

CONFERENCE OF CHIEF JUSTICES

CONFERENCE OF STATE COURT ADMINISTRATORS

Resolution 7

In Support of Establishing Best Practices/Recommendations for the Use of Video Remote Interpretation

WHEREAS, the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ) and the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) have long recognized the importance of access to justice for litigants and others using state courts, including limited English proficient individuals who face particular challenges and hardships in accessing and navigating the justice system; and

WHEREAS, individual state courts have struggled to obtain access to sufficient qualified court interpreter services in the many languages spoken by those who access the state courts; and

WHEREAS, the use of video remote interpreting (VRI) has the potential to offer key benefits to state courts in enhancing the quality, efficiency, accountability, and availability of court interpreter services on a national level, thereby further promoting access to justice in courts; and

WHEREAS, CCJ adopted Resolution 2 in January 2013 and COSCA adopted Resolution 1 in December 2013 supporting efforts by the Language Access Advisory Committee to develop national VRI standards for vendors interested in providing VRI services to state courts, and to address other related VRI issues; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the mandate in CCJ Resolution 2 and COSCA Resolution 1, the Language Access Advisory Committee (LAAC) has developed business policy recommendations and technical requirements for VRI court services to support the quality and consistency of interpreter services provided to state courts through potential VRI technology solutions, as well as to enhance the solutions' versatility and effectiveness;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators:

1. Authorize the LAAC, with the assistance of the Council of Language Access Coordinators, to promulgate and amend as necessary video remote interpreting business policy recommendations, technical requirements, and other related practices for state court interpreter services; and
2. Request the National Center for State Courts, working with LAAC and others, to take further action to support implementation of these VRI business policy recommendations and technical requirements and the creation of potential VRI technical solutions advancing court interpreter resource sharing on a national level.

Adopted as proposed by the CCJ/COSCA Access, Fairness and Public Trust Committee at the 2013 Annual Meeting on July 31, 2013.