

Guide based on current statutes which are in the process of revision. New policies and procedures will be adopted as soon as statutory amendments permit. For questions, call Brooke Bogue, 919-890-1213 or email at [Brooke.A.Bogue@nccourts.org](mailto:Brooke.A.Bogue@nccourts.org)

## QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE:

### SPANISH LANGUAGE COURT INTERPRETER FOR COURT PROCEEDINGS

This is provided as a quick reference guide to judges in determining when an AOC court interpreter should be called to provide interpreting services at state expense and when an AOC court interpreter must be retained at the party's expense.

**Basic Rule of Thumb:** The state bears the cost of the spoken foreign language court interpreter for any matter for which the State bears the cost of representation.

#### AOC Staff or Contract Court Interpreter

Must be called for. . . .

**First Appearances** (or LLE, Inc. telephone interpreting service for any language)

**Criminal/Traffic Court**

Indigent defendants and their witnesses  
State's victims and witnesses

**Criminal Non-Support/Show Cause**

Indigent Defendant/Respondent  
Petitioner/Victim for State

**Bond Hearings**

Indigent defendants

**Juvenile Delinquency Court**

Juveniles & their parents

**Abuse/Neglect/Dependency Court**

Minor children  
Indigent respondent parents

**Drug Court**

Indigent defendants

**Juvenile Drug Court**

Juveniles & their parents

**Mental Health Court**

For any indigent respondent who is entitled to court appointed counsel

**50B Proceedings**

All petitioners  
Indigent respondents

**Child Custody Mediations**

Parties

**Involuntary Mental Commitments**

Indigent respondents

*Interpreting services required outside of the court proceeding are the responsibility of the agency providing the service. Court appointed counsel and public defenders must contact an AOC contractor to speak with clients prior to the court date pursuant to an MOU with IDS.*

#### AOC Contract Court Interpreter

Must be retained privately for . . . .

**All Civil and Domestic Litigation**

(except as noted regarding 50B proceedings)

**Criminal/Traffic Court**

Non-indigent defendants and their witnesses.

*\*Staff interpreter or AOC contractor may assist in **guilty pleas with findings of guilt ONLY**, provided counsel's motion to appoint interpreter (AOC-G-107) is approved by presiding judge, and interpreting services costs are assessed against the defendant.*

**Bond Hearings**

Non-indigent defendants

**Abuse/Neglect/Dependency Court**

Non-indigent respondent parents

**Drug Court**

Non-indigent defendants

**Mental Health Court**

For all parties who are required to bear their own costs of representation

**50B Proceedings**

Non-indigent respondents

**Involuntary Mental Commitments**

Petitioners & non-indigent respondents

*Interpreting services required outside of the court proceeding are the responsibility of the agency providing the service. Privately retained counsel for non-indigent defendants and civil litigants must retain an AOC contractor to speak with clients and witnesses prior to the court date.*