



## INTERPRETER CODE OF ETHICS

I \_\_\_\_\_ agree to be bound by the following Code of Ethics as an interpreter for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial Circuit Court of South Dakota's Unified Judicial System.

\_\_\_\_\_ **SERVICES.** I agree that while I am performing the professional duties of an interpreter, I will not give advice, express personal opinions, advocate for anyone involved in the proceedings or any issue presented, or engage in any other activity that may be construed as a service other than interpreting.

\_\_\_\_\_ **CONFIDENTIALITY.** I shall respect all confidences received in the course of interpretation. All information gained by me in the course of my professional duties shall remain strictly confidential. This information shall not be communicated, published or in any way divulged to any organization or person, other than the organization or person engaging my services as an interpreter.

\_\_\_\_\_ **ACCURACY & COMPLETENESS.** I will render, to the best of my ability, a complete and accurate interpretation without altering or omitting anything that is stated. I will not add to what is said nor provide unsolicited explanation. I will strive to convey meaning-for-meaning and will seek clarification from the court if I am in doubt at any time during the proceedings.

\_\_\_\_\_ **IMPARTIALITY.** I will be impartial and unbiased and shall refrain from conduct that may give an appearance of bias. I will not allow personal opinions to interfere with my duties nor add unsolicited comments or make recommendations except to assist communication.

\_\_\_\_\_ **CONFLICT OF INTEREST.** I will disclose any real or perceived conflict of interest. I will not take personal advantage, financial or otherwise, of information obtained in the course of my work.

\_\_\_\_\_ **DISQUALIFICATIONS & IMPEDIMENTS.** I will, at all times, assess my ability to maintain highest standards for professional interpretation. I will immediately convey any reservations about my ability to successfully complete assignment from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Circuit. I will decline any assignment I believe to be beyond my technical knowledge or linguistic ability.

\_\_\_\_\_ **PROFESSIONAL COURTESY.** I will shall maintain a professional demeanor, be courteous and use the tone of voice appropriate to the situation. I will defer to all instructions from the court.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Interpreter Date

Witness:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Date