

## PRESS RELEASE

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## INTERPRETER SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE IN ALL CASE TYPES

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 247 West Third Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor San Bernardino, Ca 92415-0302 <u>www.sb-court.org</u>

909-708-8747

R. Glenn Yabuno Presiding Judge

Anabel Z. Romero Court Executive Officer **SAN BERNARDINO, CA**— Effective June 5, 2023, the San Bernardino Superior Court (SBSC) now provides court interpreters for all Civil and Small Claims courtroom proceedings. With this expansion, court interpreters are now available for all courtroom proceedings in all case types countywide.

Over 42 percent of San Bernardino County's population speak a language other than English at home. In accomplishing its mission of providing equal access to justice to the community it serves, court interpreters are an essential component to removing language barriers that can present challenges for limited-English proficient (LEP) court users and their understanding the judicial process.

SBSC's long-term goal of courtwide language access was realized through the <u>2022 Budget Act</u> which provided new and ongoing funding. In 2022, SBSC fulfilled 54,060 requests for Spanish translation alone, with an additional 2,207 requests for languages other than Spanish. We thank the Judicial Council and state legislators for their continued partnership and investment.

Please note that advance notice is required for all interpreter needs. If an interpreter is not requested in advance and not readily available, the court may continue the case. In a case requiring a sign language interpreter, any party may request this service from courtroom staff or the facility's ADA Coordinator.

Please contact Julie Van Hook, Communications and Public Affairs Officer, for media-related inquiries at <u>courts-pio@sb-court.org</u>.