

INTERPRETER'S OATH

ON MY WORD OF HONOR, AS OFFICIAL INTERPRETER FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, I, _____,

(Interpreter's Name)

swear (or affirm) to be true to the Code of Ethics of my profession, and to discharge faithfully the following solemn duties and obligations:

I WILL interpret accurately and faithfully to the best of my ability. I will convey the true meaning of the words, phrases, and statements of the speaker, communicating, as appropriate, any and all variations of the target language resulting from educational, cultural and regional differences.

I WILL never interject my own phrasing, and/or opinions. If the need ever arises to paraphrase any statements in order to convey proper meaning, I will do so only after the presiding administrative official has granted permission.

I WILL familiarize myself with the case as much as possible prior to going into the session. I will inquire whether the case will involve technical terminology or a particular vernacular that would require special preparation.

I WILL speak in a clear, firm, well-modulated voice, and, when using inflections, I will assiduously guard against the possibility of their being interpreted as bias of any kind. I will employ the modes of interpretation best suited to the situation at hand of questions posed to non-English speaking constituents/clients and the target language responses thus elicited.

I WILL maintain neutral attitude during the course of interpreting and will guard any confidential information entrusted to me. I will not discuss the declarations or the merits of the case under any circumstances with anyone.

I WILL attempt to ascertain linguistic compatibility with the persons needing my services and will explain to them my position as an impartial officer of the entity conducting the administrative proceeding, serving both said entity and the individuals involved in the case. I will also inquire whether any person involved has any special communication needs. These inquiries will always be conducted in the presence of another administrative officer.

I WILL adopt a conservative and professional manner of dress and conduct in accordance with the dignity of the District government and of my profession. I will familiarize myself thoroughly with all the local administrative rules/proceedings and I will abide by them.

I WILL carry out my professional responsibility to consistently improve my knowledge of terminology specific to the entity I interpret for, depending on the circumstance, in English and in the language I interpret, to familiarize myself with general administrative procedures, and to continue my professional development through additional education and training.

Signature

Date