



Judicial Council of California

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JOINT WORKING GROUP
FOR CALIFORNIA'S
LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN

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Co-Chair

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PUBLIC HEARING

Thursday, March 13, 2014
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Secretary of State
Auditorium
1500 11th Street
Sacramento

DEVELOPING CALIFORNIA'S LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN: HOW LANGUAGE ACCESS IMPACTS COURT USERS

California is home to one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse populations in the world. This extraordinary diversity is among the state's greatest assets. This diversity also poses unique challenges for the delivery of government services, particularly for the courts. Nearly seven million Californians cannot access the courts without significant language assistance. To address the challenges this presents, the Judicial Council of California, the policymaking body of the California courts, is developing a statewide language access plan.

AGENDAⁱ

- I. Welcome and Overview (10:10-10:10 a.m.)**
 - Hon. Maria P. Rivera, Co-Chair
 - Hon. Manuel J. Covarrubias, Co-Chair
Joint Working Group for California's Language Access Plan
- II. Opening Remarks (10:10-10:20 a.m.)**
 - Hon. Steven Jahr, AOC Administrative Director of the Courts
- III. Policy Considerations (10:20-11:20 a.m.)**

Leaders throughout the state are astutely aware of constituent needs for meaningful access to justice. California legislators, the State Bar, and California Department of Education will share the concerns of Californians and discuss policy recommendations.

 - Assembly Member Ed Chau
 - Hon. Ronald B. Robie, Chair, CA Commission on Access to Justice

- Dr. Karen Cadiero-Kaplan, Director, English Learner Support Division, CA Department of Education

Break 11:20-11:30 a.m.

IV. State and Regional Approach to Accessibility and Justice (11:30 a.m.-12:20 p.m.)

Leaders across the state recognize how the rich ethnic and cultural diversity of the state poses challenges for government and business entities. Panelists will share their models/initiatives for providing culturally and linguistically appropriate services.

- Joann Lee, Directing Attorney, Asian Pacific Islander Community Outreach Unit, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
- Stephen Goldberg, Senior Attorney, Legal Services of Northern California
- Julian Canete, Public Policy Director, California Asian Chamber of Commerce

V. Practical Application: Challenges and Opportunities (12:20-1:15 p.m.)

Courts know first-hand the consequence of linguistic barriers and how justice may be compromised for those limited English proficient court users. Panelists representing various members of court leadership will share their challenges, models/initiatives, and how a language access plan can contribute to their efforts.

- Hon. Jonathan B. Conklin, Presiding Judge, Fresno Superior Court
- Jake Chatters, Court Executive Officer, Placer Superior Court
- Ana Maria Garcia, Supervisor, Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County

Lunch 1:15-2 p.m.

VI. Public Comment (2-3:45 p.m.)

Judicial branch leaders welcome and encourage the public to share their concerns, thoughts and ideas in the formulation of a language access plan that will provide greater access to justice.

VII. Closing (3:45-4 p.m.)

Language assistance will be provided at the hearing in the following languages: Cantonese, Hmong, Spanish, Russian, and American Sign Language

If additional language service and/or Americans with Disabilities Act accommodations are required, please email your request to us at: LAP@jud.ca.gov. Please make requests at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

ⁱ Agenda as of March 10, 2014