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To: panel_ajls@legco.gov.hk, Amar Nadeem

Date: Saturday, May 21, 2016 04:09PM
Subject: Concerns from Part-time interpreters

History: → This message has been forwarded.

Dear Respected Sir/Madam,

Thanks a lot for raising Part-time Interpreter's (PTI's) concerns in Legco. I would like to draw your attention to a serious matter regarding how various government departments are misusing PTI's in the context of NOT SO CLEAR GUIDELINES from Judiciary Part-time Interpreters Unit. Simply put it, we are forced to reserve half day/full day or even up to a week for a minimum of 2 hours payment and on top of that all departments frequently cancel our appointments, sometimes made weeks earlier, often on less than 1 hour notice without any payment at all. Common sense dictates that half day reservation means half day reservation and not 2 hours.

If this rule cannot be changed, may we humbly request you to allow us to confirm appointments for a minimum of 2 hours only and after that we should be free to engage in our own "vocation and other engagements" as per reply from Judiciary.

PTI's when working with other government departments are regularly reminded to strictly follow guidelines provided by "Judiciary Part-time Interpreters Unit" and uphold "Highest Professional Standards". Every time we try to raise our concerns with other departments, they simply advise us to first contact Part-time interpreters Unit as they are simply following Part-time Interpreters Unit's guidelines. Unfortunately Part-time Interpreters Unit does not want to own us and we are treated like orphans by all departments. Therefore, we strongly urge Part-time Interpreters Unit to look into this matter, make clear and fairer guidelines and give us due recognition so that we could provide interpretation services as PROFESSIONAL INTERPRETERS, as always expected from us by everyone!

Thanks a lot for you kind attention!

Best Regards

Nadeem Amar