Over the Telephone Interpreting Services for Wage Rate Interviews

This construction advisory is to provide information regarding over the telephone interpreting services. Bureau of Highway Instructional Memorandum 2008-06, Prevailing Wage Oversight Procedures, states: “If a language barrier is encountered, employees of the contractor or subcontractor are not to assist in language interpreting. The services of a language interpreter are available to the engineer upon request”. MDOT has contracted with Bromberg & Associates for over the telephone interpreting services to assist when interviewing non English speaking workers. For field interviews you must have a cell phone with a speaker to utilize this service. The Construction and Technology Division will pay for the cost of the telephone interpretation service.

Following are the instructions for utilizing this service:

1. With the speaker on, dial 1-866-908-6137.

2. When the operator answers, provide the following information:
   a. You are calling from MDOT.
   b. Your customer code is MDOTHDY.
   c. The language that you need interpreted.
   d. Your name and telephone number.
   e. The name of your TSC, local agency or consulting firm.

3. The operator will promptly connect you with an interpreter.

Form 1156, Minimum Wage Rate Interview Sheet, now includes these instructions. Form 1156 is available on MDOT’s forms Web site and should be used for all wage rate interviews.

Please contact the C&T prevailing wage compliance specialist at 517-322-5716 if you have any questions.