



# JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

COURT INTERPRETERS  
ADVISORY PANEL

[www.courts.ca.gov/ciap.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/ciap.htm)  
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## COURT INTERPRETERS ADVISORY PANEL

### MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

April 16, 2015  
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Conference Call

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**Advisory Body Members Present:** Hon. Steven K. Austin, Chair, Ms. Christina M. Volkers, Vice-Chair, Ms. Claritza Callaci, Mr. Jaeis Chon, Hon. Manuel J. Covarrubias, Ms. Ramona Crossley, Mr. Hector Gonzalez, Ms. Janet Hudec, Ms. Oleksandra Johnson, Ms. Maureen Keffer, Mr. Bao Luu, Hon. Miguel Márquez, Ms. Lisa McNaughton, Ms. Ivette Peña, Hon. Rebecca Riley (CJER Liaison to CIAP), Ms. Katherine Williams

**Advisory Body Members Absent:** All Members Present

**Others Present:** Ms. Carmen Castro-Rojas, Mr. Jarrett Chin, Ms. Debbie Chong-Manguiat, Ms. Valeria DaSilva-Sasser, Mr. Douglas Denton, Ms. Angeline O'Donnell, Ms. Catharine Price, Mr. Usamah Salem, Ms. Elizabeth Tam-Hemulth, Ms. Karen Viscia, Ms. Sonia Sierra Wolf

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#### OPEN MEETING

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##### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

The vice-chair called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m. and requested staff to conduct roll call.

##### **Approval of Minutes**

The February 3, 2015 meeting minutes were approved by the voting members of CIAP as submitted.

##### **Opening Remarks**

The National Center for State Courts presented their findings on the legislatively mandated Language Need and Use Study conducted every five years under Government Code section 68563. The primary purpose of the meeting is to recommend the report as prepared for submission to the Governor and Legislature. Any policy recommendations based on the findings in the report will be reviewed and discussed at the next scheduled meeting. The recommendations CIAP will consider at the next scheduled meeting are:

- De-designation of Portuguese and de-designation of Japanese, and recommend a policy and procedure to de-designate a language.

- Consider implementing a grace period for Farsi, and a review the current grace period policy in place.

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## DISCUSSION ITEMS 1 - 2

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### **Item 1 - Presentation of Interpreter Need and Language Use Study:**

Representatives from the National Center for State Courts provided CIAP with an overview of the 2015 Language Need and Interpreter Use Study report. The purpose of the report was to:

1. Document interpreter use in spoken languages from FY 2009- FY 2013.
2. Offer information and perspective on future language need, for considering changes language designation.

Key findings in the report include:

- Over one million service days of interpretation were provided in the state courts during the study period.
- The total number of interpreter service days declined about six percent from year one of the period to year four of the study period (FY 2009-2010 to FY 2012-2013).
- Spanish accounted for 72 percent of all interpretation in the state courts during the study period. No other language accounted for more than four percent of the remaining service days.

Recommendations made in the report:

- The Judicial Council should retain the classification of Arabic, Eastern and Western Armenian, Cantonese, Farsi, Khmer, Korean, Mandarin, Punjabi, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese as designated languages.
- The Judicial Council should continue the designation of Farsi as a designated language and should establish a certification program for testing and certifying court interpreters in this language.
- The Judicial Council should consider de-designation of the Japanese language.
- The Judicial Council should consider de-designation of the Portuguese language.
- The Judicial Council should monitor the usage of the Hmong, Lao, and Romanian languages for possible future designation.

Following the presentation, the chair invited questions and/or clarifications.

### **Item 2 (Action Required) - Recommendation to Submit Report to the Governor and Legislature**

CIAP voted unanimously to submit the 2015 Language Need and Interpreter Use Study to the Judicial Council for approval and submission to the Governor and Legislature. Staff was directed to proceed with submission of the report for consideration at the June 25, 2015 Judicial Council meeting.

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## ADJOURNMENT

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### **Closing Remarks**

The next CIAP meeting scheduled will be an in-person meeting held in San Francisco on, Thursday, June 18, 2015. The meeting will focus on consideration and discussion on the de-designation of Japanese and Portuguese, and implementation of a grace period for Farsi. The

subcommittees will meet in the afternoon. In preparation for the meeting, the chair asked members to review the report and consider the recommendations made

Prior to adjourning the meeting, the co-chair of the Language Access Implementation Task Force (ITF) provided an update on activities of the ITF. The chair reminded everyone that the nomination period to CIAP is still open and the deadline is May 8, 2015. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

Approved by the Advisory Body on: June 18, 2015