



Chicago Area Translators and Interpreters Association

An Independent Professional Association

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## CHICATA INTERPRETERS INSTITUTE 2010

### *ANATOMY OF A TRIAL & BENCH-SIDE MANNERS*

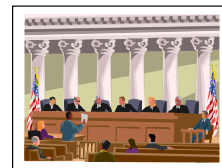
**Facilitated by Roberto Mendoza**

**with the participation of a panel of local judges, attorneys  
and prosecutors**



**Saturday, November 6, 2010  
8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

**Dirksen Federal Building  
219 S. Dearborn  
Courtroom 2541  
Chicago, Illinois 60604**



This is a great opportunity for legal interpreters or those who want to transition into legal interpretation to learn about the elements of a trial, court etiquette, the role of the interpreter in the courtroom. There will be some role playing and the opportunity for the attendees to participate in the mock cases using some simultaneous interpretation equipment. This will be an interactive presentation. The details are presented in the outline below.

The meeting will be held in a high security building. **Thus, all participants need to register ahead of time, and provide their full legal name (as it appears on the driver's license) their phone number and email address. For security purposes no one will be allowed in the building on the day of the workshop if they have not pre-registered.**

The cost of this event is \$35 for members and \$40 for non-members. Payment can be made via PayPal (go to [www.chicata.org](http://www.chicata.org), click on EVENTS, and follow the link to PayPal) or by check, payable to CHICATA. Send checks to: John Bukacek, 6171 N. Sheridan Road #2212, Chicago, IL 60660-5841.

There will be a light breakfast provided and we will meet for lunch at Bennigans (on the corner of Michigan Avenue and Adams Street) immediately afterwards.

## CHICATA INTERPRETERS INSTITUTE 2010 REGISTRATION

For security reasons we need to provide a list of all participants ahead of time.

**The deadline for registration is November 3, 2010.**

Please provide the following information:

Your Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(as it appears in your driver's license or state ID)

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send this information to Olimpia Hernandez, CHICATA Vice-President for Programs: [olimpiahdez@yahoo.com](mailto:olimpiahdez@yahoo.com)**

### BENCH-SIDE MANNERS OUTLINE

#### 8:30 Check-in & Light Refreshments

#### 9:00 – 10:30 FIRST PART: THE ANATOMY OF A TRIAL

##### INTRODUCTION (5 minutes)

- Welcome by John Bukacek and J. Roberto Mendoza
- Explain objectives/target audience
- Introduce panelists
- Administrative remarks: bathrooms, coffee breaks, etc.

##### SECTION I: PRETRIAL PHASE (5 minutes)

- Explanation by Andrea E. Gambino, Attorney At Law
- Other panelists and attendees are also asked to participate

##### SECTIONS II & III: JURY SELECTION (15 minutes)

- Panelists are asked to contribute their experiences with respect to specific issues of preparation, protocol, equipment, team/tandem interpreting, preparation, dress code, ethical dilemmas, strategies, dividing the workload, sound quality, positioning, mobility, jury instructions/admonishments, etc.
- Participants are introduced to the legal setting and actors
- Practical examples are offered

##### SECTIONS IV & V GOVERNMENT'S CASE IN CHIEF & MOTIONS (30 minutes)

- Panelists share some of their views with respect to possible challenging scenarios, ethical dilemmas, appearance of impropriety, interpretation styles, complex situations with multiple Spanish speaking witnesses at the stand and at defense table (i.e. taking advantage of equipment, acoustics and sidebars; addressing the jury and the court; how not to interfere with the audience, how to convey emotion, implications of body language and supra-



linguistic messages). Attendees are encouraged to participate in the discussion.

- Practical examples are offered with different scenarios

#### SECTIONS VI & VII: THE DEFENSE CASE (10 minutes)

- Panelists apply principles from previous sections and discuss how they may differ from the government's case. The importance of familiarity with facts, original source language, dialectal differences and conveying emotion is illustrated. Attendee participation is highly encouraged.
- Practical examples are offered

#### SECTIONS VIII & IX: REBUTTAL & SURREBUTTAL (5 minutes)

- Panelists revisit previous sections and summarize strategies/applications.

#### SECTIONS X - XV: FROM JURY INSTRUCTIONS TO THE VERDICT (5 minutes)

- Panelists revisit previous issues such as protocol, logistics, mobility, positioning, preparation strategies, dealing with speed and application of trial interpreting techniques. Attendee participation is encouraged.

#### **10:30 – 11:00 BREAK**

#### **11:00 – 12:30 SECOND PART: BENCH-SIDE MANNERS**

This is the practical portion of the program. It will consist of the same sections of the first part. Here, the panelists consisting of courtroom players: a judge, a prosecutor, a defense attorney and a court interpreter, as well the participants, will have an opportunity to play different roles to illustrate the previously discussed situations. Role-play materials will be provided (scenarios, characters, transcripts, equipment, etc. (names and bios T.B.A.)). This will be the interactive portion of the presentations where participants will have an opportunity to ask questions as the different roles are played. All participants will be encouraged to interrupt as often as possible to clarify any issues in real time.

#### **12:30 – CLOSING REMARKS**



**J. ROBERTO MENDOZA  
BIO**

*J. Roberto Mendoza came from Guatemala, Central America, in 1984. Mr. Mendoza attended San Carlos University Medical School for 21/2 years in Guatemala, where he initiated his career as a diplomat, language instructor and English Spanish interpreter in 1978. He earned a B.A. in Bilingual Bicultural Communications from the University Without Walls at Northeastern Illinois University and completed the coursework toward a Master's Degree in cultural anthropology from DePaul University. He has worked as an examiner for the Federal Court Interpreter Certification Program at the University of Arizona in Tucson, and the National Center for State Courts. He is a successful bilingual/bicultural communications consultant. Some of his clients include: the U.S. District Courts, DEA, FBI, Department of State, various universities (such as The Kellogg Graduate School of Management at North Western University, University of Chicago, DePaul University, Harvard School of Public Health, Motorola University, McDonald's Hamburger University and many more), diplomatic missions and Fortune 500 companies. In his assignments as an interpreter, he has worked for U.S. and foreign dignitaries, has interpreted in thousands of high profile court proceedings, live simulcasts (such as the televised senatorial and presidential debates, Night Line, This Week with David Brinkley and CNN Headline News), as well as numerous national and international summits, film festivals, seminars and conventions. He has also worked as an ethnographer, forensic linguist, ethnic marketing consultant, and bilingual facilitator. In the media, he has translated, narrated, produced and directed a sundry of TV and radio commercials, as well as industrial and commercial videos. He is also a voice actor and a radio broadcaster in Spanish. As a first-row spectator of world events, he has developed a unique ability to view reality through different cultural lenses.*

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