

# Working with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Presented By:  
Eric Crook  
Velma Foust

# MCLE FORM 1: Recordkeeping Form (Do Not Return This Form to the Bar)

**Instructions:**

Pursuant to MCLE Rule 7.2, every active member shall maintain records of participation in **accredited** CLE activities. You may wish to use this form to record your CLE activities, attaching it to a copy of the program brochure or other information regarding the CLE activity.

**Do not return this form to the Oregon State Bar. This is to be retained in your own MCLE file.**

Name:		Bar Number:	
Sponsor of CLE Activity: Jackson County Bar Association			
Title of CLE Activity: Working With The Deaf and Hard of Hearing		Program Number: 3000*76	
Date: 8//22/2018	Location: Jackson Co. Courthouse, Medford, OR		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Activity has been accredited by the Oregon State Bar for the following credit:</i>  ___ General ___ Prof Resp-Ethics <u>1</u> Access to Justice ___ Abuse Reporting ___ Practical Skills ___ Pers. Mgmt/Bus. Dev.*	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Full Credit.</b> <i>I attended the entire program and the total of authorized credits are:</i>  ___ General ___ Prof Resp-Ethics ___ Access to Justice ___ Abuse Reporting ___ Practical Skills ___ Pers. Mgmt/Bus. Dev.*	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Partial Credit.</b> <i>I attended _____ hours of the program and am entitled to the following credits*:</i>  ___ General ___ Prof Resp-Ethics ___ Access to Justice ___ Abuse Reporting ___ Practical Skills ___ Pers. Mgmt/Bus. Dev.*	

**\*Credit Calculation:**

One (1) MCLE credit may be claimed for each sixty (60) minutes of actual participation. Do not include registration, introductions, business meetings and programs less than 30 minutes. MCLE credits may not be claimed for any activity that has not been accredited by the MCLE Administrator. If the program has not been accredited by the MCLE Administrator, you must submit a Group CLE Activity Accreditation application (See MCLE Form 2.)

**Caveat:**

If the actual program length is less than the credit hours approved, Bar members are responsible for making the appropriate adjustments in their compliance reports. Adjustments must also be made for late arrival, early departure or other periods of absence or non-participation.

\*Personal Management Assistance/Business Development. See MCLE Rule 5.12 and Regulation 5.300 for additional information regarding Category III activities. Maximum credit that may be claimed for Category III activities is 6.0 in a three-year reporting period and 3.0 in a short reporting period.

# Working with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

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## Overview

Labels  
Languages  
Communication technologies  
Deaf Culture  
Working with interpreters



## Outcome

- Be aware of various identities in the Deaf community
- Be comfortable with an interpreter's role and how to use one to communicate with a person that is Deaf or Hard of Hearing..
- Know creative ways to get around communication barriers
- Understand the need for communication access

## Labels

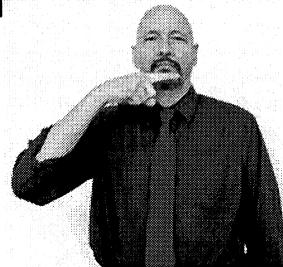
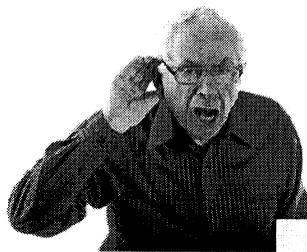
Hearing

Hard of Hearing

Hearing Impaired

deaf

Deaf



## Labels (cont.)

Deaf + (Plus)

Deaf Blind

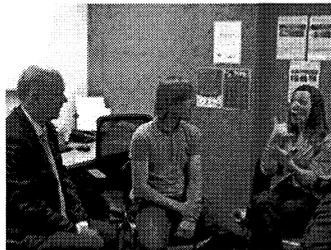
### The “Plus” in Deaf Plus....

- Visual Impairment/ Deaf-blindness
- Developmental/cognitive/intellectual delay
- Orthopedic/physical impairment
- Specific learning disability
- Autism
- Syndrome Related
- Emotional/behavioral
- Traumatic brain injury
- Other health impairments



## Languages

American Sign Language- ASL is a visual/gestural language with its own unique rules of grammar and syntax. Like all languages, ASL is a living language that grows and changes over time.

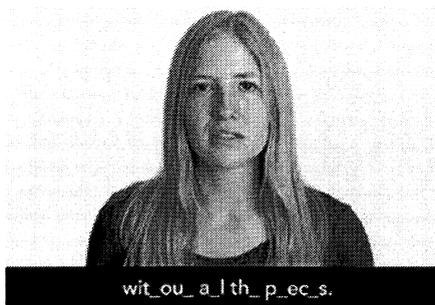


Sign language is not a universal language — each country has its own sign language, and regions have dialects, much like the many languages spoken all over the world.

## Languages (cont.)

Signing Exact English (S.E.E.)- Signing Exact English (SEE) is a sign system modeled after the English language. SEE includes many signs that are taken from ASL; however, the sentence structure, the idioms, the verb endings, etc. are taken from English. In essence, SEE is a visual form of English.

Lip Reading- Most people have difficulty mastering lip reading. While lip reading skills can help in communication, only about 30% of all speech is visible on the lips.



## Dear Hearing People



## Communication Technology

- Sign Language Interpreter



- TTY

- Video Relay Service

- Video Remote Interpreting



- Note writing

## Communication tech (cont)

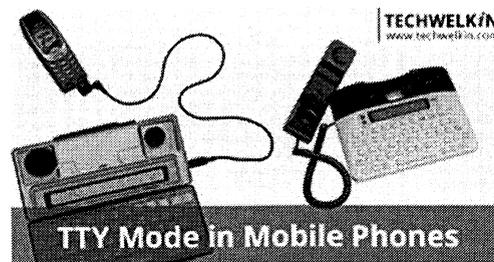
Sign Language Interpreter: A person that is physically in the room with the Deaf consumer and interprets the message from English to American Sign Language (ASL) and from ASL to English.



Certified Deaf Interpreter (CDI): CDI's are deaf or hard of hearing individuals who are nationally certified by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID). They serve as an equal member of the interpreting team along with a certified hearing interpreter.

## Communication tech (cont)

TTY: The TTY relay service communication assistant (CA) connects TTY relay calls with people who communicate by telephone. The CA converts voice-to-text and text-to-voice communication. Many TTY users have migrated to other forms of communication to access the telephone network, using newer technologies and relay services, including Internet-based relay services.



## Communication Tech (cont)

Video Remote Interpreting: Most expensive, can charge per minute, useful in emergency situations..



Video Relay Service: is regulated by the FCC, and is a free service to the Deaf. It is common for a Deaf person making a phone call to take longer than normal, because they want to ensure that the message was interpreted clearly, because they can not visually see the hearing person and can not read their body language as compared to an in person meeting.

## Communication tech (cont)



Writing Notes: most time consuming, leaves plenty of room for error, english and American Sign Language have different grammatical sentence structures.

Depending on one's level of education, written english might not be an accessible accommodation. In these situations a phone call through the VRS might be faster.

## Things to know about the Deaf

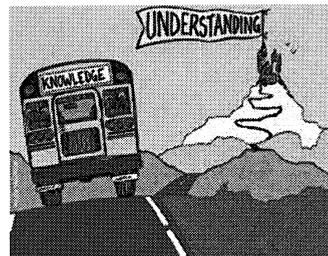
Not all deaf people know sign language

Not all Deaf people can read Lips

Some Deaf people speak and some do not

Some Deaf people can hear. Some can use hearing aids, and some people can use cochlear implants.

If a Deaf person prefers to sign or communicate in their native language, it is inappropriate to ask them to speak or to not sign.



## Tips for working with an interpreter:

- Give the Deaf person time to complete their thought and don't interrupt
- Maintain eye contact , don't turn away while you are speaking
- Be aware of obstructions, distractions, and etiquette
- What do I do if suddenly the message or what the Deaf person is saying isn't making sense?

## Creative ways to bridge the gap

Try writing notes on paper. If no paper, try typing a text message on your phone and showing it to the Deaf person.

If the person is late in life deafened, a Captel phone (caption telephone) might help or talk to text technology such as Dragon might help.

When in doubt ask the person what makes them most comfortable.



## Problems we currently face in Oregon

The ASL Oregon Certified Court Interpreter credential will be awarded to an interpreter who holds a valid Specialist Certificate: Legal (SC:L) from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID)

\*\*Previous tests (No longer offered but still recognized by RID) SC:L - Specialist Certificate: Legal (1998 - 2016)\*\*

**NOT  
AVAILABLE**

## Conditionally Approved Courtroom Interpreters



"...an interpreter has completed an experience interview provided by Court Language Access Services, has completed a LEADS criminal history check in the state of Oregon, and has granted or denied Court Language Access Services consent to release their information to parties outside of Court Language Access Services."

"...only a judge may qualify an interpreter, and it is only for a specific, one time matter. If an interpreter has not earned either the Certified or Registered Court Interpreter Credential, it is best practice to qualify the interpreter by asking questions to garner their experience and qualifications to proceed as an interpreter for the pending matter."

## Oregon Certified Court Interpreter Roster

Language	Credential	Name	State	City	Phone	Cell Phone	Email	Expiration
American Sign Language	Certified	Alleto, Edward+++	Oregon	Portland	(503) 988-3067x26133	(503) 929-9627	edward.c.alleto@ojd.state.or.us	12/31/2018
American Sign Language	Certified	Crawford, Lisa	Oregon	Corvallis	(541) 745-0111	(541) 974-3031	crawfordterp@gmail.com	12/31/2018
American Sign Language	Certified	DeLeon, Melanie++	Oregon	Portland	Unavailable	(503) 851-2992	melterp@gmail.com	12/31/2018
American Sign Language	Certified	Fretter, Xenia	Oregon	Sherwood	Unavailable	Unavailable	xenia@terpsavvy.com	12/31/2018
American Sign Language	Certified	Hall, Richard	Oregon	Portland	Unavailable	(503) 929-7858	trimegainc@gmail.com	12/31/2019
American Sign Language	Certified	Hill, Sarah	Arizona	Phoenix	Unavailable	(207) 841-3331	sarah.j.hill76@gmail.com	12/31/2019
American Sign Language	Certified	Richards, Tammera	Oregon	Portland	(503) 267-4861	Unavailable	tjrichards1@msn.com	12/31/2018
American Sign Language	Certified	Smith, Amanda	Oregon	Keizer	Unavailable	Unavailable	Unavailable	12/31/2018
American Sign Language	Certified	Thayer, Colleen	Oregon	Salem	(503) 689-8522	(503) 999-8492 Text Only	coolthayer@gmail.com	12/31/2018
American Sign Language	Certified	Thayer, Damon	Oregon	Salem	(503) 999-2471	Unavailable	dethayer@gmail.com	12/31/2018

## Room for Improvement

- Deaf being arrested without an interpreter and unaware of why.
- Court ordered classes not providing sign language interpreters.
- Lawyers not accepting Deaf clients.
- Grand jury unable to hear the Deaf victim's testimony.
- Can not serve Jury Duty.
- DHS/RVCOG special interest, Deaf issues work group- legal



## References

<https://www.nad.org/resources/american-sign-language/community-and-culture-frequently-asked-questions/>

Carol Padden and Tom Humphries, in Deaf in America: Voices from a Culture (1988)

<https://www.nad.org/resources/american-sign-language/what-is-american-sign-language/>

<https://www.signingexactenglish.com/?pageid=2>

<https://www.courts.oregon.gov/programs/interpreters/want-to-be/Pages/conditionally-approved.aspx>

<http://adsd.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/adsdnvgov/content/Boards/CSPD/SubDeafSpeech/Update%20on%20RID.docx>



## References (cont)

<https://www.lifeprint.com/asl101/pages-layout/grammar.htm>