



# Arizona Commission

for the deaf and the hard of hearing

100 N 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue □ Suite 104 □ Phoenix, AZ 85007  
acdhh.org

## Minutes of the meeting of the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing, Interpreter Licensure Committee. Meeting held April 21, 2021 at 2:00pm.

**Meeting was held remotely via teleconference and Zoom due to COVID-19.**

### Call to Order & Roll Call

Commissioner Benton called the meeting to order at **2:05 pm**

Commissioners

Present: none

Commissioners

Absent: none

Commissioners Present by Phone/Zoom: Sarah Benton, and Andrew Cohen, Catherine Sienko and PV Jantz

Staff Present by phone/Zoom: Carmen Smith, Victoria Vaughn, Chyla Dalton-Nava and Emmett Hassen Staff Present: none

Audience: none

### Committee Chair’s Report

None.

### Review/Approval of Sign Language Interpreter Applications

Prior to the review of applications, Commissioner Benton informed the ILC of a previous conversation she had with Staff member Victoria Vaughn regarding the addition of updated contact information on each applicant’s application, to make it easier for the Commissioners to review applications. **Commissioner Jantz moved to recommend the names below, to the Executive Director for issuance of an Interpreter License. Motion seconded by Commissioner Sienko; motion carried unanimously.**

The following applicants are approved for licensure, based on education, examination and experience requirements.

1. Bass, Tera	13. Lebedda, Roberta
2. Batten, Jeremy	14. Leckron, Lester
3. Bumpus-Barnett, Sherry	15. Lensbower, Jessica
4. Flowers, Aren	16. Mace, Jessica
5. Gongora, Marciano	17. Martin, Joy
6. Greenfield, Virgil	18. Moyer, Jennifer
7. Griffith, Amira	19. Nash, Carissa

602-364-0990 TTY □ 602-542-3323 V □ 480-559-9441 VP □ 800-352-8161 V/TTY □ 602-364-0581 FAX □ info@acdhh.az.gov

*The mission of the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing is to ensure, in partnership with the public and private sectors, accessibility for the deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing, and persons with speech difficulties to improve their quality of life.*



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8. Helland, Trisha	20. Neloms, Marissa
9. Hicks, Jessica	21. New, Roxann
10. Hosek, Amand	22. Ritter, Margaret
11. Labbancz, Julia	23. Schoemig, William
12. Lamb, Kathleen	24. Schoenleben, Brianna
	25. Trexler, Arthur
	26. Warren, Darlene

Note to approved applicants: If your name does not appear in the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing website ([www.acdhh.org](http://www.acdhh.org)), please contact the Licensing and Certification Coordinator [e.hassen@acdhh.az.gov](mailto:e.hassen@acdhh.az.gov).

## **Licensure Rules Update**

Carmen Green Smith went over the previous concerns with Legal A licensing due to possible challenges in renewal due to COVID-19. She explained that ACDHH has received approval for the emergency rulemaking process to address the impact of COVID 19 for licensees in the Legal A category, and Provisional licensees in their final year of renewal. Licensees who held a valid license in either category on December 30, 2020, shall continue to practice in that category, under this Emergency Rule process. The 180 day emergency rulemaking process was effective as of March 31, 2021. The Commission has been approved to engage in the rulemaking process, known as Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPR). This NPR is anticipated to post in the register by April 30th. Once this is posted, a 30 day public comment period will commence, allowing the public to comment on the proposed rules. During these 30 days, the public will be able to send in written comments about any proposed rules. At the end of the 30 day written comment session, there will be an oral comment session which is tentatively scheduled on June 2nd, 2021 at 10 am. This information will be posted along with the notice for written comments on the ACDHH website. Commissioners will also be provided with the proposed rulemaking, which will allow them to direct people who may have questions or concerns to the licensure department at the Commission. Licensees with Legal A or Provisional licenses that are in their last or fifth year of provisional licensure should contact licensing staff to get a better understanding of how these new proposed rules will impact their individual licenses.

Commissioner Jantz asked whether or not individuals in the Legal A category who are affected by the rule change have been informed directly whether or not they can continue working, in order to avoid confusion.

Carmen explained that those interpreters have been informed directly- and that there is



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also an interpreter information newsletter where that information was posted as well. Each area explained what their options are to continue working with the new changes. Emmett Hassen added that there is also a page available on our website that includes the new licensing information.

### **Announcements**

No announcements at this time; however Commissioner Jantz asked what the total VRI and in-person applicants were recently approved. Commissioner Benton explained that of the 26 total applications, 4 were in state applications, and the remaining 22 were VRI applications.

**Commissioner Jantz moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:27 pm.  
Commissioner Sienko seconded; the motion carried unanimously.**

Dated this 22<sup>th</sup> day of  
April, 2021 Sarah  
Benton, Committee  
Chair

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the attached notice was duly posted this 23rd day of April, 2021 at 5:00 pm by Chyla Dalton-Nava.