

# Interpreters by Video

South Dakota's

Second Judicial Circuit



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit

- Lincoln & Minnehaha Counties
- Smallest Circuit in geographical size
- Largest by population (about 220,000)
- State Population: ~ 800,000



# Sample Court Interpreter Need, Eastern SD

Data Source: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Circuit Court Admin, 2006 informal survey

County	Interpreter Frequency
Brookings	Twice per month
Clark	Once 10 years ago
Codington	3 times per year
Grant	Once per month
Hamlin	Never
Hand	Never
Jerauld	4-6 times per year
Miner	Once five years ago
Moody	Once per week average
Sanborn	Once per month
Minnehaha & Lincoln (2 <sup>nd</sup> Circuit)	2012 Update: 939 interpreter appointments per year, 3.6 per day

2<sup>nd</sup>

## Circuit

# Languages? In 2011...

- Albanian
- Amharic
- Anuak
- Arabic
- ASL/Deaf
- Bantu
- Bosnian
- Burmese
- Cambodian
- Cebuano
- Creole (Seychelles)
- Czech
- Danish
- Dinka
- Farsi/Persian
- French
- German
- Iranian
- Japanese
- Karen
- Kinyarwanda
- Krahn
- Kunama
- Kurdish
- Lao
- Liberian
- Mai Mai
- Nepali
- Nuer
- Oromo
- Quiche'
- Somali
- Spanish
- Sudanese
- Swahili
- Tigrinya
- Ukranian
- Vietnamese
- Wolof

# Language Distribution

- 45% Arabic
- 25% Spanish
- 30 % All Others

## How do we find them?

- Five local agencies
- 28 private individuals (“freelancers”)
- Communication Services for the Deaf
- Language Line and three other phone providers
- [court2court@listserve.ncsconline.org](mailto:court2court@listserve.ncsconline.org)
- NAJIT

2<sup>nd</sup>

Circuit

## How do we find them? (cont.)

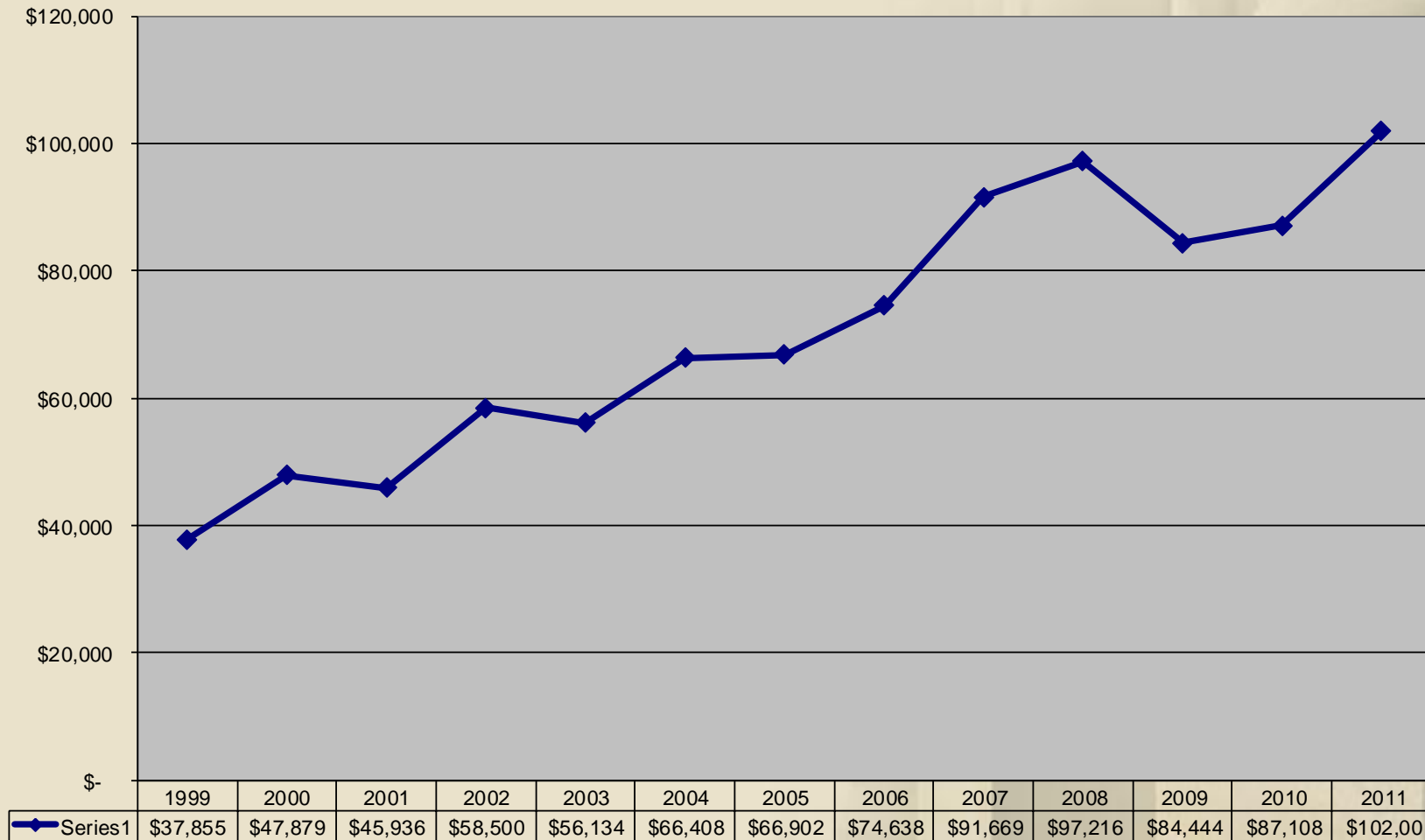
- Other courts (both near and far)
- Catholic, Lutheran, and other social service agencies
- Hollywood
- Universities, including overseas
- Google searches, Wikipedia source notes

## Interpreters provided for:

- **Everything**  
(all case types, all related parties, attorney conferences, clerk's office, probation visits, jurors; (everything except unrelated courtroom spectators))



### Court Interpreter Spending, Minnehaha County



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit

## Courtrooms & Video

- 20 Courtrooms in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit, 9 video units
- 66 counties in the State
- About 60 courthouse/Jail video units across the state



# Deaf Video Relay Terminals

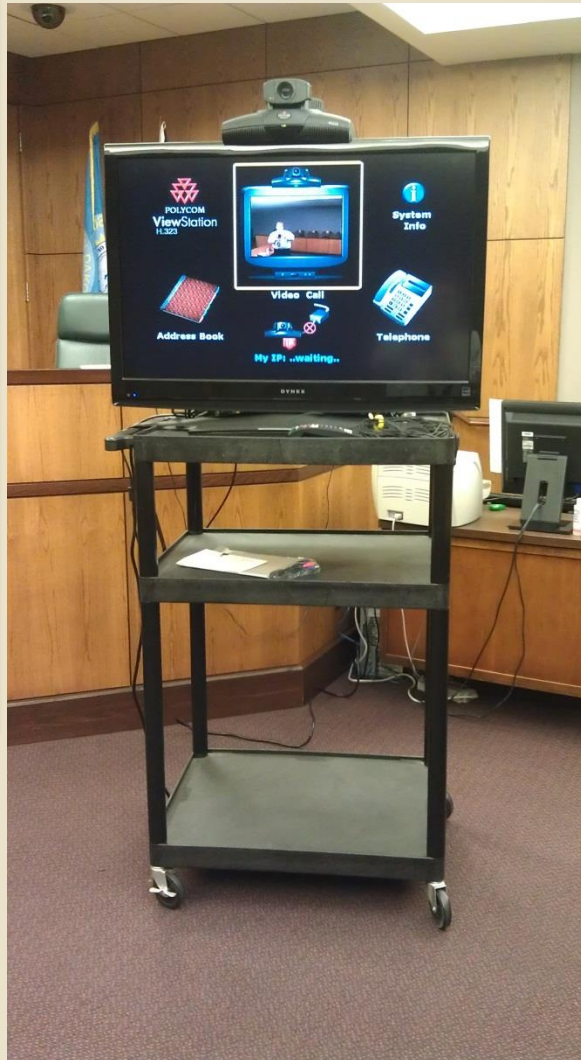
- Free!  
(well, federal grant/  
telecommunications  
surcharge; needs an  
internet connection)



# County Unit Unrestricted



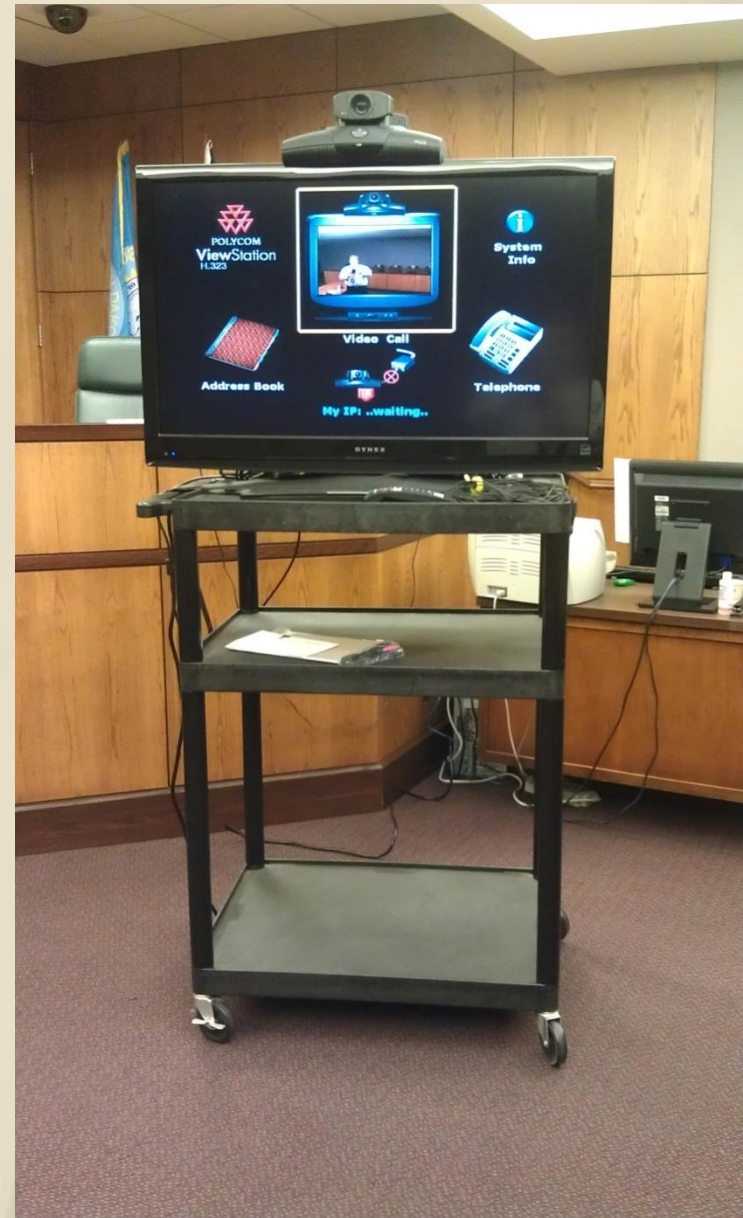
State Video  
Network



Webcam/  
Laptop Unit

# Basic Video Cart (\$800)

- Polycom PVS-14\*\*  
(Ebay, \$200)
- 47" Flatscreen Display  
(Walmart, \$400)
- Rolling cart: \$150
- Hardware, cables, etc. \$50



# Webcam Cart, add...

- Laptop, \$349
- Microsoft LifeCam, \$89
- Good external laptop speakers, \$69
- Headset with mic, \$49
- Windows Messenger, free
- “ClearSea” (\$ depends...)
- (Skype is too cutsie,  
Webex too cumbersome...)



But all video technology does no good unless you have somebody on the other end, so...

## The National Court Videoconference Directory

# United States, International & Local Court Videoconferencing Directory

Compiled and maintained by the 2nd Judicial Circuit, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Contact: karl.thoennes@ujs.state.sd.us with changes or questions

## UNITED STATES

Location	Company	Contact Name	Contact Number	Email Address	IP Address	Fees/Notes
Alaska - Anchorage	The Chariot Group Inc.		1-877-822-5300	www.chariotgroup.com	Call for IP info	\$50-\$150 to setup \$175 per hour
Arizona - Phoenix	Legal Video	Craig	1-602-254-1400	info@legalvideoaz.com	Call for IP info	\$175 per hour
Arizona - Scottsdale	Face to Face Live	Andy	1-480-348-3400	www.f2fl.com	Call for IP info	\$175 per hour
California - Irvine	Sarnoff Court Reporters	Pete Riley or Christy	1-949-955-3855	cpeterson@attysweb.co	Call for IP info	\$375 per hour
California - Los Angeles	Orange County Court	Snorri Ogata	1-714-449-8100	sogata@occourts.org	Call for IP info	
California - Riverside	Riverside County Courthouse	Arron Brown	1-951-955-1441	arron.brown@riverside.courts.ca.gov	Call for IP info	
Colorado - Fort Collins	Colorado Video Connection	Carol	1-970-223-6700	www.coloradovideoconnection.com Carol@coloradovideoconnectio.com	Call for IP info	Call for fees
Florida - Tallahassee	Leon County, 2nd Circuit	Danny Davis	1-850-577-4444	davisd@leoncountyfl.gov	Call for IP info	
Georgia - Lawrenceville	Gwinnett County	Hayat Zamayar Linda Pendleton	1-770-822-8953	hayat.zamayar@gwinnettcounty.com linda.pendleton@gwinnettcouny.com	Call for IP info	Case by case and prefers Webex links
Idaho - Coeur d'Alene	M & M Reporting	Stacy or Cheryl	1-800-879-1700	www.idahocourtreporting.com	64.50.58.243	\$200 for the first hour \$50 per 1/4 hour after



## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES ON THE NATIONAL DIRECTORY AND PROPOSED "RULES"

- 1. Local rules and connection practices** - Courts can add, delete or modify their information on this list at any time, or withdraw entirely whenever they like. This list is strictly voluntary and each court or jurisdiction sets its own restrictions, policies and connection rules. For example, some courts only allow their systems to be used for court hearings, while others also allow attorney conferences outside the courtrooms. Each court sets its own rules.
- 2. Reciprocity** - This must be a reciprocal arrangement. In other words, if a court wants access to this list or to these video units, they have to offer their systems to other courts in return, to the extent their schedules allow. It's just not fair otherwise - that's the whole idea of this cooperative court videoconference list.
- 3. Confidentiality** - because this list contains office phone numbers, contact names, and open-access IP numbers that could potentially interrupt court with accidental video calls, this document should only be released to the appropriate personnel at and within other courts, and should never be posted online or emailed to anyone other than court personnel.
- 4. Distribution of the List** - The purpose of this cooperative project is to help courts make connections to other courts. Therefore, although there are a number of private, for-profit sites on this list because we couldn't find court sites in those locations, when periodic updates to this list are published, the updates will only be distributed to other courts, not to the private vendors.
- 5. Pay Sites** - the private, non-court sites on this list can be very expensive. The court in Sioux Falls for example will not incur any expenses itself for video connections on behalf of requesting parties. If an attorney or party wants to appear by video and a charge is involved on the far end, the attorney or party must make payment arrangements with the charging site themselves. The court will also not "front" the money or agree to be billed by the charging site and then get reimbursed by the requesting party. When and if we later find cooperating court sites in any of the cities listing a private vendor, we usually then delete the private vendor.
- 6. IP Only** - Most of the latest video units run on internet connections ("IP" for internet protocol). Some videoconferencing systems still use high speed telephone/ISDN lines. With just a few exceptions, we generally avoid ISDN connections because the connections can sometimes get complicated, require an IP/ISDN "bridge," and expensive phone charges can sometimes be involved. We want to keep this low-cost and simple. The court in Sioux Falls for example will usually only connect to IP-based sites.
- 7. Skype, MSN Messenger, etc.** - Each of the courts on this list make their own determinations about what kind of connections they can and will allow, but the court in Sioux Falls strongly prefers not to use Skype, MSN, Webex or other home-style, web-cam connections. The video and sound quality on home web-cam systems is often very poor quality and does not compare to the high-speed, high-quality, large-picture courtroom units for official court purposes. Our regular courtroom video systems also do not and cannot load third party software like Skype or MSN Messenger. However, if we have no other choice and no practical alternative, the Court in Sioux Falls does have a Webex account

# Future development, where do we go from here?

- Flexible courts and tech staff open to innovation and cooperation across state lines
- Flexible/open video systems
- Decent equipment and fast, clear internet connections (no wireless) on both ends
- \$\$: Work out billing arrangements for court interpreters on loan to other states

# 2nd Circuit

[www.2courts.com](http://www.2courts.com)

Online videoconferencing request  
available at  
[www.SDJudicial.com/SecondCircuit](http://www.SDJudicial.com/SecondCircuit)