

Office of Interpreter Services King County Superior Court

King County Courthouse
Room C-701
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104
Tel: 206-477-1415

Regional Justice Center
Room G-0243
401 4th Avenue North
Kent, WA 98032
Tel: 206-477-1415

Juvenile Court, DYS
3rd Floor
1211 East Alder
Seattle, WA 98122
Tel: 206-477-1415

Email: scinterp@kingcounty.gov

Web Page: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/courts/superiorcourt/interpsrv.aspx>

STAFF

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Certification: In 1989, Washington State passed a law providing for the Court Interpreter Certification program. Since 1990, under RCW 2.43, appointing authorities have been required to appoint certified interpreters for non-English speaking participants; for an even longer period of time, the same requirement has been in effect under RCW 2.42 for deaf and hard of hearing persons in legal proceedings.

Court Interpreter certification now exists in 15 spoken foreign languages in Washington State, besides national certification for Sign Language interpreters:

Arabic (Egyptian)	French	Mandarin	Spanish
Arabic (Levantine)	Khmer (Cambod)	Marshallese	Tagalog
Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian	Korean	Portuguese	Vietnamese
Cantonese	Laotian	Russian	

In accordance with the law, the Office of Interpreter Services will strive to provide only court certified interpreters in the languages listed above and carefully screened and qualified interpreters in all other languages.

Training: The staff provides orientation sessions for interpreters as well as training for those who use interpreters, including judges, attorneys, and those working in other court related programs.

Language Bank: This office has provided interpreters in over 160 languages for criminal and civil proceedings at the three sites listed above.

Inquiries: The staff fields scores of inquiries daily from interpreters, Courts, government and private agencies, and attorneys (local and statewide), for interpretation services and referrals, translation referrals, advice regarding interpreter needs and issues, coordination of interpreter programs and interpreter education. Please feel free to call us at the numbers listed above.