

Dear Certified or Registered Court Interpreter:

This email is to inform you of upcoming changes to the Judicial Council's Master List of Certified Court and Registered Interpreters (Master List), which is a searchable database for the public and courts (<https://www.courts.ca.gov/35273.htm>), and the Court Interpreter Data Collection System (CIDCS).

Judicial Council Master List

Judicial Council staff has recommended, and the Regional Bargaining Committee Chairs have agreed, that fax and pager numbers should be removed from interpreter profiles on the Master List. These modes of communication are no longer commonly used, and most interpreters do not provide this information for their profile.

In addition, the regional chairs agreed that an interpreter's employment classification as a court employee or independent contractor should be added to the interpreter profiles on the Master List. This is to help ensure that courts and members of the public know the employment status of an interpreter before contacting the interpreter for contract work.

All interpreters will continue to be able to update their contact information through the CIDCS Interpreter Portal, or by contacting the Court Interpreters Program at courtinterpreters@jud.ca.gov.

Court Interpreter Data Collection System (CIDCS)

In consultation with the regional chairs, staff has determined that the method of interpretation that can be selected on the CIDCS Daily Activity Log (DAL) screen will be changed from "VRI" to "Remote." This is to avoid confusion and ensure that all remote assignments conducted by the interpreter are captured by CIDCS. Remote assignments entered into CIDCS should include any assignment where the interpreter is outside of the courtroom and is using an audio and video platform (such as Zoom, MS Teams, WebEx or BlueJeans) to provide interpreter services. The other options for method of interpretation (In-person or Telephonic) remain the same. If you have any questions on how to capture assignments, please contact the court.

Finally, for the 2022 Annual Interpreter Renewal and Compliance cycle, which will launch in September, all interpreters will be able to pay their annual \$100 renewal fee by logging on to CIDCS and paying with a debit or credit card, and also will be able to attest to completion of compliance requirements (if due). This convenience will eliminate the need for interpreters to send in paper checks or forms. However, interpreters that still want to pay by check or submit paper forms may continue to do so, as long as they submit their check and paper forms by the renewal and compliance deadline of December 31. The online system will charge a \$2.50 service charge for each online payment, to help offset the bank cost of providing this service. Any extra amounts remaining once service charges are reconciled with bank processing fees will remain in the revenue fund to support the Court Interpreters Program. Training resources for interpreters on how to make their annual renewal payments online through CIDCS will be posted in mid-September at <https://www.courts.ca.gov/44714.htm>.

These changes to the Master List and CIDCS will become effective as of September 15, 2022.

Thank you for your efforts to support language access in the California courts.