

# Who needs to secure a court interpreter and pay?

Use this chart to determine who is responsible for securing a neutral, qualified court interpreter.

Person needing an interpreter (a.k.a. "Party in Interest")	Where is the interpreter needed?	Responsible Organization
<u>Criminal Defendant</u> (any crime whether felony or misdemeanor)	Court proceeding or hearing before a judge, hearing officer, or judicial official	Court
	Consultation with defense counsel (including public defender) outside of court	Defense Counsel/ Public Defender
	Interview by DA or law enforcement outside of court	DA/ Law Enforcement
<u>Victim</u> of a crime	Court proceeding or hearing before a judge	Court
	Consultation with DA outside of court	DA
Witness (any type of trial)	Court proceeding or hearing before a judge	Court
<u>Civil Litigant</u> (any type of case, small claim, tort, etc.)	Court proceeding or hearing before a judge	Court
	Consultation with counsel including any deposition, discovery, etc. outside of court	Counsel
<u>Parties to litigation in family matters</u> including divorce, custody, child support	Court proceeding or hearing before a judge or hearing officer	Court
	Consultation with counsel outside of court	Counsel
<u>Juvenile</u>	Any juvenile proceeding or hearing, including special immigrant proceedings, in court	Court
	Consultation with counsel outside of court	Counsel
<u>Parent</u> of a juvenile or <u>legal guardian</u> or <u>custodian</u> of a juvenile or an adult	Any proceeding or hearing, including special immigrant proceedings, in court	Court
	Consultation with counsel	Counsel
Any <u>party seeking assistance from a court program</u> (drug courts, FINS, CASA, etc.) or <u>court operations</u> (paying ticket, services, self-service kiosk)	Services/Operations outside of court	Entity/Organization that delivers the services*

\*In no case should a LEP individual ever pay for interpreter or be charged costs. *This includes the imposition of costs on the opposing, non-prevailing party.* Furthermore, a LEP individual should not be required to bring his/her own interpreter.

\*\*Assistance may include *bi-lingual employee, over-the-phone interpreters, etc.*