



King County

Metropolitan King County Council

David Spohr, Hearing Examiner

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<https://kingcounty.gov/independent/hearing-examiner.aspx>

INTERPRETATION POLICY AND RATES

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Overview

As public servants and Metropolitan King County Council employees, the Hearing Examiner provides a public hearing process that is fair, efficient, and accessible to all. Our office conducts quasi-judicial appeal hearings of King County administrative decisions. Our most common types of matters that we use interpreters for are animal control, land use, code enforcement, and for-hire driver appeals.

Hearing Examiner Process

We use consecutive interpretation. We try to schedule interpreters at least a week in advance. To help interpreters prepare, we email our hearing notice and any exhibits or appeals. When possible, we give priority to interpreters who have worked with us in the past and understand our process.

We conduct our proceedings online by Zoom and prefer interpreters to appear by video. Interpreters should join prior to the proceeding start time. The examiner begins the proceeding with detailed guidelines on how the proceeding should be conducted with the presence of an interpreter.

Credentials

We strongly prefer credentialed interpreters (meaning certified or registered) by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). Our use of certified, registered, or non-credentialed interpreters depends on interpreter availability for that specific language.

Rates

We pay interpreters as follows:

Type	Hourly rate
AOC Certified Interpreter	\$75
AOC Registered Interpreter	\$65
Non-Credentialed Interpreter	\$50

We pay a guaranteed minimum of two hours.

For time over the minimum, we pay in 15-minute, pro-rated increments.

Cancellations

Interpreters do not receive compensation for a scheduled proceeding where we provide the interpreter with at least 24-hour notice of cancellation.

Conversely, interpreters will be paid in full for the scheduled length of the assignment where we do not provide the interpreter with at least 24-hour notice of cancellation.

Payment

We will email a standard invoice at the conclusion of a proceeding. Invoices must be signed and returned to hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov promptly.

Once the signed invoice is received, we will promptly process a check to be mailed out to the interpreter's mailing address listed on the invoice. We also have an option for direct deposit.