



APPENDIX B

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE GEORGIA COMMISSION ON INTERPRETERS; REQUIREMENT FOR CERTIFICATION, CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, REGISTRATION, AND TRAINING OF INTERPRETERS

1. The Georgia Commission on Interpreters shall administer the training and discipline of courtroom interpreters and provide regulations that:
 - A. Shall mandate classroom training for interpreters as necessary.
 - B. Shall designate the languages for which interpreting skills can be tested and certified.
 - C. Shall result in certification under a multi-state program for simultaneous, consecutive, and sight-reading interpretation.

2. The roster of foreign language interpreters shall contain the following designations:
 - A. A "Certified Interpreter List" shall be comprised of individuals competent in court interpretation as demonstrated by successful completion of an oral and written examination demonstrating competence in interpreting as provided for by the Georgia Commission on Interpreters and the completion of required continuing education providing familiarity with the Georgia court system and the roles and responsibilities of interpreters within that system. Instead of the examination, the Commission may recognize federal certification or certification of states participating in the National Center for State Courts, Council of Language Access Coordinators⁶; or
 - B. A "Conditionally Approved Interpreter List" shall be comprised of individuals appearing competent in court interpretation that have completed mandatory classroom training and passed a written examination demonstrating familiarity with the Georgia court system and the roles and responsibilities of interpreters within that system. Also, such individuals must have achieved a satisfactory score on an oral examination as determined by the Georgia Commission on Interpreters. It is intended that a court will choose an interpreter from this category only if a Certified Interpreter is not available; or
 - C. A "Registered Interpreter List" shall be comprised of individuals appearing competent in court interpretation that have completed mandatory classroom training and passed a written examination demonstrating familiarity with the Georgia court system and the roles and responsibilities of interpreters within that system. This list will only include those interpreters interpreting a language for which no oral examination is given. Qualification tests for this list may also test language and interpretation skills. It is intended that a court will choose

⁶ Formerly known as National Consortium for State Court Interpreter Certification.



an interpreter from this category only if a Certified Interpreter or Conditionally Approved Interpreter is not available.

3. The roster of sign language interpreters shall contain the following designations: Court qualified interpreters or qualified interpreters as defined in the Official Code of Georgia. To be recognized as a court qualified interpreter or qualified interpreter in Georgia, an interpreter must hold a current certification from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf.
4. The Commission is authorized to maintain other classification and resource lists as it deems necessary.
5. The Commission shall have the authority to set expiration dates for any qualification category, to establish fees, tests, and other requirements, including continuing education requirements, for any qualification category.
6. The Georgia Commission on Interpreters is dedicated to the principle that interpreters serving in court programs should be of the highest possible caliber in training and experience. All interpreters serving in Georgia programs should be of good moral character. The Commission is authorized to enact reasonable regulations to ensure these ends.
7. The Commission is authorized to pass regulations governing the procedure in disciplining interpreters, including revocation of any qualification status.
8. All other persons interpreting court proceedings shall be required to comply with the standards for interpreting the Georgia Commission on Interpreters to the best of their ability. It is intended that such persons be selected by the Court for interpretation only where no Certified, Conditionally Approved, or Registered interpreters are available.