

Los Angeles Superior Court Public Information Office

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Court Expands Interpreter Services To Assist Low-Income, Civil Litigants in Eviction, Conservatorship & Guardianship Hearings

Effective Monday, May 19, 2014, the Los Angeles Superior Court will expand interpreter services to qualifying non-English-speaking, civil litigants in several courthouse locations.

The Court will provide interpreter services free of charge to litigants qualifying for court-fee waivers and involved in unlawful detainer (eviction), conservatorship, and guardianship cases. The expansion of interpreter services is made possible by a change in statewide policy regarding court interpreter funding.

California law allows the waiving of certain court fees based on a sliding scale that considers family income and size. Limited-English speaking litigants in unlawful detainer, conservatorship and guardianship cases who are granted a fee waiver will also qualify for the services of a court interpreter upon request.

Litigants can request an interpreter when filing their case. Written notice of interpreter availability is at the clerk's office in Spanish, Korean, Armenian Eastern, Chinese and Vietnamese -- the languages most frequently requested.

Unlawful detainer cases are handled at the following court locations: Stanley Mosk Courthouse, Los Angeles; Michael D. Antonovich Courthouse, Lancaster; Gov. George Deukmejian Courthouse, Long Beach; Pasadena Courthouse and Santa Monica Courthouse.

Conservator and guardianship cases are conducted at the Mosk Courthouse in Los Angeles and the Antonovich Courthouse in Lancaster.

Presiding Judge David S. Wesley remarked, "Despite severe budget cutbacks, the More-More-More

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Los Angeles Superior Court has preserved many basic services for litigants. The ability to communicate with others in court is one of the most basic needs of every litigant.

"Meeting this demand in a place as linguistically diverse as Los Angeles County is a challenge, but I am pleased that the Court will be able to better meet this challenge for tens of thousands more litigants."

LASC assists litigants in 86 languages, also provided free of charge in criminal, juvenile and domestic violence cases.