

IN THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA

ORDER ESTABLISHING PROTOCOL FOR THE EMPLOYMENT
AND ATTENDANCE OF INTERPRETERS FOR CRIMINAL
COURT PROCEEDINGS IN LEE COUNTY

Pursuant to this Court's inherent authority to administer and regulate the courts of the Twentieth Judicial Circuit, as well as the authority prescribed by Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.050, the Court hereby establishes a protocol for the employment and attendance of interpreters in criminal court proceedings in Lee County, Florida.

For the purposes of this order, the Court recognizes that the determination of the need for an interpreter or translator for any person who cannot express himself or herself in the English language sufficiently to be understood ultimately rests with the trial judge pursuant to Florida Statute § 90.606.

In addition, if an interpreter or translator is required for a deaf person (as defined in Florida Statute § 90.6063), the need for the appointment of an interpreter or translator for a deaf person ultimately rests with the court as well.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, through this order, the court hereby places the onus on counsel who are in need of the services of an interpreter for any criminal proceeding to procure such

services where required for a witness or party.

Based upon the foregoing, it is

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED as follows:

1. In any case where the services of an interpreter are required for any criminal proceeding in Lee County, irrespective of the nature of that proceeding, counsel for the State or the Defendant shall procure the services of an interpreter or translator so that the proceeding will be held as scheduled by the Court or counsel.

2. In the event that counsel is unable to procure the services of an interpreter or translator as contemplated by the Statutes cited above, counsel shall notify the Office of the Court Administrator no later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled proceeding of counsel's inability to independently procure the services of an interpreter or translator.

3. In the event that counsel does not provide the requisite notice to the Court Administrator as set forth above, any ancillary costs associated with the failure of counsel to comply with this order may be assessed against counsel upon proper application by the Office of the Court Administrator.

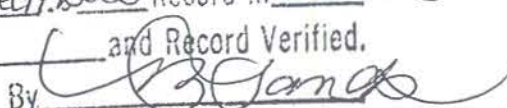
This order will take effect on April 17, 2000 and will be published in all Local Bar Association publications and on the Court's Website forthwith.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Naples, Collier County, Florida, this 28th day of March, 2000.


William L. Blackwell
Chief Judge

ATTEST:


WILLIAM D. WILKINSON, SR.
Court Administrator

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF LEE
FILED FOR RECORD
This 28 Day of MARCH 2000 Record in CIR. COURT MINUTE
Book 44 Page 1 and Record Verified.
CHARLIE GREEN By 
Clerk Circuit Court Deputy Clerk

I CERTIFY THIS DOCUMENT TO BE A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN MY OFFICE, CHARLIE GREEN, CLERK CIRCUIT COURT LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

DATED: MAR 28 2000

BY: 
Deputy Clerk