

**National Institute on the Use and Integration of Interpreters in Civil Legal Representation
of Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking**

Monday, May 14, 2007, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

How do I find an Interpreter?

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Faculty Table Facilitator – please read the following scenarios to the table, one at a time and ask them to answer the following questions:

Where can you find an interpreter to serve your needs?

How do you make sure that the interpreter is appropriate

Who will pay for the interpreters?

When will you need an interpreter?

Scenario #1

You have a woman who is a victim of domestic violence come into your office who speaks some English, but her first language is Farsi. You do not have anyone on your staff who speaks Farsi nor have you worked with a Farsi Interpreter in the past. She shows you a document that indicates that she has a hearing in three days to extend her existing protection order. You need to conduct an intake, client interview and prepare her for the hearing in three days.

Scenario #2

You have a woman come into your office with her 16 year old daughter. The woman's daughter explains that her mother is deaf but that she can communicate on behalf of her mother. She explains that her mother and father have separated and that her father has been abusing her mother for several years. She explains that her father is not Deaf. They currently are staying with family friends, but she is concerned that her father will find them so she wants to obtain any protection and custody of the daughter as soon as possible.

Scenario #3

You have a client who speaks Tarasco, an indigenous dialect from Mexico who comes into your office seeking services. She has brought her friend with her who speaks Tarasco and Spanish, but no English. You speak Spanish so the friend is able to translate for you. She is extremely agitated because the friend explains that her boyfriend has threatened to kill her if she leaves and she left the night before and moved into a shelter. Her immigration status is unclear, but through her friend she makes reference to the fact that her boyfriend regularly threatened to have her deported if she left. She is afraid that her boyfriend will find her and you assess that the lethality of the situation is very high and that you need to go to court to obtain a protective order tomorrow.