

Script Ideas for Requesting a Deaf Interpreter Team

Research has shown that interpreting requires an abundance of mental energy; at times the energy required is more than we have available to give leading to cognitive saturation (Gile, 1997). Asking for a Deaf interpreter can be a stressful act adding to the amount of mental energy needed for this task. When we develop short “scripts” that we have practiced, we will be more prepared for this encounter, thus reducing stress.

Below you will find a few ideas for scripts you can incorporate into your work when asking for a Deaf interpreter team.

1. “In order to ensure due process is followed for your client, I would recommend a second interpreter to work in tandem with me...”
2. “Due to the complexity of the topic/meeting/situation, it is strongly recommended that a CDI be included to facilitate clear and accurate communication between all parties to accomplish our shared goals and to be as efficient as possible.”
3. “In my previous experience working with this client I recognized characteristic of dysfluent language. I will not take this assignment unless a DI/CDI team.”
4. “A CDI interpreter is needed due to complexity of the situation to ensure accurate and fluent communication is obtained.”
5. “I interpret between ASL and English, the client is using non-standard ASL (or other descriptions that more accurately describes their need for a CDI) therefore it is important to bring in a specialist that interprets between ASL and other forms of sign language such as this individual is using.”
6. “In order to ensure your client's due process, right to legal presence, and for the accuracy of the record; your representation warrants the addition of a Deaf Interpreter whose scope of practice includes the necessary cultural and linguistic expertise requires for this unique situation.”
7. “Due to the gravity of the situation, it would be in everyone's best interest to call a specialist interpreter to work in tandem with myself as a generalist interpreter. That will ensure everyone will have the pertinent information to make the next informed decision.”
8. “This specific situation, requires us to bring in a Deaf Interpreter who can work in tandem with me to provide effective communication access. I am a generalist interpreter and this situation requires us to bring in a language specialist to ensure the appropriate level of accessible language is met.”