



# Michael J. McMahon, BA, CDI

Certified Deaf Interpreter

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## Professional Experience

### Court Interpreting

Freelance Deaf Interpreter, various local and nationwide agencies; 01/2011 - present

Interpret in-person and remotely using simultaneous and consecutive modes at court proceedings and other court-related departments; provide sight translations of legal documents and forms; work in a team with court certified ASL interpreters and Deaf interpreters to provide an accurate interpretation by relaying ASL, tactile sign, gesture, and other signed languages to English and back; perform as the lead interpreter for court cases involving multiple CDI/CHI teams to ensure communication is effective and communicate with the court interpreter coordinator of needs to meet the communication requirements of all involved parties; ensure the court record is accurate; adherence to the RID/NAD Code of Professional Conduct and federal/state court-specific regulations

### Translation

Provide translations for pre-recorded videos in various settings including corporate, high-tech and high-profile, musical and theater performances, standardized state testing; identify key terms and concepts and accurately translate in a way the target audience will understand, in their native language; translate pre-recorded videos for political campaigns and international/multi-billion dollar product announcements/launches; transcribe ASL videos into written English; review translations to ensure final product is free of errors, overall clarity of message

### Community Interpreting

Work for interpreter referral agencies; interpret in various settings such as corporate, law enforcement, government, medical, mental health, and vocational training; interpret live televised briefings/announcements for government officials relating to coronavirus, politics, and wildfires; interpret in vocational rehabilitation and related service provider offices state-wide; interpret live children's theater performances and musicals; work with venues to arrange appropriate placement of interpreters and viewing area for Deaf patrons

### DeafBlind Interpreter & Support Service Provider

Platform interpreter at various local to international conferences and camps; work as a team with an ASL interpreter to facilitate communication between Deaf and non-signing consumers; interpret and provide environmental information and navigational support for DeafBlind individuals through tactile sign or modified signing space (close vision); lead interpreting teams at events and conferences, providing support to interpreters and DeafBlind individuals and overseeing team dynamics to ensure seamless and effective communication

## Settings

Conferences/events; corporate; court/legal (civil, criminal, depositions, juvenile); educational; health care; high-tech; law enforcement; local and state government; medical; music and performing arts; platform; standardized state testing; television/media; vocational training

## Education

UA at Little Rock, BA in Interpretation: ASL/English, minor Educational Interpreting; 05/2018  
UA at Little Rock, AS in American Sign Language Studies; 12/2016

### Credentials & Qualifications

- Certified Deaf Interpreter, Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf;
- Disaster Response Interpreter, California Office of Emergency Services;
- Court Qualified Deaf Interpreter, Superior Courts of California;
- natively bilingual in American Sign Language and English;
- familiar with local, state, and federal government laws/regulations regarding Deaf and ASL interpreting such as the Americans with Disabilities Act and Sec. 504 and abbreviations;
- knowledge of best practices in interpreting; communication styles and methods; ethical standards and practices, California Rules of Court, Local Rules of Court, and applicable court policies concerning court interpretation;
- extensive college course work and training on various topics, including but not limited to: ASL/linguistics, court/legal, Deaf culture and history, disaster response, educational, platform

### Selected Presentations

- Ohlone College Deaf-Centered IPP, “Working in Tech”, panelist, 2022 and 2023
- SNSInterpreting, “Series: Unpacking Legal Language”; 2020
- SNSInterpreting, “Throw Away the Wrapper, Go for the Meaning”; 2020
- SNSInterpreting, “Together, Even When We Are Apart: VRI D-H Teaming”; 2020
- LIFESIGNS INC., “Law Enforcement Interpreting in Los Angeles; 2019
- Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Region IV, “A Need for Togetherness: Examining the Lack of Consensus Around Business Practices Related to CDIs”; 2018
- Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Region IV, “Moving Together: Redefining Music to Create Participatory, Communal Interpreted Experiences; 2018
- Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Region IV, “Center Stage: Ethical Considerations for Interpreting in the Arts”; 2018
- Arkansas Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, “Collaboration in Creative Spaces: Strategies for Interpreting in the Arts”; 2018
- UA-Little Rock, “Interpreting for DeafBlind Individuals”, 2017

### Awards & Distinctions

- First Deaf graduate of Interpreter Education Program at UA-Little Rock; 2018
- UA-Little Rock Chancellor’s List, 3 semesters; 2017-2018
- UA-Little Rock Dean’s List, 6 semesters; 2013-2018
- Arkansas Association of the Deaf, Special Recognition Award; 2017
- First Deaf interpreter serving as an interpreter representative on the Arkansas Interpreter Licensure Board; 2017
- First Certified Deaf Interpreter in Arkansas; 2016
- Robert H. Steed Memorial Scholarship Fund, recipient; 2012, 2015

### Service

- Ohlone College, Deaf-Centered Interpreting Preparation Program Advisory Board, member, 2020-present
- Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Legal Member Section, co-vice chair; 2019-2021
- Northern California Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, conference coordinator; 2019
- Northern California Interpreters for the Deaf, board member; 2019-2020
- AR Department of Health, Interpreter Licensure Board, interpreter representative; 2016-2018
- Arkansas Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, board member; 2013-2015, 2017-2018