



Judicial Council of California

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Subject Text

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Title

Language Access: Translation and Educational Products, Development Plan for Remaining Materials, and Video Remote Interpreting Pilot Project (Action Required)

Summary

The Judicial Council charged the Language Access Plan Implementation Task Force with overseeing and ensuring implementation of the *Strategic Plan for Language Access in the California Courts*. The plan provides a comprehensive and systematic approach to expand language access in the California courts. The task force recommends that the council adopt a number of translation and educational products that task force subcommittees have developed in collaboration with the National Center for State Courts. The task force also proposes a technology solutions pilot project for video remote interpreting (VRI) in order to validate and finalize technical and programmatic guidelines that will help the California judicial branch determine where and how VRI can help meet the needs of court users over the next few years.

Recommendation

The Language Access Plan Implementation Task Force recommends that the council:

1. Adopt a Translation Protocol and Translation Material Action Plan. These documents address Recommendations Nos. 36, 39 and 40 in the *Strategic Plan* approved by the council on January 22, 2015, and are attached to this report as Attachments 1-2;
2. Adopt a Benchcard (Working with Interpreters in the Courtroom), Bench Guide Outline, and Training Curricula Outlines for Judicial Officers and Court Staff. These documents address *Strategic Plan* Recommendations Nos. 50, 51 and 52, and are attached to this report as Attachments 3-5;
3. Adopt a Development Plan for Remaining Materials. This document addresses *Strategic Plan* Recommendation Nos. 38, 39 and 42 and is attached to this report as Attachment 6; and
4. Proceed with a video remote interpreting (VRI) pilot project, which will build on previous work to test technology solutions and equipment, preapprove vendors if appropriate, and finalize statewide technical guidelines while taking into account the needs of different courts throughout the state. This project addresses Recommendations Nos. 12 through 16 in the *Strategic Plan*.

Speakers

Hon. Mariano-Florentino Cuellar, Chair, Language Access Plan Implementation Task Force

Hon. Terence L. Bruiniers, Chair, Technological Solutions Subcommittee, Language Access Plan Implementation Task Force