



IIP PD Sessions

Court interpreting & Recommended National Standards (RNS) for working with interpreters in courts and tribunals

Presenters

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Responsibilities

 <p>Courts & tribunals</p>	 <p>Judicial officers</p>	 <p>Legal practitioners</p>
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Interpreters

1. Application of code
2. General duty to the court
3. Duty to comply with directions
4. Duty of Accuracy
5. Duty of Impartiality
6. Duty of Competence
7. Confidentiality

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Discussion scenarios

1. You have arrived at a hearing. The only information you have received from the language service provider is that the case is about domestic violence. What can you do to find out more about the case, if anything? Whose responsibility is it to brief you about the case?

2. You have been interpreting in a hearing, sitting next to the defendant in the public gallery. However, the hearing has been going on for two hours, and you are tired and cannot concentrate. The Magistrate has alerted you earlier on that you can ask for a break but you are not sure how to do it. What will you do? Should you wait for the Magistrate to remember?

3. The Magistrate has been speaking loudly and clearly when addressing the witness. However, when the Magistrate addressed a lawyer, they both spoke too fast for you to keep up, and you have omitted some information. What will you do?

4. During a hearing the defendant's lawyer has asked you to sight translate a legal document. You haven't seen it before and it seems very technical. What will you do and why?

5. You have been asked to interpret in a trial. However, you are not certified but have done a bit of training and are registered with a service. Should you be interpreting? What are the considerations to be taken into account? Whose ultimate decision is it if you can interpret in a trial?

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Resources

RNS

- [Online searchable version](#)
- [PDF version](#)
- [Feedback form about court experience](#)

Dictionaries and glossaries

- [Legal Literate](#)
- [Legal Dictionary: Plain English - PDF — ARDS](#)

Legal interpreting courses

- In-house with services like AIS
- Online course via AllGrads, AUSIT
- Via courts (QLD)

Mentors!

Others...