

## Interpreting for Depositions

Slide 1: Interpreting for Depositions

Carla M. Mathers, Esquire, SC: L  
A MARIE Center Presentation.

Slide 2: Civil Depositions: Sworn testimony (direct and cross exam); In a law office/conference room; Recorded/videotaped; Unsupervised/no judge; Attorney's approach varies.

Slide 3: Purpose of a deposition: To gather information; To perpetuate testimony; To facilitate settlement; To prepare dispositive motions

Slide 4: Information Gathering - Discovery process: Interrogatories; Requests for documents; Requests for admissions; Non-party subpoenas & depositions; Requests for mental & physical examinations.

Slide 5: Facilitating Settlement: Evaluate the witnesses; Open lines of communication; Punish the witness.

Slide 6: The Players: Deposing attorney; Deponent; Defending attorney; Court reporter; Interpreter; Others.

Slide 7: A Set Up (Diagram)

Slide 8: The Process: In the beginning; Stipulations: Reading and signing, Errata sheets; Set up and commitments.

Slide 9: The Discourse of Depositions: Open Questioning Phase; The Clarification Phase; Closing Off Phase.

Slide 10: The Open Phase: Tell me what you were doing before the accident? What were you looking at? What did you see? What was traffic like? Describe the intersection for me; When did you first see the plaintiff? Tell me what happened after you saw the plaintiff?

Slide 11: The Clarification Phase: When did you first see the plaintiff? I saw him about 200 yards away approaching in the oncoming traffic lane; How fast were you going when you first saw him? About 35 miles per hour; How do you know that was your speed? I had looked at my speedometer about a half block before; Had your speed changed since when you looked at your speedometer and when you saw the plaintiff? I don't think so.

Slide 12: The Closing Off Phase: Anything else? Anything else? Anything else? Anything else? Anything else? Anything else? Anything else?

Slide 13: The Deposition Interpreter: Proceedings interpreter role and function; Officer of the court overlay; Court interpreter code of conduct; Protocol issues same as for court; Suggest video taping the interpretation

Slide 14: The Monitor Interpreter: Definition; Privilege; Monitoring; Preparation; Process.

Slide 15: Preparation: Verbal with attorneys; Review case file; Meet Deaf witnesses with attorney present; Meet with other interpreters

Slide 16: MARIE Center on Excellence in Legal Interpreting.

1. More in-depth studies in legal interpreting? Legal Interpreter Training Program; 18 month 4 course program for a certificate or degree credit.

2. Archived sessions: <http://www.unco.edu/marie/>; Left column navigation to Webinars

3. CEUs – Carolyn White at [carolyn.white@unco.edu](mailto:carolyn.white@unco.edu)

Thank you and good day.