ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

RFP# EOP-0860802-RB
2010 Language Study

December 4, 2008

General Program Context 2.5

1.   Regarding Court Interpreter Data Collection System (CIDCS)

   a.   Do all courts use the CIDCS? If not, approximately how many courts do not?

      Answer: Based on our information, twelve courts (out of a total of 58 statewide) enter less than 25% of their court interpreter data for mandated proceedings into CIDCS. Three of these twelve courts account for roughly 40% of statewide court interpreter expenditures. These courts have their own systems. Seven of the 58 courts enter 90% or better. The remaining court 39 courts enter in between 25-90% of their court interpreter data.

   b.   How complete are the data in that system?

      Answer: See response to 1. a. above.

   c.   Are we able to preview the CIDCS data elements prior to submitting the proposal?

      Answer: No, there is no public access to CIDCS

   d.   Is the use of ASL interpreters captured in the CIDCS?

      Answer: For those courts using CIDCS, we believe most (but not all) ASL use in mandated proceedings is captured in CIDCS, except for the instances of an ASL interpreter being assigned to a juror. Use of ASL in non-mandated proceedings is not consistently captured in CIDCS

   e.   Are data pertaining to the use of spoken language interpreters in civil proceedings with self-represented litigants captured in the CIDCS?

      Answer: No.

2.   Regarding other independent data systems:

a.   Approximately how many "other independent data systems used by individual trial courts" are there?

Answer: At least two courts have developed their own robust internal systems. Other courts use Excel, Access, or have paper systems to schedule and track interpreter use. Data from these methods are also used to generate quarterly financial statements. A sample of the type of information found in financial reports may be reviewed at: http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/courtinterpreters/documents/Trial_Court_Interpreters_Program_Expenditure_Report_for_Fiscal_Year_2006-07.pdf

b.   Might some courts have several different independent data systems?

Answer: Courts may use a combination of systems – e.g. CIDCS plus Excel or Excel plus pen and paper. The two courts that have developed their own internal data systems rely on those systems to produce financial reports and track usage.

c.   Do these data systems use the same standardized data elements as the CIDCS?

Answer: Some of the elements may be the same (language, for example), and some are not, such as the elements related to actual assignments

[END OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS]