Louisiana Access Stakeholder Meeting

March 25, 2022 – 1st Quarter (Updates in Red)

Brian Wiggins Deputy Judicial Administrator – Trial Court Services and Language Access Coordinator, Louisiana Supreme Court
Language Access Status – Year 1

Language Access Plans

- Courts submitted plans: Over 90%
  - District Courts – 100%.
  - Four (rural) City Courts. (Update 3.25.22)
  - Work needed to implement and follow.
- Court appointed language access coordinators.
- Court programs have language access policy:
  - Judiciary Commission
  - Drug and Specialty Court
  - Children and Families
  - LPOR
Language Access Status – Year 2

Complaints

• **Court Watch NOLA Findings**
  • Municipal Court – Low sample numbers.
  • Criminal Court – High sample numbers with some findings.
  • Meeting with Criminal Court and recommendations:
    • Training
    • Identify LEP sooner
    • Notification improvements (Attorneys)
Language Access Status – Year 1

Training

- New Judges Orientation – 11.20
- St. John the Baptist Parish Clerk of Court – 2.25.21
- Denham Springs City Court – 7.15.21
- Louisiana Language Access Coalition – 7.21.21 (outreach)
- First Parish Court – 8.2.21
- Second Parish Court staff and judges – 8.13.21
- Statewide Language Access Training – 8.24.21
- 4th Circuit Court of Appeal – 9.28.21
- Louisiana Immigrant Working Group – 9.23.21 (outreach)

- Together We Can Conference – 11.3.21 (outreach)
- 31st JDC – 10.7.21
- 16th JDC Hearing Officer – 10.11.21
- 25th JDC – 10.15.21
- 15th JDC – 10.20.21
- Jefferson Juvenile Staff and Clerk’s office – 11.12.21
- EBR Juvenile Court – 11.22.21
- Judicial College – 12.2.21
- FINS training – 12.7.21
- Language Access 2.0 (1.7.22)
- Upcoming: LCAA and Judicial College (4.7 and 4.8.22)
Year 2 Projects

• Audit checklist for courts. Due now.
• Court Rules.
  • Post Sign and brochures.
  • Language Access Office designation.
  • Provide court interpreters at no cost.
  • Permanent stakeholder committee.
  • Interpreter preference and professionalism.
  • Code of Evidence.
• Training for Clerks of Court.
• Translated documents for LASC programs.
• Ensure that all Type 2 courts have a LAP.
Year 2 Projects

- LPOR Forms
  - Current Project: Simple Translate
  - Proposed Project: Bilingual Forms
  - Met with LPOR
  - Meeting with Judges next (TBD)
  - How do we translate the narrative sections?
Year 2 Projects

• **Data Collection results**
  • *Type 1 and 2 courts only*
  • Court Interpreter expenditures: $900,000
  • Court Interpreter assignments: 6,000
  • Language access expenses: $17,000
Next Meeting:  Friday, June 24th

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