

# INTERPRETER CODE OF ETHICS

## 1. Accuracy

- a. Interpreters shall convey the message and tone of the speakers accurately and completely, without adding or deleting anything.
- b. Interpreters shall accurately interpret obscenities and sexual terminology and shall maintain composure while interpreting in emotionally charged situations.
- c. Interpreters shall seek clarification when needed.
- d. Upon recognizing that communication has been misunderstood, the interpreter shall identify the misunderstanding and request direction from the parties involved, except in legal proceedings.

## 2. Confidentiality

- a. Interpreters shall maintain confidentiality in all assignment-related information and shall not divulge any information obtained through their assignments, including but not limited to, information gained through access to documents or other written materials.

## 3. Impartiality

- a. Interpreters shall refrain from accepting an assignment when professional skills, family, or close personal or professional relationships affect impartiality.
- b. An interpreter shall reveal any relationship with the party that might be perceived as a conflict of interest.
- c. The interpreter shall demonstrate respect towards all persons involved in the interpreting situation and shall act in a manner that is neutral, impartial, unbiased and culturally sensitive.

## 4. Role Boundaries

- a. The interpreter shall maintain proper role boundaries, avoiding all unnecessary contact with the parties during and outside the interview situation.
- b. The interpreter shall use first person speech to help facilitate as much direct communication as possible.
- c. Interpreters shall not interject personal opinions or give counsel or advice to individuals for whom they are interpreting.

## 5. Professionalism

- a. The interpreter shall arrive punctually at the appointed location, be prepared and dressed appropriately.
- b. Interpreters, when hired by an agency, shall not propagate their own business directly with clients or accept/request gratuities or additional fees.
- c. Interpreters shall accurately represent their certification(s), training and experience.
- d. Interpreters shall participate in continuing education programs when available.
- e. Interpreters shall seek evaluative feedback in order to improve their performance.