

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA**

IN THE MATTER OF BREAKS
FOR COURT INTERPRETERS

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 2007-090

Whereas, it is the policy of the Superior Court to promote quality performance in carrying out its proceedings and to implement fair and open access to the courts to speakers of languages other than English,

Therefore, it is ordered that the following policies regarding interpreter services be adopted by the divisions of the Superior Court:

A. Breaks in proceedings for interpreter to rest

In all cases in which an interpreter is participating in a court proceeding, in order to prevent interpreter fatigue that may lead to errors and omissions and preserve the record and communication in general, the judicial officer shall allow the interpreter a break to coincide with the break allowed to court reporters as set forth in Court Policy P-302 E(4): "Rest breaks of at least (5) minutes every hour or at least fifteen minutes (15) minutes every hour and thirty minutes." If there is no court reporter present in the court room, the judicial officer will allow a maximum of sixty minutes of continuous interpretation, after which the interpreter shall be permitted a break of at least five minutes.

B. Counsel not to engage the interpreter during rest recesses

Counsel shall be advised not to engage the interpreter in facilitating communication with defendant and/or witnesses during lunch breaks in general or during the recesses taken to allow the interpreters to rest.

C. Allowance of lunch break and avoidance of proceedings extending beyond the eight-hour work day

In all cases in which an interpreter is participating in a court proceeding, the judicial officer shall allow a lunch break of one hour for the interpreter and be mindful of holding a session that would extend the work day beyond eight hours.

Dated this 25TH day of June, 2007.

Barbara Rodriguez Mundell
Presiding Judge

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Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: Departmental Presiding Judges
Michael Jeanes, Clerk of the Court
Marcus Reinkensmeyer, Judicial Branch Administrator
Phil Knox, Trials Courts Administrator
Phillip Hanley, Administrative Services Director
Karen Westover, Deputy Court Administrator
Raul A. Roman, Manager, Court Interpretation and Translation Services
Departmental Court Administrators