



## Senior Legal Hotline

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[www.seniorlegalhotline.org](http://www.seniorlegalhotline.org)

# SENIOR LEGAL HOTLINE MULTICULTURAL PROJECT INTERPRETER APPLICATION

**ABOUT THE PROGRAM:** Senior Legal Hotline provides free legal advice, limited additional service and referral assistance by phone to California legal residents 60 and over. Our attorneys and paralegals, staff and volunteers, are determined to make the service available to seniors who don't speak English. To achieve this, we have recruited a corps of bilingual volunteers, from throughout the state, who are available to join in phone conversations with our advocates and clients and take on the role of interpreter. Our volunteer interpreters are an invaluable resource, not only to the operation of the hotline, but especially to the seniors in need.

## PROSPECTIVE INTERPRETERS MUST:

- **Be fluent** in English and at least one other language.
- **Be generally reachable by phone** and able to take occasional calls of about 30 minutes during daytime hours, oftentimes scheduled a few days in advance, but sometimes with little or no advance notice. If a follow-up or longer conversation is needed, it can be scheduled later at a mutually convenient time.
- **Attend one of our special trainings for interpreters** in person or watch the DVD of the training that was held on May 26, 2004. The information provided is crucial to successful work as an interpreter with the program.

*We prefer that interpreters are recommended by one of our partner nonprofit organizations serving the non-English-speaking communities of Sacramento. However, we welcome others who learn about our program, and are interested in donating some time to interpret.*

## TOPICS COVERED IN THE TRAINING VIDEOTAPE:

- The importance of protecting client confidentiality and avoiding conflicts of interest.
- Interpretation skills, particularly interpretation by phone.
- Important legal concepts that our interpreters need to know.
- Introduction to the world of nonprofit legal services; how we fit in.
- Legal problems frequently faced by elderly Californians.
- Basic answers and approaches to advising our callers on some of the most common questions: You'll learn a little about consumer disputes, scams, age discrimination, divorce and support, grandparent caregivers, Medicare, Medi-Cal, planning for disability, landlord-tenant issues, foreclosure prevention, Social Security, SSI, pensions, powers of attorney, elder abuse (physical and financial), neighbor disputes, estate planning ... and more.

## TO BECOME AN SENIOR LEGAL HOTLINE INTERPRETER:

Please complete this form and mail, fax - to the Senior Legal Hotline (see letterhead for address & phone numbers), or e-mail the form's essential information to [seniorhotline-office@lsnc.net](mailto:seniorhotline-office@lsnc.net).

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell/Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

I am fluent in English and the following language(s): \_\_\_\_\_

	Phone Number	Days/times usually available for interpretation	Days/times likely reachable to set later appointment	Days/times when we can leave you a message
Home				
Work				
Cell				
Other				

Can you interpret by phone with little or no prior notice? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

Would you prefer to do interpretation by appointment only? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

Do you work or volunteer with a community organization/agency? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

If yes, please list the name(s) of the organization(s) \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about Senior Legal Hotline? \_\_\_\_\_

Can you recommend one or more others who might also be interested in volunteering with us as an interpreter? \_\_\_\_\_

Comments or Questions: \_\_\_\_\_

*We would also like it if you could have someone submit a letter of recommendation for you, possibly someone from a community agency that serves the community whose language(s) you speak, or a professor, colleague, or anyone else who could confirm/recommend your skill in the language you wish to translate.*

For questions, please feel free to contact project coordinators Roy Schoenberg [rschoenberg@lsnc.net](mailto:rschoenberg@lsnc.net) (916) 930-4939, and/or Jennifer Anders [janders@lsnc.net](mailto:janders@lsnc.net) (916) 930-4930.