



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROVIDING
ACCESS AND FAIRNESS

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROVIDING ACCESS AND FAIRNESS LANGUAGE ACCESS SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

October 07, 2021
12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Advisory Body Members Present: Hon. Victor A. Rodriguez, Chair, Hon. Manuel J. Covarrubias, Ms. Janet Hudec, Hon. Richard Y. Lee, Mr. David Levin, Hon. Louis R. Mauro, and Ms. Fariba Soroosh

Advisory Body Members Absent: Ms. Julie Paik

Others Present: Ms. Irene Balajadia, Ms. Lisa Chavez, Mr. Douglas Denton, Ms. Eunice Lee, Ms. Andi Liebenbaum, Ms. Cathy Ongiri, Ms. Josephine Roberts, Ms. Elizabeth Tam-Helmuth, and Mr. Don Will

OPEN MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call

The chair called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m., and staff took roll call.

Approval of Minutes

The Subcommittee reviewed and approved the minutes of the December 10, 2020, meeting.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (ITEMS 1–3)

Item 1: Update from Chair

Chair Justice Victor Rodriguez acknowledged Judge Erica Yew for her service to PAF and the Subcommittee. He welcomed two new PAF members who agreed to join the Subcommittee, Judge Richard Y. Lee from Orange Superior Court, and Ms. Fariba Soroosh, Supervising Attorney at Santa Clara Superior Court's Self-Help Center and Family Law Facilitator's Office. Justice Rodriguez shared that for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 budget, there are new, one-time monies of \$30 million to support hires of new court interpreter employees.

Item 2: Update on 2021 Language Access Projects

Douglas Denton, Principal Manager of Language Access Services, introduced new staff, Senior Analyst Eunice Lee, who will oversee the Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) Program.

Model Translation Guidelines for Courts: The Model Translation Guidelines is currently in progress. Once completed, the guidelines will be shared with the subcommittee, PAF, and Language Access Representatives (LARs), and posted on the Language Access Toolkit.

Support for Implementation of California Rules of Court, Rule 1.300: Staff is working with the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) to develop findings and strategies to assist the courts and justice partners with implementation of California Rules of Court, Rule 1.300 (language assistance in court-ordered programs and services).

Language Access Signage and Technology Grants: For Cycle 3 grants (FY 2021-22), the draft recommendations were approved by PAF and the Information Technology Advisory Committee, and next go to Technology Committee for approval to submit to council in November 2021.

Language Access Annual Survey: Staff will develop the 2020 survey report in winter 2021.

Public Outreach Campaign: Translated ads and public service announcements ran in multilingual radio stations and print publications throughout the state in August-October 2021.

Item 3: Review Potential 2022 Language Access Projects

Staff reviewed potential projects for inclusion in the 2022 PAF Annual Agenda:

1. **Update Bench Card on Working with Court Interpreters:** A 2017 bench card, previously developed under the Language Access Plan Implementation Task Force, will be updated to include guidance for bench officers on LEP waiver of a court interpreter and the appropriate use of technology when having remote proceedings that require language access.

2. **Evaluate Strategies to Support Courts with Implementation of Rule 1.300:** The Subcommittee and staff will evaluate the findings and potential strategies and considerations from NCSC.

3. **Language Access Signage and Technology Grants:** Staff will launch Cycle 4 (FY 2022-23) of the Signage and Technology Grants application in Spring 2022.

4. **Annual Language Access Survey:** Staff will administer the survey in Summer/Fall 2022 to determine courts' provision of language access services as of June 30, 2022.

5. **Placeholder for Project(s) Assigned by the Ad Hoc Workgroup on Post Pandemic Initiatives:** Staff shared the last project is a placeholder, in the event the PAF and/or Subcommittee is assigned a project by the Ad Hoc Workgroup on Post Pandemic Initiatives.

A D J O U R N M E N T

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Approved by the Language Access Subcommittee on April 5, 2022.