

# Maryland Court Interpreter Program

- Certification exams in 13 languages: Arabic, BSC (Bosnian-Serbian-Croatian), Cantonese, French, Haitian-Creole, Korean, Mandarin, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Turkish, and Vietnamese. Certified court interpreters in 11 languages.
- 72 languages listed on the Court Interpreter Registry for a total of 565 interpreters. There are 320 eligible interpreters and 245 certified interpreters (including 75 ASL interpreters.) List containing interpreter names is available for hospitals, schools, other public agencies, and law firms.
- Largest language need in the courts is for Spanish. Maryland has 19 Spanish court interpreters on staff in the Circuit and Districts Courts. Lesser language requests are for Korean, Russian, Mandarin, Cantonese and Vietnamese.
- Translations of 51 District Court and Circuit Court forms have been completed in Spanish. In addition, brochures and posters have been translated for display in court facilities. On-going forms translation continues in Russian and French. Other languages to follow.
- Twice yearly Introductory Workshops, Language Proficiency Interviews, Written Examinations, a Two-Day Orientation Workshop and Certification Examinations. In addition specialty classes are scheduled including DNA and Forensics, Crime Scene Investigation, Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse, Weapons, Drugs and Illegal Substances, and Gangs.
- To assist prospective interpreters, there are intermediate skills building workshops, language skills classes for certified Spanish interpreters and examination preparation classes. An Arabic skills building workshop was held for the first time. Note-taking classes were delivered. To assist court employees, an interpreter coordinator workshop was delivered by staff this Fall.
- Interpreters pay a modest fee for workshops and certification exams. Fees are deposited in the general fund. For FY 2015 to date: \$16, 250 has been collected; FY 2014: \$18,050 and in FY2013: \$17, 060. Since FY 2008: \$172,060.