

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN

Presented by the Committee on Justice Initiatives
and the Equal Access Initiative

LANGUAGE ACCESS

Best Practices in Michigan Courts

Friday, September 19, 2014

9:00–10:30 a.m. River Overlook C

DeVos Place, Grand Rapids, MI

Register on line at <http://www.michbar.org/annualmeeting>



The Michigan Supreme Court adopted language access court rules in September of 2013 to assure access to justice for Limited English Proficient persons.

All Michigan trial courts have adopted language access plans and are actively working with practitioners and communities to implement the new rules.

Panelists on this program will:

- review MCR 1.111, MCR 8.127 and the ABA Standards for Language Access in Courts
- show you how to use the Request and Order for Interpreter through Michigan Legal Help's automated online request for interpreter form
- discuss the use of judicial discretion in determining the need for an interpreter
- introduce you to the new Spanish self-help resource Ayuda Legal de Michigan

Information on criteria for certification of foreign language interpreters and tests for certification of court interpreters will be shared. Practical tips on how to work with interpreters and best practice in the courtroom and in courthouse operations discussions are part of the program.

PANEL MODERATOR:

Maya K. Watson

Bodman PLC

Co-chair of the Equal Access Initiative

PANELISTS:

Hon. Christopher P. Yates

Judge, 17th Circuit Court

Member, Michigan Supreme Court
Foreign Language Board of Review

Hon. William G. Kelly

Judge, 62B District Court

Member, Michigan Supreme Court
Foreign Language Board of Review

Donna F. Bos

Certified interpreter and owner of
Fidelity Language Resources, LLC
Member, Michigan Supreme Court
Foreign Language Board of Review

Angela S. Tripp

Managing Attorney,
Michigan Poverty Law Program
Program Manager,
Michigan Legal Help Program