

Australian Capital Territory COURTS AND TRIBUNAL

Interpreter Services

The ACT Courts and Tribunal is committed to the principle of 'access to justice' ensuring that all court and tribunal users have access to the courts and tribunal. Interpreter assistance is available on a case by case basis, based upon need. Please note that a number of the interpreter services mentioned below are administered by other organisations.

Interpreter assistance with telephone and counter enquiries

Interpreter assistance will be made available free of charge when dealing with the enquiry counter or a registry unit of the ACT Courts and Tribunal. If you are telephoning, please contact the [National Interpreting Service](#) (TIS) on telephone **131 450**.

Interpreter assistance with court and tribunal hearings and conferences

- **Tribunal Matters**

The ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal will arrange an interpreter where required. Please contact the ACAT Registry on (02) 6207 1740 or email tribunal@act.gov.au.

- **Criminal Matters**

Interpreters may be arranged by either [ACT Policing](#) or the [Director of Public Prosecutions](#) (DPP) for witnesses and defendants involved in criminal hearings at the ACT Courts. For ACT Supreme Court matters please contact the DPP on (02) 6207 5399 and for ACT Magistrates Court matters please contact the AFP case officer for the matter by calling 131444.

- **Family Violence Protection Orders**

A court interpreter may be arranged by the Court in accordance with the ACT Government's Safer Families: Translating and Interpreting Service. Please contact the protection unit on (02) 62054939 or email protectionunit@courts.act.gov.au.

- **Care and Protection applications in the Children's Court**

Please contact the caseworker in [Community Services Directorate](#) (CSD) responsible for the matter to discuss your specific circumstances.

- **Coronial Matters**

Interpreters may be arranged for witnesses called to give evidence at a hearing. Please contact the Coroners Unit on (02) 6207 1754 or email coroners@court.act.gov.au.

- **Civil, Appeal and Other Non-criminal Matters**

Parties are required to organise interpreters at their own cost, including for any witnesses that require an interpreter.

It is important that persons requiring interpreter assistance make contact with their legal representative or the contact listed above as early as possible to discuss their needs.