

# Title VI Language Access Conference 2022

## *Unmasking injustice: language access and equity for all*

Our state enjoys a vast, diverse immigrant and multilingual population. In fact, nearly 1 in 10 Massachusetts residents speaks a primary language other than English. Many, if not all, state agencies are legally obligated under federal and state law to provide language access to limited English proficient (LEP) individuals. The COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare the failure to adequately provide desperately needed information and public services to the LEP population of Massachusetts.

Consideration must be given to many factors to provide equal access to state government and other necessary services to the growing LEP population in our state. The forum and context of the situation may require particular attention to the individual's culture, norms and customs, whether it be responding to a call to police for help with domestic violence, participating in a court hearing for an eviction, or navigating an emergency room visit. Language access must include not only interpretation at an initial meeting, but ongoing communication as well as written translation of any associated documentation, completion of each component being required to ensure access to the service. Anything short of this leaves an LEP individual vulnerable to the potential loss of benefits, health care, immigration status, and police/court protection in an abusive situation, as well as the risk of eviction and an inability to access rights afforded to everyone, regardless of language preference.

Join this experienced panel to learn more about how we can all strive for language access and equity for all.

### Agenda

- Featured Speaker: Massachusetts State Representative Tram Nguyen
- Basics of Language Access Law
- Language Justice: From Margin to Center
- Best Practices for Working with Interpreters
- Workshops
  - Roadmap to Getting your LEP Client through Court
  - Language Access in Education
  - Trauma-Informed Language Access Practices
- Rights of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Language Access Litigation Update

### Faculty

Iris E. Coloma-Gaines, Esq., *Statewide Language Access Attorney, Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, Boston*, Chair; Narda Berrios, M.S.C.J., *Language Access Coordinator, Office of Language Access (OLA), Boston*; Simone Mai-Anh Bui, Esq., *Managing Attorney, Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence (ATASK), Boston*; Germán Chiriboga, *Program Director, Science Participation Resource Center, PQHS, UMass Chan Medical School, Worcester*; Lauren L.G. De Oliveira, Esq., *Community Legal Aid/Worcester County, Fitchburg*; Theresa Kim, *Vietnamese Advocate/Case Manager, Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence (ATASK), Boston*; Joann Lee, Esq., *Special Counsel on Language Justice, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA)*; Sybil Martin, Ph.D., *Co-Director of Support Services Office of Court Management, Massachusetts Trial Courts*; Caitlin Parton, Esq., *General Counsel/Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Springfield*; Diana I. Santiago, Esq., *Massachusetts Advocates for Children, Boston*; Tonysha Taylor, M.A., *Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation, Boston*; Alena Uliasz, *Language Justice Manager, California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. (CRLA), West Sacramento, CA*; Tram T. Nguyen, Esq., *Massachusetts State Representative, Massachusetts Legislature, Boston*, Featured Speaker

### Dates & Location

Register at [www.mcle.org](http://www.mcle.org)

#### LIVE VIA ZOOM\*

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

9:00 am–3:30 pm

Program Number: 2220096P01

\*The live session will be held online via Zoom. Because there is no specific Zoom option to select, when you visit [mcle.org](http://mcle.org), choose the in-person program option to register for the live Zoom session on February 16, 2022. Prior to the program, registrants will receive an email with login information and instructions for the virtual session.

MCLE OnlinePass® Subscribers: Please contact MCLE Customer Service directly at 617-482-2205 x 6 to register free through your MCLE OnlinePass subscription. The Zoom session will be recorded and subsequently made available as a rebroadcast and on demand webcast.

#### REBROADCAST

Thursday, March 3, 2022

9:00 am–3:30 pm

Program Number: 2220096RBC

#### REBROADCAST

Friday, March 11, 2022

9:00 am–3:30 pm

Program Number: 2220096RB1

#### ON DEMAND WEBCAST

View after Friday, March 11, 2022

Program Number: 2220096WBA

### Tuition *(includes written materials)*

- \$35

To apply for a need-based scholarship, email [scholarships@mcle.org](mailto:scholarships@mcle.org).

### Materials

The materials for this program are available *online only* and can be downloaded via the link emailed to you upon registration.

Also, there is no need to take extensive notes. Two weeks after the live webcast, all registrants receive a link to a verbatim transcript of this program.

### CLE Credits

Earn up to 5 CLE credits



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For course agendas, hours, fees, and discounts, please refer to the respective seminar pages. The fee includes program instruction and all electronic written materials unless otherwise noted.

To gain early access to online materials, please register in advance of the program.


Upon registration, MCLE will e-mail a confirmation.

Day-of-the-program registrations are welcome, with the exception of limited enrollment programs, or as otherwise noted.

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Individual attorneys are responsible for checking with their particular state CLE accreditation authority about whether and how much credit will be granted. Although MCLE does not pursue state-based credit, MCLE programs are regularly approved in many jurisdictions. It is the responsibility of the individual attorney to submit the information and certifications required under the respective state rule to the appropriate authorities in the jurisdictions in which they seek credit.

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## If your plans change

If you're unable to participate in a program on the date for which you registered, you will receive an email about how to access the program on demand via webcast and/or downloadable mp3 file, including the written materials in electronic form, in full satisfaction of the tuition paid. If you prefer a refund, let us know by the end of the business day prior to the program and we'll refund your tuition after deducting a \$35 processing fee. Note that limited enrollment programs are an exception, cancellation of which require two weeks notice and are subject to a \$55 processing fee.

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  - 11-25 ... 500    ■ 251+ ..... 4,500
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