

**NON-EXECUTIVE AGENCY  
FISCAL NOTE**

AGENCY'S ESTIMATES

Date Prepared: February 20, 2017

Agency Submitting: Second Judicial District Court

Items of Revenue or Expense, or Both	Fiscal Year 2016-17	Fiscal Year 2017-18	Fiscal Year 2018-19	Effect on Future Biennia
Total	0	0	0	0

Explanation

(Use Additional Sheets of Attachments, if required)

The financial impact of requiring the District Court to provide interpreters in all proceedings in a civil cases is difficult to estimate because we do not currently track the number of civil cases in which an interpreter is used. Nevertheless, below are the costs of which we are aware. Spanish contract interpreters range from \$60-\$70 per hour with a 2 hour minimum. For languages other than Spanish, the rates are:

- o Tagalog Interpreter : \$800 flat rate + travel expenses (Washington)
- o Tagalog Interpreter : \$600 for half-day + \$400 travel time + expenses (San Francisco)
- o Hindi Interpreter: \$250 per hour + travel time @ \$50 per hour + mileage & per diem (Sacramento)
- o Bengali Interpreter: \$1200 for half-day + travel expenses (Los Angeles)
- o Tongan Interpreter: \$175 per hour, 4 hour minimum (San Mateo)
- o Certified ASL Interpreter: \$800 flat rate + travel expenses (Oakland)

Adding a requirement to provide interpreters to parties and witnesses in every civil case will significantly increase the workload and will require an additional part-time administrative assistant to assist with scheduling at a cost of approximately \$33,000. Data entry responsibilities will increase. Additionally, there will be an increase in workload in communicating with and scheduling the interpreters. Finally, there is little predictability in civil matters. It is not uncommon for hearings to be vacated at the last minute or with little notice. All interpreters require at least a 24 hour cancellation notice. If less than 24 hours is provided, the Court must pay the full costs associated with the assignment. Some exotic language interpreters require a one week cancellation notice. A late cancellation could result in payment of a flight, travel expenses, travel time, and the interpretation fee. Over the past 12 months, approximately

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