

MAR 31 2006

JAMES R. LARSEN, CLERK
DEPUTY
SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

In the matter of)
HIRING COURT INTERPRETERS) AMENDED GENERAL ORDER NO. 06-103-3
_____)

General Order No. 06-103-2, In the matter of Hiring Court Interpreters, is hereby amended to clarify that interpreters of languages for which there is a certification by the Director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts cannot be considered as professionally qualified interpreters. *Interim Court Interpreter Regulations*, Part III, § 8(c).

The Court uses interpreters in a number of different languages, and currently there are federally certified interpreters for Spanish, Haitian Creole and Navajo. Pursuant to the federal Court Interpreters Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 1827-28, the Court will use federally certified interpreters when reasonably available, for Spanish, Haitian Creole and Navajo languages. The Court shall hire interpreters as follows:

1) When an interpreter is required for Spanish, Haitian Creole and Navajo, the courtroom deputy shall first contact a federally certified interpreter. The Court may pay travel and subsistence costs when necessary to assure that certified interpreters are reasonably available.

2) For the Spanish, Haitian Creole and Navajo languages, if no federally certified interpreter is reasonably available, the courtroom deputy may then contact an interpreter who has been

1 qualified, as language skilled, pursuant to the Court's General
2 Order No. 06-103-1, *In the matter of Qualification of Interpreters*
3 *as Language Skilled Interpreters Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1827(b) (2)*.

4 3) When the interpreter services are needed for a language for
5 which there is no federal certification, the courtroom deputy shall
6 use the services of a "professionally qualified"¹ interpreter. If
7 no professionally qualified interpreter is reasonably available, the
8 courtroom deputy may then contact an interpreter who has been
9 qualified, as language skilled, pursuant to the Court's General
10 Order No. 06-103-1, *In the matter of Qualification of Interpreters*
11 *as Language Skilled Interpreters Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1827(b) (2)*.

12 4) In a proceeding where no interpreter has been identified
13 pursuant to the process described in (1), (2) and (3) above, the
14 presiding judge shall decide the qualification of the interpreter to
15 act as an expert pursuant to the Federal Rules of Evidence.

16 The district's list of certified, professionally qualified and
17 language skilled interpreters shall be updated as changes occur.

18 The courtroom deputy shall record the hiring attempts made, in
19 connection with the hiring process identified above, on the *Blanket*
20 *Purchase Agreement Log/Contract Court Interpreter Services* form.

21 IT IS SO ORDERED pursuant to concurrence of the judges March 6,

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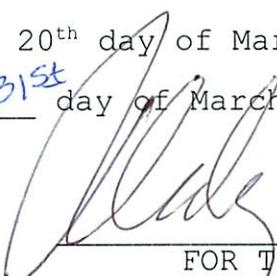
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27 ¹For information on eligibility to be included on the Director's
28 master list of interpreters who are "professionally qualified", see J-Net,
Qualification Guidelines for Court Interpreters, at
http://jnet.ao.dcn/District/Court_Interpreting/Selecting_and_Locating_Court_Interpreter/Qualifying_Court_Interpreter.html.

1 2006. THIS AMENDED GENERAL ORDER supersedes General Order No. 06-
2 103-2 entered the 20th day of March, 2006.

3 DATED this 31st day of March, 2006.

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7 FOR THE COURT
8 ROBERT H. WHALEY
9 CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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