

STATE OF OHIO, COUNTY OF BELMONT  
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

**DOCKET AND JOURNAL ENTRY**

In Re: **Amendment to Local Rules**

**Date of Entry:** January 21, 2010

The following language shall be incorporated into the Belmont County Common Pleas Court Local Rules as Local Rule 21.4, as follows:

**RULE 21 - MISCELLANEOUS**

21.4 The Belmont County Court of Common Pleas shall provide language and sign interpreters for non-English speaking persons and those who are hearing-impaired to insure that said individuals can clearly understand legal proceedings and are otherwise able to participate in court services and programs. Upon request, the Court shall require the services of an interpreter. Court interpreters are required, by law, to provide an accurate, impartial interpretation of court proceedings.

This Court is obligated to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Deaf or hearing-impaired persons are to be given consideration in choosing auxiliary aides that are used in effective communication (28 C.F.R. 35.160). Under the ADA, a court must determine what accommodations a court user might need. Said accommodations may

include the need for an interpreter, if a person is deaf or hearing-impaired. In addition, auxiliary aides for deaf or hearing-impaired individuals shall be provided at no cost to the person; rather, the costs shall be paid by the Court.

Attorneys who represent a client who is deaf or hearing-impaired should contact Kathy Curfman, Administrative Assistant to the Magistrate prior to any proceeding. In such cases, advance notice will expedite the process of locating and making arrangements for a qualified interpreter to be present.

If you, or someone you know, needs an interpreter for a court appearance as a party, witness or Juror, you should contact Kathy Curfman, Administrative Assistant to the Magistrate at 100 West Main Street, Suite 204, St. Clairsville, OH 43950 (740) 695-5034 to facilitate the acquisition of the interpreter.

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**JOHN M. SOLOVAN, II – JUDGE**

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**JENNIFER L. SARGUS – JUDGE**