



United States District Court

# DISTRICT OF SOUTH DAKOTA

## LR 28.1 INTERPRETERS

**A. Responsibility for Obtaining.** When interpreters are required for proceedings instituted by the United States, the clerk of court will locate certified or otherwise qualified interpreters for court proceedings. However, the U.S. attorney's office is responsible for locating, contracting, and paying interpreters for government witnesses. For most other purposes, a party requiring the services of an interpreter must obtain his or her own interpreting services. If the defendant is indigent, prior court approval to hire an interpreter is required as specified in the Guide to Judiciary Policy and 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(e). If counsel for either party believes that interpreter services for court proceedings are needed for more than an hour, counsel must notify the clerk of court as soon as possible.

If participants in federal court proceedings are deaf, hearing impaired or have communication disabilities, the court will provide sign language interpreters.

**B. Certified Telephone Interpreters.** In criminal cases, the court may use certified interpreters supplied by the Telephone Interpreting Program sponsored by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts for hearings that do not exceed an hour. Any objection to the use of such an interpreter must be made before the commencement of the proceeding being interpreted.