

INTERPRETER'S DIGEST

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Administrative Office of the Courts
Nashville, TN 37219

Nashville City Center
615.741.2687

511 Union Street Suite 600
www.tncourts.gov

Change in 2008 Exam Dates

Many of us have rigorous schedules, events to plan, and anxiously look forward to that part of the week where we can kick off our shoes and let our hair down, THE WEEKEND! This is a time when most of us enjoy the much needed rest and relaxation long sought for during the busy, demanding week. Partially because of this, remaining exams dates have been changed for the remainder of the 2008 calendar year. Effective immediately, oral and written exams will be administered during the week at the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to accommodate the work schedules of many existing and potential interpreters. If testing cannot be done during the week, the AOC will examine each interpreter's request on a case-by-case basis to determine if Saturday testing is available.

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Please note that we will offer the oral exams over an entire week period and the time slots for the date and time of the exams will be filled on a first come first serve basis, with exams offered hourly from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. CST.

Spanish Oral Exams will be offered the week of August 4-8 and November 10-14. Languages Other Than Spanish will be April 7-11 and September 1-5.

AOC Parking

Please remember that the AOC does not validate or reimburse for parking costs for interpreter testing. You are welcome to park in the Nashville City Center Garage if space is available. Parking at any location is the responsibility of the interpreter. There are different locations where you may choose to park; the Nashville Public Library (1/2 block from the AOC), Mc Kendree Parking Garage (1/2 block from AOC), and Central Parking Systems (CPS). CPS is located throughout the

downtown area. If you have any questions concerning parking, please contact the AOC at 615-741-2687.



Bussell and Loruido Become Certified Interpreters

Ginger Bussell of Lewisburg and Cristina Lourido of Kingston are our newly certified interpreters for the language of Spanish. Both interpreters passed the three-part oral exam that was administered in March 2008. Please congratulate them both.

Ginger was born in South America, Ecuador, making Spanish her first language. She came to the United States, New York, when she was 12 years old and this is how she acquired the English language. Ginger has had different job roles in different companies and has used her bilingual skills in all of them. She became a TN registered court interpreter on Feb 14th 2007; which she stated was her Valentine's present. Ginger says, "Becoming a registered interpreter was just my stepping stone in order to achieve my goal, to become a certified court interpreter. I knew that I wanted to become a certified interpreter as soon as possible. I began to study and take different classes through TFLI in order to be ready for the oral exam. It also helped that I was able to interpret a couple of times in court prior to taking the oral exam."

Ginger believes that it is very important to have the support of people who are a step above you. She further states, "There are many questions that come up when you are learning the process and it is great to have someone clarify such doubts. I was very fortunate to have found a few people along the way who were very understanding, patient and caring. You know who you are because I have called you or emailed you, (I am not sure if you want me to mention your names). I thank each one of you for mentoring me when I needed it the most. I hope that some day I can meet those of you who I have not had the privilege of meeting. God bless you. I am thrilled to have a job that I love and where I can utilize my bilingual skills."



Ginger Bussell



Cristina Lourido

Cristina was born in Cali, Colombia, to a Colombian father and Austrian mother. In 1976, she moved to Vienna, Austria, to pursue her studies in translation (Spanish, German, English), which were completed with a:

- "Academically examined translation diploma" at the Vienna University, in Vienna, Austria
- Masters in simultaneous translation, at the Vienna University, in Vienna, Austria

She lived in Colombia approximately 20 years of her life, where she grew up and went to school. She also lived approximately 23 years in Austria, where she went to the university and worked.

Apart from that, she has visited Germany, Italy, France, Greece, the Netherlands, Portugal, England, Czech Rep., Hungary, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Russia, and worked as an "au-pair" for one month in France during her university years.

In 1999 she married a US citizen and moved in Nov. of that year to the United States, where she has taken up residence. She has done voluntary work for the non-profit "Keep Roane Beautiful" organization (giving educational presentations at schools, writing articles for and dealing with the media, represent KRB at county fairs and lead volunteer teams for the Great American Cleanup, as well as other tasks).

Cristina says, "I look forward to work now in my profession with the certificate obtained from the AOC."

A Note from Randy Wittig Registered Interpreter

An idea maybe to help us interpreters would be to every so often, send an occasional journal of thoughts and helps for interpreters... something short, but that helps everyone have the knowledge of resources that are out there. For example here are several web pages which I think other interpreters should know about, that I have accidentally found. The first one is a real gem, jury instructions from Puerto Rico.... (The problem is that some of our friends think the Puerto Ricans speak incorrectly- but here is an example of how well educated native Spanish speakers are expressing legal concepts that are very similar to the US system of justice).

<http://www.tribunalpr.org/sistema/supremo/manual-instrucciones-al-jurado-mayo-2006.pdf>

<http://www.c-span.org/Radio/web/schedule.asp?Cat=TV&Code=CSR>

<http://www.supremecourtus.gov/>

<http://www.lexjuris.com/lexlex/lexotras/lexdroga.htm>

Interpreter Registration Forms

Registration forms are now available on the AOC website at www.tncourts.gov to register for the written and oral exams for the remainder of the year. To register for a particular exam, please follow the steps below:

- 1) Select Programs and Services
- 2) Click on Court Interpreters
- 3) Scroll down and select the exam and date under Registration Forms and Information
- 4) Submit registration form

Duong, First Registered Vietnamese Interpreter



The AOC is pleased to announce its first registered Vietnamese interpreter, Loan Duong.

Loan has been doing interpretation since she arrived in Knoxville in June 1975, as a volunteer helping fellow country people who did not have the language. She has a bachelor's degree from Auckland University in New Zealand and attended Auckland University under the program Colombo Plan Scholarship provided by the British Commonwealth. After graduating, Loan went back to Vietnam and taught English and French languages. She also speaks French fluently.

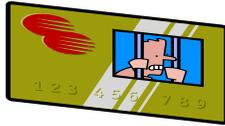
Loan says, "While I was doing volunteer work with various organizations helping the refugees in their resettlement, T. Hope Collins with Tennessee Foreign Language Institute in Nashville got hold of my name and urged me to attend the Ethics Workshop in order to become certified. That's how it started. I'm now a registered court interpreter (in Vietnamese Language) for the State of Kentucky."

Loan is a realtor in the Knoxville area and has been for the last 18 years.

Need A Photo ID?

All interpreters are required to have a photo id card once they become registered. If you do not reside in surrounding counties or find it difficult to stop by the AOC, you may send us a scanned photo image along with a copy of your driver's license and your badge will be mailed to you. This option is not available for those that currently possess a badge, only newly registered interpreters without one.

Interpreter Identification



Becoming a victim of identity theft is one of the worse experiences imaginable. There are many devices that hackers and those that possess heinous tendencies use to steal someone's identity, creating a whirlwind of chaos for their victims. The AOC has taken measures to safeguard interpreter's personal information in compliance with T.C.A. §47-18-2110(a)(4), by not requiring social security numbers on registration forms, background checks, etc. Beginning immediately, the identification number you will use on all correspondence and registration forms is the four-digit number on your Supreme Court photo badge, for example, 0195.

Ways to Protect YOUR Identity

Close credit card and bank accounts immediately. Upon opening new accounts, place passwords on them. Avoid using a mother's maiden name, a birth date, the last four digits of a Social Security number, a phone number or a series of consecutive numbers when creating passwords.

Call the toll-free fraud number of any of the three nationwide consumer credit-reporting companies (Experian, Equifax, Transunion) and place an initial fraud alert on credit reports. A fraud alert can help stop someone from opening new credit accounts in a victim's name.

Order copies of credit reports and review them for inquiries from unfamiliar companies and accounts. Check that information such as the Social Security number; addresses, name, initials and employers are correct. Continue to check the reports periodically, especially for the first year after the theft occurs to make sure new activity has not been logged.

Source: *5 Ways to Protect Your Identity*, Ashley Roe September 1,

2006

Dates to Remember

Spanish Oral Exam

August 4-8

November 10-14

Languages Other Than Spanish Exam

April 7-11

September 1-5



We Want to Know

Do you know of any resources or materials that would be beneficial to the interpreter community such as workshops, courses, training material, etc.? If so, please forward that information to the AOC to be published on the website or in future newsletters.

What information would you like to see in future *Interpreter's Digest* issues? We welcome any feedback and ideas. Please send your suggestions to Sheila Morris at sheila.morris@tncourts.gov

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