Working with Remote Interpreters in Webex

In court interpreting there are three modes of interpreting that are used.

- **Sight Translation**- It is the oral interpretation of a written document. The interpreter reads a document in the source language out loud in the target language.
- **Consecutive Mode**- The interpreter waits to interpret until the speaker has paused or finished. This mode is most often used for question and answering scenarios, such as when a witness is being questioned by counsel on the witness stand.
- **Simultaneous Mode**- The interpreter listens to what is being said in the source language while concurrently interpreting out loud in the target language.

At this time whenever an interpreter is needed for a proceeding held by Webex, the interpreter will be required to interpret in <u>consecutive mode</u>. This will require whoever is speaking to pause after every 2-3 sentences to allow the interpreter the necessary time and space to interpret. An interpreter cannot accurately interpret if they have to speak over someone to render the interpretation.

Interpreters have been instructed to join Webex proceedings by video. They are to include the language they interpret in parenthesis beside their name. Example: John Smith (Farsi)

Criminal Calendars and Multiple Interpreters
During criminal calendars multiple interpreters for different languages may be necessary.

Judges are to place interpreters who join the court's criminal calendar in the virtual waiting room, called "Lobby" on Webex, until the case they are interpreting for is called. While in the Lobby, the interpreter will not be able to hearing or see what's occurring in the virtual courtroom.

The judge will move the interpreter to the virtual courtroom when the proceeding is ready to begin. The interpreter will be able to hearing and see the proceeding and to interpret for the limited English Proficiency court patron.

Only the judge or their JA can move interpreters between the virtual courtroom and the Lobby.

Technical Difficulties
If an interpreter has a technical difficulty in connecting to Webex by video, they are to use the Webex dial-in information for that proceeding to inform the court.   The court may decide to continue the proceeding or to have the interpreter remote interpret by telephone.

Tips

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1. Be cognizant there should only be one speaker at a time.
2. Beware of shuffling papers or other activity near the microphone. All external sounds will be transmitted and may interfere with the interpretation.
3. Speak clearly and watch out for mumbling or talking too fast.
4. Prior to any proceedings held by Webex, encourage your client to vocalize if they are unable to hear the interpreter. Interpreters will interpret this to the court.
5. It is not an interpreter's job to ensure your client understands what's being said. The court interpreter's responsibility is to place the limited English proficient court patron on equal footing as someone appearing in court who speaks English.
6. Interpreters may interrupt when necessary to ask for a repetition or pause.
7. Interpreters are required to inform the court if there is a bad connection or technical issue.
8. Interpreters are still ethically bound by The Code of Professional Responsibility for Court Interpreters when they video remote interpret or interpret by telephone.
9. Interpreters are required to interpret as they would in a physical courtroom. When interpreting, they are to interpret in first person or as appropriate to render an accurate interpretation. When addressing the court for themselves as the interpreter, they are to speak in the third person.