Meeting Date	Language Access Committee	
January 24, 2014		Education Room
Members Present		Members Excused
Evangelina Burrows		Judge Rick Smith
Judge Vernice Trease		Randall McUne
Judge Rick Romney		Wendell Roberts
Jennifer Andrus		
Jennifer Storrer		
Ghulam Hasnain		
Megan Haney		
Maureen Magagna		
Miguel Medina		
Nidia Pendley		

Staff: Alison Adams-Perlac, Rosa P. Oakes

Guests:

Topic: Approve minutes of November 15, 2013

Discussion: Judge Romney moved to approve the minutes; Jennifer Storrer seconded.

Motion: Passed

Topic: Introduction of new member

By Judge Trease

Judge Trease introduced Megan Haney as a new member of the committee who is filling the vacancy left by Greg Johnson (Chief Probation Officer). Megan informed the committee that she works in the 3rd District Juvenile Court. She mentioned that she would like to learn as much as possible about the work of the committee and court interpreters and is interested in attending an interpreter training session.

Topic: Subcommittee on Language & Culture update By Jennifer Andrus

Ms. Andrus stated that the subcommittee was charged with creating a curriculum that would inform staff on the relationship between language and culture. The important thing is to give people (staff, judges, attorneys) the tools to help them understand and deal with the social nature of language and how certain issues can be attributed to a person's culture or political friction that stems from their home country. The subcommittee has collected many real-world examples to share in training sessions. The next step is to develop a class for a test group to observe and review. It would be beneficial to invite Tom Langhorne (Judicial Ed. Driector) to participate.

Topic: Language Access Report

By Alison Adams-Perlac

Ms. Adams-Perlac presented the report she prepared for the Judicial Council. It is a review of interpreter activity during fiscal years 2011-2013. The data reflects information relative to the courts of record, which does not include Justice Courts. The report is a summary of how well the courts are responding to language access needs across the state. There was some discussion on the accuracy of the data due to how Juvenile Courts schedule interpreters in CARE; the level of civil matters scheduled for interpreters; and, the suspect data showing for ASL interpreter usage.

Judge Romney asked if it would be possible to retrieve data on language access in the Justice Courts. Ms. Adams-Perlac stated that she was unsure if the court services dept. was capable of obtaining such information through CORIS.