

COURT INTERPRETER PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 16, 2019

12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

State Courts Building

1501 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007

Conference Room 230

APPROVED

November 1, 2019

Present: Judge Don Taylor; Mr. Juan Carlos Cordova; Mr. Alfred Gonzalez; Mr. Juan Pablo Guzman; Judge Danielle Viola;

Telephonic: Ms. Margarita Bernal; Ms. Diane Culin; Ms. Kathy Schaben; Judge Anna Huberman; Judge Catherine Woods.

Absent/Excused:

Presenters/Guests:

Administrative Office of the Courts: Ms. Kelly Gray, Mr. Craig Washburn, Ms. Catherine Clarich and Mr. David Svoboda.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The August 16, 2019 meeting of the Court Interpreter Program Advisory Committee was called to order by the Honorable Don Taylor, Chair, at 12:02 p.m.

B. Approval of the March 8, 2019 Minutes

The draft minutes from the March 8, 2019 of the Court Interpreter Program Advisory Committee were presented for approval. The Chair called for any omissions or corrections to the minutes; there were none.

- Motion was made by Ms. Diane Culin to approve the March 8, 2019 minutes of the Court Interpreter Program Advisory Committee. Seconded by Mr. Alfred Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously.

II. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. ACICP Update

Mr. David Svoboda, in his role as the AOC Language Access Coordinator, provided an update on the Arizona Court Interpreter Credentialing Program (ACICP). The group discussed recent exam matters and statistical information. Pass rates for the English Written Exam and the Oral Court Interpreter Exam continue to trend downward but still exceed national averages.

Patterns from the preparation classes were presented. The group discussed the benefits of the preparation classes and what feedback is provided to candidates.

During the last offering of the OPI the “advanced-low” score was considered a passing score. The committee in its March 8th meeting recommended to raise the minimum score to “Advanced-Mid”. Staff is continuing work on the implementation of this recommendation.

The 2019 interpreter training calendar, the remainder of the 2019 exam calendar and 2020 exam calendar were all discussed.

B. Credentialing Compliance & Options Workgroup

Mr. Juan Pablo Guzman in his role as chair of the Credentialing Compliance & Options Workgroup, presented its findings and recommendations. The workgroup members met twice since the March 8th meeting.

Recommendations were made by the workgroup that staff work to present resources for candidate preparation; identification of knowledge, skills, and abilities for courts; dissemination of training opportunities and utilization of field trainers; and a mentorship program with credentialed interpreters.

The committee discussed the findings and recommendations of the workgroup.

- Motion was made by Mr. Juan Pablo Guzman to adopt the recommendations from the workgroup and present them to credentialing program staff to implement. Seconded by Mr. Alfred Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously. Staff will report on any updates on implementation of the recommendations.

C. 2019 Interpreter Coordinator Summit Workgroup

Mr. Alfred Gonzales in his role of workgroup chair presented the results from the workgroup. The workgroup met twice since the last meeting of this Committee.

The agenda for the 2019 Coordinator Summit was discussed. The 2018 Summit was reviewed, and the breakout sessions facilitated by court staff from around the state were discussed in preparation for the upcoming summit. The Workgroup emphasized addressing areas that are of interest to coordinators and administrators, such as language access plans. Discussion was held between staff and committee members on the growth and success of the summit in recent years.

D. Pima Community College Collaboration

Mr. David Svoboda, in his role as the AOC Language Access Coordinator, updated the Committee on the status of ACICP's collaboration project with Pima Community College (PCC).

The agreement previously discussed has been approved by AOC and the PCC Board of Regents. The first students are planned to start in October 2019. The Tier 1 exams for PCC are scheduled to take place in December 2019.

In Spring of 2020, PCC will offer the class requiring students to take the Oral Court Interpreter Exam and will have prerequisites of passing the written exam and OPI. All requirements for PCC students will be the same as for any other applicant to the program. PCC is looking to make this program available online after the first year.

E. OPI Score Discussion

Mr. David Svoboda, in his role of AOC Language Access Coordinator, presented the requested data on other states' utilization of OPIs, including English OPIs, passing score comparisons and a cost-based assessment of OPIs vs. Oral Exams. The Committee discussed the addition of an English language OPI requirement to the Tier 1 credential or pilot program.

- Motion was made by Kathy Schaben to recommend ACICP add an English language OPI with an "advanced-mid" passing score as a required element of the Tier 1 Credential. Seconded by Mr. Juan Carlos Cordova. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Interpreter Salary Survey

Mr. David Svoboda, in his role as AOC Language Access Coordinator, presented the results from the salary survey that was requested from the Credentialing Compliance and Options workgroup. Survey replies indicate a wide variability in pay and compensation for bilingual employees and staff interpreters across the state.

Staff proposes a workgroup for a “Solicitation Packet” for courts to use when recruiting staff interpreters and contractors.

- Motion was made by Judge Danielle Viola to establish the recommended workgroup. Mr. Juan Pablo Guzman seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously. Juan Carlos Cordova volunteered as chair and Judge Danielle Viola volunteered as member of the workgroup. Additional members to be named later.

G. Supreme Court Strategic Agenda

Mr. David Svoboda, in his position as AOC Language Access Coordinator presented the committee with the new strategic agenda’s languages access highlights. These highlights included the expansion of CIPAC’s scope initiatives for language access were addressed.

First-year initiatives of this plan were discussed as well as work towards those goals. One goal has already been completed with the finalization of the PCC agreement, and significant work continues on the translation of court forms.

H. Preview 2020 Committee Dates

Mr. David Svoboda, in his role as Committee staff, presented potential dates of March 6th, August 14th, November 6th of 2020. Discussion of the time the Committee meets was discussed. Dates of 2020 meetings were adopted.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

No Other Business was presented.

IV. CALL TO PUBLIC

A. Good of the Order/Call to the Public

The Chair asked the Committee if there were any other matters to discuss and made a call to the public. There were no responses.

V. ADJOURNMENT

A. Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

VI. NEXT COMMITTEE DATE

November 1, 2019

12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

State Courts Building, Conference Room 230

1501 W. Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85007