

Judicial Legislative Agenda

Commissioners Court Legislative Workshop

January 8, 2019

Master Interpreter Requirements


ISSUE:

State imposed requirement to have Master Interpreters present

SOLUTION:

Eliminate or modify the State requirement of having a Master Interpreter present for LEP arrestees and other defendants

Allow the use of a subscription language line for magistration and be able to use a Basic Licensed or Federal licensed interpreter in court



Magistration Process

ISSUE:

Governor Abbott has proposed to require District Judges to Magistrate certain categories of felonies and violent misdemeanors

SOLUTION:

Introduce legislation to enable:

- (1) Associate Judges to magistrate those crimes; and
- (2) Hiring of a Magistrate by the Judges, who would be empowered to magistrate those crimes of violence as well as other crimes