

# Maryland Interpreter



*The Maryland Court Interpreter Program is committed to providing the Maryland Judiciary with highly qualified and trained interpreters to ensure equal access to justice for all limited English proficiency individuals who seek it.*

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## Upcoming Workshops for Court Interpreters

### Oral Certification Preparation Workshop for Eligible Court Interpreters, Saturday, October 13, 2012

We are offering this workshop to those eligible interpreters who are planning to take the oral certification exam. This year the Program Services Unit will administer oral certification exams in the following languages: Arabic, Korean, Polish, Vietnamese, and Turkish. The exams will be held in November. This language neutral workshop is designed to help eligible interpreters to prepare for the exam. The participants will have an opportunity to take a practice certification exam and rate their own performance. The workshop will include exercises to improve sight translation, consecutive, and simultaneous interpreting skills. The instructors will recommend and discuss note-taking and time management techniques that can be used when taking the exam. The workshop will be lead by the Program Services Unit staff: Ksenia Boitsova, Debra Kaminski, and Lorena Sevilla Somoza.

### Crime Scene Investigation Procedures and Terminology Saturday, November 3, 2012

In this workshop, court interpreters will learn several aspects of crime scene investigation including: **identification, collection and packaging of evidence; crime scene photography; blood sampling and processing; blood spatter analysis; and fingerprint collection and analysis.** Group exercises employing expert-witness testimony will be used to illustrate the meaning of CSI terminology. Glossaries and term lists will be provided. The workshop will feature guest speaker Jeff Cover, Program Manager, Identification/Evidence Collection Section, Anne Arundel County Police Department.

## News and Announcements

### *Fall 2012 Workshops and Testing Dates*

1-Day Introductory Workshop - September 29, 2012

Written Exam (language neutral) - October 20, 2012

Language Proficiency Interviews - November, 2012

Two-day Orientation Workshop - December 1-2, 2012

Visit our site at [www.mdcourts.gov/interpreter/](http://www.mdcourts.gov/interpreter/) for more information and application

## The FCICE: Federal Court Interpreter Certification Exam

The FCICE: Federal Court Interpreter Certification Examination (FCICE): Written Exam (Phase One)

Congratulations to the interpreters who took the 2012 Federal Spanish/English Written Exam. You are all one step closer to getting federally certified! If you pass the Written Exam, you will be eligible for the Oral Exam which will be administered next year.

In the meantime, make sure that the FCICE program has your current email address ([fcice@ncsc.org](mailto:fcice@ncsc.org)) in order to receive any important updates.

Candidates who did not register for the Written Exam this time around will have to wait until 2014 to take it. Here is some information and helpful tips:

-Arrive early to get settled. Late entry into the exam is not permitted.

-Leave reference materials and large items at home or in your car.

-At the testing center, you will be greeted by a Prometric Test Center Administrator (TCA) who will ask you to present a valid form of photo ID.

-Security is high before and during the test. Once inside, you will be screened with a wand and asked to sign a log every time you leave testing area.

**-Additionally, you will NOT be allowed to bring snacks and/or water in the testing booth. Eat and drink before the test.**

-You have 3 hours and 15 minutes to complete the test. There is a timer at the top of the screen and

you will be constantly apprised of your remaining time.

-You can use the earphones provided to block out any noise.

-The Prometric computer is very user-friendly. It enables the test-taker to mark any/all answers for review at the end of the exam and catches any questions left unanswered.

-After completing the exam you will be asked to do a quick survey about your testing experience. And that's it!

### About the Written Examination:

**The Written Examination is a computer-based test.** It has two sections: English and Spanish. Each section has a total of 100 multiple-choice items divided into five parts. The five parts are: Part I: Reading Comprehension. Part II: Usage. Part III: Error Detection. Part IV: Synonyms. Part V: Best Translation of a Word or Phrase.

Anyone taking the written exam should already have a high-level of proficiency in both English and Spanish, but if you feel you do not, you should focus on improving your general language proficiency before registering for the exam. Some strategies are:

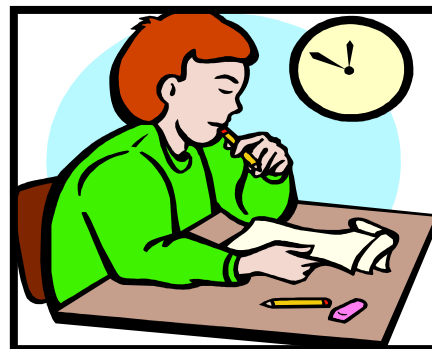
Sign-up for a FCICE Written Test Prep Workshop if it becomes available in your area. It is a 2-day workshop where participants take three practice tests and review grammar pitfalls in both languages and test-taking strategies.

Read in both English and Spanish: newspaper editorials, current events articles and news items relating to legal matters. Look for the main point and supporting

arguments and get into the habit of looking up unfamiliar words.

Brush up on laws, criminal codes, international treaties, contracts, and other U.S. court documents such as indictments, sentences, probation and police reports, affidavits, etc.

Review grammar in both languages: especially verb tenses and modes, irregular verbs, pronouns, agreement and the use of passive versus the active voice. Review vocabulary, synonyms and antonyms as well as slang and idioms. Join a study group!



### Resources:

The NCSC "Examinee Handbook" has sample questions and also a practice test.

Kaplan GRE Exam Verbal Workbooks and Flashcards

1001 Pitfalls in English by Barron's

1001 Pitfalls in Spanish by Barron's

Barron's Essential Words for the GRE

Common Grammar Pitfalls and Mistakes (Quickstudy)

### Useful websites:

<http://barronstestprep.com/gre>

<http://www.majortests.com>



# Workshops 2012



*George Norris, a guest speaker at the Latino Gang Workshop, February 2012*



*It's a full house at the Latino Gang Workshop, February 2012*



*Christie Richards as the Judge in the mock trial during the Court Interpreter Orientation Workshop, May 2012.*



*Eligible Mandarin interpreter Andre Spriggs as the Interpreter in the mock trial during the Court Interpreter Orientation, May 2012*



*Small group practice at the Voice and Speech Training for Court Interpreters, June 2012. Instructor: Ann-Mari Perrotti from Potomac Speech Language Group.*



*The participants and instructors at the Voice and Speech Training for Court Interpreters, July 2012.*

## Newly "Certified" and "Eligible" Interpreters in 2011

The Court Interpreter Program would like to welcome newly "Certified" and "Eligible" interpreters who became listed on the Court Interpreter Registry in 2012:

### Newly Certified Interpreters:

**Philip A. Rosen** - Mandarin. Certified: 7/16/12. Availability: Entire State

**Leslie Bilchick** - Spanish. Certified: 7/12/12. Availability: Anne Arundel, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Montgomery, Howard, Harford

**Xiomara Elena Gonzalez** - Spanish. Certified: 7/12/12. Availability: Anne Arundel, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Montgomery, Howard, Harford

**Eduardo Pedraza** - Spanish. Certified: 7/12/12. Availability: Entire State

**Rocio Savage** - Spanish. Certified: 7/12/12. Availability: Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, Worcester.

### Eligible Interpreters (*in alphabetical order*):

**Baig, Zain** - Punjabi, Hindi, Urdu

**Curry, Maria** - Tagalog

**Ekambaram, Meena** - Tamil

**Gebru, Meron** - Amharic

**Hong, Suh-Young** - Korean

**Hutchison, Haiyan** - Mandarin

**Kidanemariam, F.F.** - Amharic

**Liu, Quang** - Vietnamese

**Miller, Prudence** - Mandarin

**Sandag, Tselmuum** - Mongolian

**Seyoum, Awetash** - Amharic

**Spriggs, Andre** - Mandarin

**Wang, Xiangping** - Mandarin, Cantonese

**Yarborough, Alicia K** - Polish

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF YOU!

**Newsletter**  
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