



PRESS RELEASE

**New York State
Unified Court System**

**Hon. Alan D. Oshrin
District Administrative Judge,
Tenth Judicial District (Suffolk Co.)**

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Administrative Judge Announces New Telephone Interpreter Service

CENTRAL ISLIP, NY – Suffolk County's District Administrative Judge, Alan D. Oshrin and the Supervising Judge of the District Court, Madeleine A. Fitzgibbon are pleased to announce that all public counters throughout the six (6) District Courts of Suffolk County are now equipped with a telephone interpreter service.

Expanding on the successful use of this service in the Arraignment, Landlord-Tenant and Town Ordinance Parts over the last six (6) months, District Court personnel will now be able to communicate in more than one hundred and fifty (150) different foreign languages with court users at the public counters located in every District Court of Suffolk County.

This new service will assist members of the community that historically have had difficulty navigating through the District Courts because of their need for interpreter services. In the past, only

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Spanish language interpreters were available daily to assist the general public at the information counters. This new service will allow the staff of the District Courts of Suffolk County to assist virtually all members of the public, regardless of their language barriers, thereby ensuring equal access to justice for all of Suffolk County's citizens.

According to Justice Oshrin, "This is truly an innovative approach to improve the quality of service afforded to District Court users and is an example of the continuing commitment of the Suffolk County Courts to address the needs of all those who use our court facilities. This interpreting service will allow for successful communication between court employees and non-English speaking court patrons and it will do so in a dignified and professional manner befitting our justice system. It is my hope that this service can be expanded to all of the courts in Suffolk County."

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