



Law Office of the  
**COOK COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER**

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Amy P. Campanelli • Public Defender

October 26, 2018

Commissioner Luis Arroyo, Jr.  
118 North Clark Street  
Room 567  
Chicago, IL 60602

Re: status of interpreters in my Office

Commissioner Arroyo, Jr.:

Thank you for your inquiry. My Office currently employs one interpreter, who is a bilingual Spanish interpreter. During the current fiscal year, we will be hiring a second bilingual Spanish interpreter; an offer of employment has been made and she is being screened by the Bureau of Human Resources.

During FY2017, there were issues in meeting our turnover adjustment, as well as budgetary holdbacks. We were unable to hire into the position. For FY2018, the Board gave us two budgeted positions for interpreter – our current employee plus one new hire, who is scheduled to start during the current fiscal year. For FY2019, it is the President's recommendation to budget for us to hire a third interpreter.

I hope this answers your questions. Thank you for caring about the adequacy of my staff.

Sincerely,

Amy P. Campanelli  
Public Defender of Cook County