Superior Court of California, County of Mariposa

Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan

The Superior Court of California, County of Mariposa provides language access services to LEP court users consistent with the Strategic Plan for Language Access in the California Courts (California Language Access Plan or LAP). This Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan addresses language access services and policies that affect LEP court users and language access procedures at our court. This document serves as the plan for the Superior Court of California, County of Mariposa to provide LEP persons with services that are in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.; 45 C.F.R. §80.1 et seq.; and 28 C.F.R. § 42.101- 42.112). The purpose of this plan is to provide a framework for the provision of timely and reasonable language assistance to LEP persons who come in contact with Superior Court of Mariposa County.

1. Identification of LEP Persons

The top non-English languages spoken in Mariposa County are:

- 1. Spanish
- 2. Hmong
- 3. Lao

This information is based on the data collected from the Court Interpreter's Data Collection System (CIDCS).

2. Services Provided

Interpreters: The court strives to provide free interpreters to all LEP court users for all court hearings and trials and court-ordered/court-operated events. Interpreters are provided at no cost for all criminal, traffic and juvenile law cases. While we continue efforts toward providing interpreters in all civil matters, we are currently limiting interpreter provision as described below.

The court currently provides free interpreter services in civil matters, within the priorities established in Evidence Code § 756, as follows:

Priority 1: Domestic violence, civil harassment cases where there is no fee to file, elder abuse cases where there is physical abuse or neglect

Priority 2: Unlawful detainers (evictions)

Priority 3: Termination of parental rights

Priority 4: Guardianship and conservatorship

Priority 5: Cases where one person is asking for sole custody or visitation

Priority 6: Other civil harassment and elder abuse cases

Priority 7: Other family law cases

Priority 8: Other civil cases

The court uses Language Line to provide telephonic interpretation to assist in communications between staff and LEP persons.

Translated Written Information

The court provides multilingual information in the following ways:

☑ On the court's website by providing links to the <u>California Court's Online Self-Help</u> <u>Center</u> (English) and the <u>Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California</u> (Spanish).

3. Notification of Language Access Services

The court notifies court users of available language access services and how to access them in the following ways:

- ☑ Multilingual notice posted at the clerk's office, self-help center, and courtrooms
- ☐ Display and availability of I-Speak Cards at all points of contact with the court

4. Education of Court Staff and Judicial Officers

As recommended in the LAP, the Superior Court of California, County of Mariposa provides education for the court staff on:

- 1. Language access laws, policies and procedures,
- 2. Working with language access service providers
- 3. Working with LEP court users
- 4. Tools and technologies for providing language access

In addition to trainings, court staff have access to tools for serving LEP court users such as the <u>Language Access Toolkit</u> and Language Line.

5. Monitoring and Updating Local Language Access Services Policies

The court regularly monitors its language access services, policies and procedures and all items included in this LEP Plan to assess whether any changes are needed. In addition, the court performs an annual evaluation of its policies and updates this document as appropriate. Updates to the Mariposa County Superior Court webpage are similarly performed to provide the most current information to all court users.

The court has developed a language access complaint form and process, available at Mariposa Superior Court website or by contacting the Language Access Office at the address below. This complaint form/process is used to address the failure to provide language access services or issues with the provision of services.

All complaints are handled by the court and reported to the Judicial Council to assist in the ongoing monitoring of the overall implementation and success of the California Language Access Plan.

6. Language Access Office

Any concerns and request for information regarding this LEP Plan, its content, implementation or the language access services provided by the Superior Court of California, County of Mariposa, should be directed to:

Language Access Representative Darrah Rae Weiland, Court Supervisor P.O. Box 28 Mariposa, CA 95338 dweiland@mariposacourt.org 209-966-2005

Date of most recent update: 03/09/2018