



PRESS RELEASE

Release Date: January 11, 2022

SUPERIOR COURT OF
CALIFORNIA
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Court Executive Officer

VIDEO REMOTE INTERPRETING SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE IN JOSHUA TREE

JOSHUA TREE, CA— In an effort to increase access to justice and help limited-English proficient court users fully and meaningfully participate in court proceedings, San Bernardino Superior Court (SBSC) is pleased to announce the availability of Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) services for the public with hearings scheduled at the Joshua Tree Courthouse.

VRI uses audio and video technologies to provide court users with spoken or sign language interpreting through the use of an off-site interpreter. On an individual basis, SBSC will determine if a case event is appropriate for VRI. To request an interpreter, please notify the court of your needs as far in advance as possible of the hearing. For more information on court interpreters, click [here](#).

VRI provides numerous benefits to both the court and its court users including:

- Increased access to qualified interpreters
- Allowing court users to see and speak to their interpreter in their language without delay, and in real time
- Allowing court users to resolve non-complex, uncontested hearings, reducing the need to reschedule and providing quicker case resolution
- Provides private and confidential conversations, similar to in-person services

California's linguistic and cultural diversity poses challenges to courts when meeting language access needs, making it imperative to seek innovative solutions to overcome any barriers to the provision of language services. VRI offers courts a technological solution that can reduce costs and increase access to qualified interpreters who appear via remote videoconferencing rather than in-person for suitable court hearings and events.

This program was made possible through the Judicial Council of California's [Signage and Technology Grant Program](#). With additional grant funding, SBSC plans to expand access to VRI at the Barstow Courthouse in the near future.

Members of the public are encouraged to frequently check SBSC's designated COVID-19 webpage (www.sb-court.org/covid-19), and social media accounts ([Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)) for the latest services available to the public.

For media-related inquiries, please contact Julie Van Hook, Communications and Public Affairs Officer at courts-pio@sb-court.org.