courtroom #229. County Court Presiding Judge Marcela Keim will administer the oath. Myhanh would love for her colleagues to attend and celebrate with her!

Interpreter Certification Pathway

The Nebraska Judicial Branch's Language Access Program has announced dates for the 2025 Interpreter Certification Pathway. Please visit [Interpreter Certification Pathway](#) for more information and to register for Orientation, the written exam, Skill Building, and the oral exam. You will also find information on provisional certification there.

If you still have questions after reviewing the webpage, attend an upcoming 30-minute Zoom informational sessions:

- March 5th at 12pm [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
- March 19th at 12pm [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Interpreter Statements

Want some free CEUs? Watch this 21 minute recording [Interpreter Statements 101](#), fill out the attached form and receive 0.5 professional responsibility CEUs.

The number of Interpreter Statements and their length are increasing! Finance asks that you give them until the 19th of the month to email you any corrections. If you don't receive an email from Finance, you can assume that there were no corrections!

A big thank you from Robin and I because there were NO late submissions in February – the first time that's happened since I've been here!



Mexican Sign Language? Cuban Sign Language? Aren't they all the same? No!

Saline County Court had a special request for a defendant that was charged with DUS but needed the assistance of a Mexican Sign Language (MSL) interpreter. The team located **Buck Rogers** from Washington, a Certified Deaf Interpreter (CDI) who holds a Specialized Certificate: Legal (SC:L) from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID). He was available to cover the hearing but would require an American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter to partner with him. Although Buck held the needed credential, he did not have a license to interpret in Nebraska and the team worked with the Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NCDHH) to obtain an Intermediary license so he could legally interpret in the state. Once this process was completed, Buck and ASL Interpreter **Katrina Watton** covered the hearing by zoom. As soon as he began interpreting in MSL, the defendant advised that he used Cuban Sign Language

(CSL), so the team notified the judge and Buck quickly pivoted to CSL! Thanks to the great work of the two Interpreters, a defendant had access to justice and his case was completed. Judge Bauer was so impressed, she thanked the team for their service!

Professional Resources

- [ASL Legal Membership](#)
- [Spoken language Legal Membership](#)
- <https://interpretertrain.com/legal-interpreter-training/program-overview/>
- [Interpretertrain Court Interpreter Written Exam Training Prep](#)
- Interpretertrain oral exam prep course [Spanish Court Interpreter Oral Certification](#)
- Interpretertrain oral exam prep course [Languages Other Than Spanish](#)

Recognitions

- ✚ Also, please be aware that Judge is very happy with **Caden Tait** and **Stacy Con**. They have done an excellent job! There have been no disruptions and their “tag ins” have gone unnoticed. - *Ruth Cusic, Bailiff to Judge Piccolo*
- ✚ **Ben Hammar** managed to cover all the hearings on my calendar without extended wait times one morning after the other interpreter was out ill. Thank you, Ben! - *Kari Corkle, Justice Language Access Coordinator*
- ✚ **Monica Kellogg**, your dedication to the profession shows on your efforts to continue to study and learn. Both the clerks and probation report that she is doing great and very pleasant to work with. - *Olivia Brockman, Interpreter Coordinator*
- ✚ Good morning, thank you **Maria Reutlinger** for your interpreting services on 01-24-2025 at 11:00. I just wanted to confirm that you did provide services and did very well. Thank you” – *Ronny Gray, Specialized Populations Officer, District 9 Probation*
- ✚ **Shelly Hodges**, your willingness to help via zoom and with short trials have been such a weight off my shoulders! – *Amiel Armijo, Justice Language Access Coordinator*
- ✚ **Irma Watt** and **Kelly Varguez**, I want to thank you both for working on translation requests that were a bit hard to read and decipher. – *Amiel Armijo, Justice Language Access Coordinator*
- ✚ I just finished my P.S.I. interview utilizing Oromo Interpreter **Genet Gonfa** and she did excellent. - *Mychael Friedman District #4A Probation Office*
- ✚ I would like to express my gratitude to **Star Judson** and **Morics Moo** for their support and assistance in helping our team last month during Sunkist's absence. Their efforts are truly appreciated. Thank you!- *Adrian Hinojosa Language Access Interpreter Coordinator*
- ✚ I want to express my sincere gratitude to **all the interpreters** who have worked alongside our team throughout the past year. Your dedication, hard work, and commitment to ensuring that the LEP community has access to justice are truly invaluable. While I would love to name each of you individually, I wouldn't want to risk leaving anyone out. Your professionalism, reliability, and willingness to go above and beyond make a tremendous difference. Your teamwork and support not only strengthen our mission but also make my job a rewarding one. It is a privilege to work with a team we can always count on. Thank you for everything you do! – *Adrian Hinojosa Language Access Interpreter Coordinator*
- ✚ Adrian, just wanted to let you know that **Esther Mitchell** was here to interpret and was perfect!!! - *Susie Duncan, Probation Officer*

- ✚ We just concluded our Family Meeting where **Shelly Hodges** provided excellent interpretation services. Thank you so much! It was a productive meeting. – *Jennifer Uldrich, D10 Specialized Probation Officer*
- ✚ Thank you for your responsiveness, **Maria Reutlinger**, I feel that I am always calling or texting you last minute and I truly appreciate you helping me out when you can! – *Amiel Armijo, Justice Language Access Coordinator*
- ✚ **Adrian Hernandez and his team** are always so very helpful. – *Tom Hanks, 4J Probation Officer*

Did you know?



Sarpy County installed the same equipment that is used in the federal court! Here's our very own Olivia Brockman testing the equipment in the new jail courtroom.