



CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM
Court Interpreter Services

ANNOUNCEMENT

December 11, 2012

Max Christian, Melanie DeLeon-Benham, and Ed Alletto will present, "Understanding the Values Lurking in our Code of Professional Responsibility," A two-hour continuing education webinar on Thursday, February 23, 2012 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM PT.

This webinar discussion will explore the values which underlie the Oregon Court of Professional Responsibility. The goal being, once these values are understood, the interpreter will be better prepared to respond professionally to situations which confront them in the court room, such as responding to questions from the court, and making decisions and working collaboratively with the court environment.

Max Christian is the OJD Court Interpreter Services Interpreter Analyst and has been a Master Level Certified Interpreter for the Spanish Language since 2001. Prior to returning to the USA in 2000, he held a variety of positions over a 20-year period in Mexico including Orphanage House Director, administrator of a Mexican non-profit corporation, entrepreneur, English as a Foreign Language teacher, and minister. Max frequently gives presentations on interpreter issues at trainings for members of the court community.

Melanie DeLeon-Benham has an A.A. degree in Deaf studies from Seattle Central Community College, a B.S. in English/ASL Interpreting from Western Oregon University and a Masters degree in Rehabilitation Counseling: Deafness from Western Oregon University. Additionally, she has 100 post graduate hours from Portland State University. She returned the Judicial Department in 2011 as a member of the Certification and Training department as the Interpreter Liaison. Her duties include: providing services as a mentor to court interpreters, providing ASL interpreting and whatever else is thrown her way! Melanie has been a Sign Language interpreter for the last 16 years. She holds five national certifications; a Certificate of Interpreting, a Certificate of Transliteration, Specialized: Legal Certificate and the NIC through Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID), as well as a level IV Certification from the National Association for the Deaf. She has specialized in legal interpreting for the last seven years. If she is not in court, she is probably interpreting in some other country.

Ed Alletto was trained as an interpreter in 1978 at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf in Rochester, NY and has been interpreting ever since. Originally from Rochester, where he graduated with a business degree, Ed had a freelance practice in NYC for 13 years before arriving in Portland during a windstorm in 1994. In 2003 he teamed up with SignOn Inc. of Seattle, Washington to establish SignOn-Oregon LLC, a sign language interpreting agency that offered both video and in-person interpreting. Ed has interpreted in Oregon courts since 1995 as a contractor and joined CIS' interpreting staff in January of 2007 as an ASL Interpreter II. At various times in his life he has been a cook, a tutor, an actor, a dancer and a paramedic.