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May 31, 2012

The Executive Office for Immigration Review Releases Language Access Plan

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) today announced the release of its official language access plan, the first of a kind for the agency. The release of the EOIR Language Access Plan is a commitment in writing to providing meaningful access to those with limited English proficiency to EOIR’s programs and activities, and it is the latest plan to display the Department of Justice’s commitment to the language access principles of [Executive Order 13166](#), *Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency* (August 11, 2000).

The [U.S. Census Bureau](#) reports that 19.7% of the population over the age of five speaks a language other than English at home. Further, 44.2% of that group speaks English less than “very well.” Many of the persons with whom EOIR communicates speak a language other than English.

EOIR’s Language Access Plan, available [here](#), describes the efforts the agency currently takes to assist those with limited English proficiency and outlines the steps the agency plans to take to increase and improve those efforts, such as full and complete interpretation nationwide within one year of the plan’s implementation. EOIR is pleased that it was able to take into consideration so much stakeholder input during the deliberation process that led up to today’s release.

— EOIR —

The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) is an agency within the Department of Justice. Under delegated authority from the Attorney General, immigration judges and the Board of Immigration Appeals interpret and adjudicate immigration cases according to United States immigration laws. EOIR’s immigration judges conduct administrative court proceedings in immigration courts located throughout the nation. They determine whether foreign-born individuals — whom the Department of Homeland Security charges with violating immigration law — should be ordered removed from the United States or should be granted relief from removal and be permitted to remain in this country. The Board of Immigration Appeals primarily reviews appeals of decisions by immigration judges. EOIR’s Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer adjudicates immigration-related employment cases. EOIR is committed to ensuring fairness in all of the cases it adjudicates.