

**NEW HAMPSHIRE JUDICIAL BRANCH
CODE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR INTERPRETERS**

CANON 1

A court interpreter shall maintain high standards of personal and professional conduct that promote confidence in the administration of justice and that uphold the dignity and integrity of the judicial branch.

CANON 2

A court interpreter shall observe this Code, and any rules and orders of the court which relate to the delivery of his or her professional services.

CANON 3

A court interpreter shall accept assignments only when he or she is confident of the ability to perform in accordance with this Code. A court interpreter shall notify the court immediately when he or she is not able to perform an assignment competently.

CANON 4

A court interpreter shall render a complete and accurate interpretation by conveying “meaning by meaning” the message from the source language to the target language without adding, omitting or modifying anything. The register or style of the language used shall be preserved.

CANON 5

A court interpreter shall not participate as a witness or a party in any matter in which he or she serves as an interpreter.

CANON 6

A court interpreter who is also an attorney shall not serve in both capacities in the same matter.

CANON 7

A court interpreter shall limit himself or herself to interpreting or translating and shall not give legal advice, explain questions or testimony, interject personal opinions, or engage in any other activities which may be construed to be services other than interpreting or translating, while in service as an interpreter.

CANON 8

A court interpreter shall maintain an impartial disposition in all matters and toward all parties and shall at all time refrain from conduct that may give an

appearance of bias. A court interpreter shall disclose any conflict of interest to the judge and the parties as soon as a conflict is known.

CANON 9

A court interpreter shall be unobtrusive during court proceedings so that his or her presence permits an atmosphere as close as is possible to one in which there is no language barrier.

CANON 10

A court interpreter shall immediately report to the presiding judge any solicitation or effort by another to induce or encourage him or her to violate any law or any provision of this Code.

CANON 11

A court interpreter shall accurately and completely represent his or her certifications, training, and pertinent experience.

CANON 12

A court interpreter shall keep the confidentiality of all privileged and other confidential information.

CANON 13

A court interpreter shall not publicly discuss, report, or offer an opinion concerning a matter in which he or she is or has been engaged, even when that information is not privileged or required by law to be confidential.

CANON 14

A court interpreter shall improve his or her skills and knowledge and advance the profession through activities such as professional training, education and interaction with colleagues and specialists in related fields.

CANON 15

Once having accepted or undertaken an assignment in any court, a court interpreter shall be prompt in arriving in the courtroom and other places where services are to be rendered. When a court interpreter cannot fulfill such obligations due to circumstances beyond his or her control, he or she shall immediately report the inability to perform as agreed to the appropriate person.