



JOHNSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

OCT 28 2024

April Long
County Clerk, Johnson County Texas

BY April Long DEPUTY

Christopher Boedeker
County Judge

Rick Bailey
Commissioner
Precinct 1

Kenny Howell
Commissioner
Precinct 2

Mike White
Commissioner
Precinct 3

Larry Woolley
Commissioner
Precinct 4

THE STATE OF TEXAS

§

ORDER 2024-98

COUNTY OF JOHNSON

§

§

ORDER ESTABLISHING POLICY AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION SERVICES

WHEREAS, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure 38.30(a) requires each Court to provide language interpretation for any party in a criminal proceeding; and

WHEREAS, Courts are also required to provide for language interpretation in civil, family, and other proceedings; and

WHEREAS, the County is financially responsible for the payment of these services; and

WHEREAS, Code of Criminal Procedure 38.30 (c) authorizes the Commissioners Court to set a payment schedule and to expend funds for interpreters.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

The Commissioners Court of Johnson County, Texas hereby enters this Order establishing the following Policy and Payment Schedule:

1. **Scope.** This Policy applies to the District Courts, County Courts-at-Law, Constitutional County Court, Justice Courts, and any Specialty Courts serving Johnson County. It does not include municipal courts within the County.
2. **Interpreter Arrangements.** Any Court may arrange for an interpreter to interpret for the Court as needed. The Local Administrative Judge for Johnson County may also arrange for on-site interpreters to serve the Courts of Johnson County for scheduled blocks of time.
3. **Payment Rates.** Courts may authorize payment to interpreters for services in accordance with this Policy. Interpreters may be paid for remote or in-person services. Courts may authorize payment for a mandatory minimum number of hours as required by the interpreters. Courts may also authorize reimbursement for mileage expenses up to the IRS reimbursement rate.

- **Spanish Language:** Up to \$100/hour
 - **Other Languages:** Up to \$150/hour
4. **Remote Services.** Courts are encouraged to use remote interpreter services when practicable, including video conferencing, telephone, or other remote means. Courts are also encouraged to use OCA's free telephone interpreters when reasonable.
 5. **Cancellation Fees.** A Court may authorize the payment of a cancellation fee if required by an interpreter, not to exceed four times the approved hourly charge.
 6. **Taxing Costs.** Courts are encouraged, where permissible, to tax the costs of an interpreter to the appropriate party. This Policy does not affect a Court's ability to tax interpreter expenses as costs if allowed by law and does not authorize a Court to do so if prohibited by law.
 7. **No Additional Payment Authorized.** This Policy does not authorize payments that exceed the payment amounts listed above. This Policy does not authorize payment for reimbursement of other expenses, including meals or lodging.
 8. **Special Authorization.** If a Court cannot locate an interpreter within the limitations of this Policy, it should request special authorization from the Commissioners Court before approving a fee exceeding the amounts specified herein.

This Order is subject to amendment or modification in response to interpreter availability.

WITNESS OUR HAND THIS THE 28TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2024.

Christopher Boedeker

Christopher Boedeker, Johnson County Judge

Voted: yes, ___ no, ___ abstained

Rick Bailey

Rick Bailey, Comm. Pct. 1

Voted: yes, ___ no, ___ abstained

Kenny Howell

Kenny Howell, Comm. Pct. 2

Voted: yes, ___ no, ___ abstained

Mike White

Mike White, Comm. Pct. 3

Voted: yes, ___ no, ___ abstained

Larry Woolley

Larry Woolley, Comm. Pct. 4

Voted: yes, ___ no, ___ abstained

Attest:

April Long
April Long, County Clerk

