

INFORMATION ABOUT JUDICIARY INTERPRETING IN THE U.S. DISTRICT COURTS

Interpreting services in federal district courts are regulated by the Court Interpreters Act (28 U.S.C. 1827 et seq.), enacted by Congress in 1979 and amended in 1988. To work as an English-Spanish judiciary interpreter in U.S. District Courts, candidates must pass a certification exam given by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, through the National Center for State Courts. Information about the federal certification exam can be obtained from:

National Center for State Courts
Federal Court Interpreters Certification Examination Program
<http://www.cps.ca.gov/FCICE-Spanish>

Frequently asked questions about judiciary interpreting as a profession, and working with the federal courts system, can be found at:

Federal Court Interpreter Program
http://www.uscourts.gov/interpretprog/interp_prog.htm
Interpreters - Southern District of New York
<http://www.nysd.uscourts.gov/interp.htm>

If you are still considering whether or not you want to become a judiciary interpreter, you can also visit the following web sites to get more information about training and education:

National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators (NAJIT)
www.najit.org
University of Charleston, South Carolina Graduate Program in Bilingual Legal Interpreting
<http://www.cofc.edu/~legalint/>
The National Center for Interpretation Testing, Research and Policy
<http://nci.arizona.edu>

If you are already certified and are interested in working as a contract interpreter for the District of Puerto Rico, please contact:

Hilda Gutiérrez - Interpreters' Coordinator
(787)772-3065
United States District Court - District of Puerto Rico
Clerk's Office - Room 150
150 Carlos Chardón Ave.
Hato Rey, Puerto Rico 00918-1767