

Supreme Court

No. 2009-05

EXECUTIVE ORDER
(Certification of Foreign Language Interpreters)

Pursuant to the authority granted to the Chief Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court pursuant to § 8-15-2 of the Rhode Island General Laws (1997 Reenactment), it is hereby ordered as follows:

In accordance with the establishment and certification of interpreters in § 8-19-5 of the Rhode Island General Laws (1997 Reenactment), a state certified interpreter is one who attains a passing score on one of the following standardized tests: the National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators (NAJIT) exam (Spanish only); the Federal Court Interpreter Certification exam (Spanish only); or the National Center for State Courts Consortium for State Court Interpreters' full exam (currently Cantonese, French, Haitian Creole, Hmong, Ilocano, Korean, Laotian, Mandarin, Portuguese, Russian, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese languages). As languages for full examination are added to the National Center for State Courts Consortium for State Court Interpreters' exam, they too will be included for state certification. All three exams test the interpreter's proficiency in foreign and English languages, knowledge of legal proceedings and terminologies, and establish equivalent competency requirements for certification as a foreign language interpreter.

The appointment of a qualified interpreter in place of a state certified interpreter shall be in accordance with § 8-19-3(b) of the Rhode Island General Laws (1997 Reenactment).

Entered as an Order of this Court this 5th day of May, 2009.

Enter:

By Order,

_____/s/
Maureen McKenna Goldberg
Acting Chief Justice

_____/s/