



MICHIGAN STATE POLICE

Translator & Interpreter Program

Annual Report - 2021

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Overview

The Field Operations Bureau (FOB) began exploring the feasibility of establishing a language translation program to supplement the department's current use of the Language Line for enforcement contacts. In May 2020, a survey was released department-wide soliciting members that were fluent in sign language or a language other than English, and were interested in participating in a translator program. From that survey, 25 members who speak 18 different languages were identified to participate in the program.

“Year In Numbers”

18

Languages offered



25

Program team members



60

People helped

11

Different request types



12

Outside agencies requested translator services



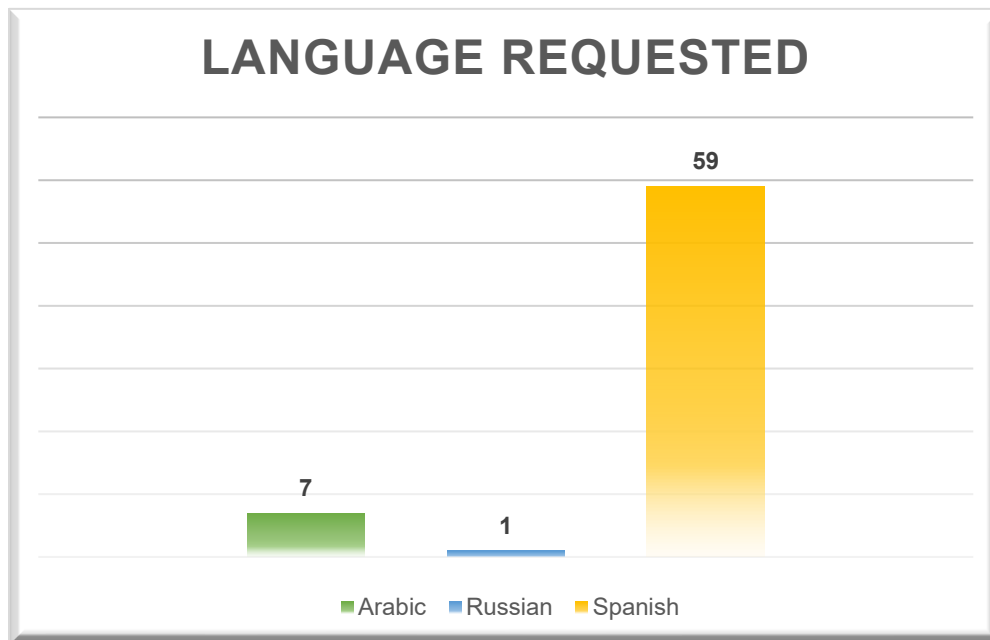
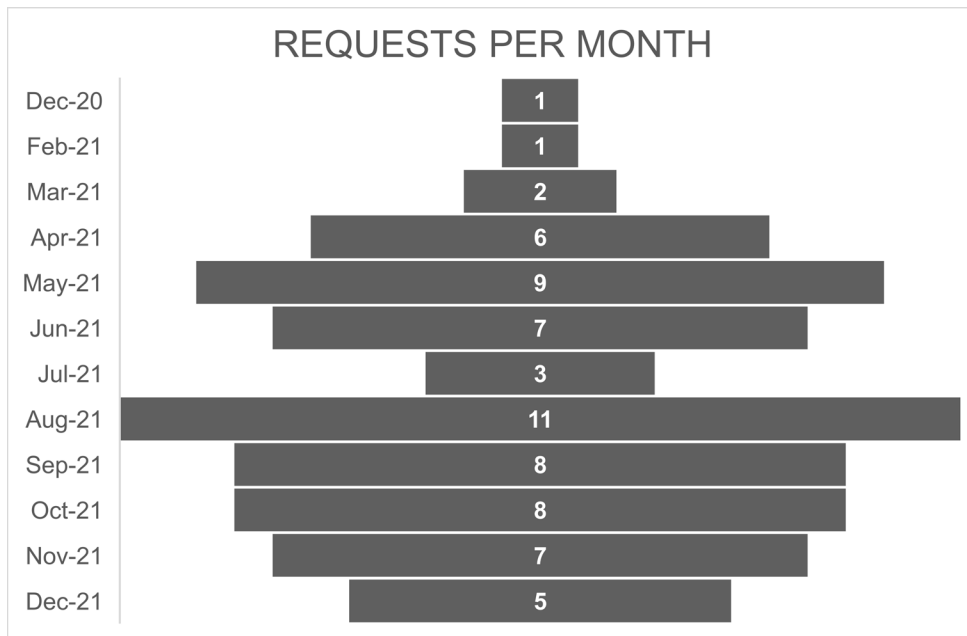
Summary

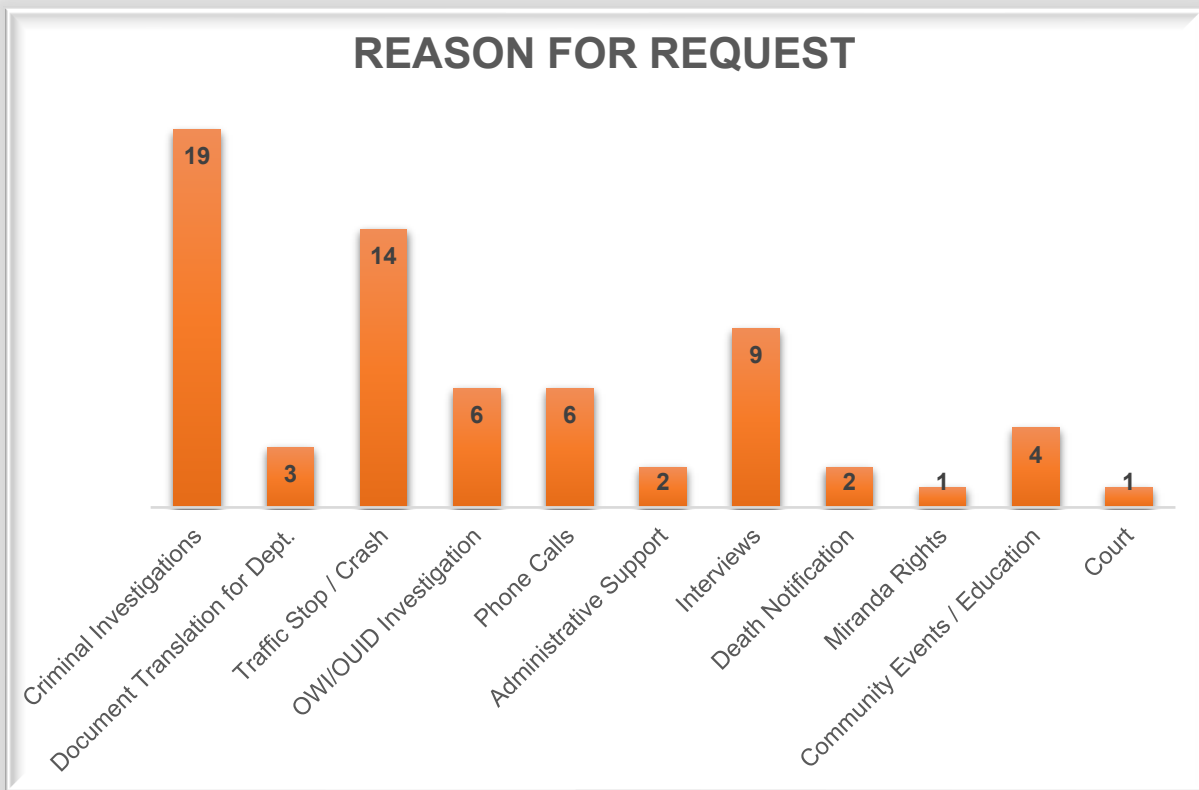
The program coordinator who is assigned to the Field Operations Bureau is responsible for oversight of the statewide Translator and Interpreter Program. The training coordinator was tasked with identifying a language testing provider. All 25 translators were tested and scored at required levels for translation and interpretation by Berlitz Languages, Inc. Berlitz Languages, Inc. provides language assessment and language testing services. The language tests feature testing for speaking, writing, and listening. The 18 languages offered through the program are provided below.

| Languages | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Albanian</i> | <i>Malayalam</i> |
| <i>Arabic</i> | <i>Polish</i> |
| <i>Bosnian</i> | <i>Portuguese</i> |
| <i>Croatian</i> | <i>Romanian</i> |
| <i>Dutch</i> | <i>Russian</i> |
| <i>German</i> | <i>Serbian</i> |
| <i>Gujarati</i> | <i>Spanish</i> |
| <i>Hindi</i> | <i>Telugu</i> |
| <i>Hungarian</i> | <i>Urdu</i> |

2021 Translator & Interpreter Program Highlights

- Assisted Tuscola County Sheriff's Department with a domestic violence incident by providing translation services; suspect was subsequently arrested and lodged.
- Assisted Harbor Beach Police Department with a 911 hang-up that was a domestic dispute and civil matter.
- Assisted the Michigan Department of Corrections with the translation of inmate phone calls.
- Provided Spanish translation services for a strong-armed robbery suspect and obtained a confession during the interview.
- Assisted a caller who spoke very little English with an Arabic translation at the Metro North Post, to provide the needed assistance.
- Assisted Emergency Medical Services (EMS) with translation for a Latino subject who had a seizure and fell into farm chemicals. Continued translation services were requested at the Harbor Beach Hospital.
- Assisted with the translation of phone contents and text messages for a digital forensic examination that was related to a homicide.
- Assisted Huron County Sheriff's Department with translation for an intoxicated male subject found asleep on the side of the road. Male subject was subsequently returned to his residence once translation services were completed.
- Visited a migrant children's camp twice in August and interacted with the children while speaking Spanish to help ease their anxieties regarding interacting with law enforcement.





AGENCIES THAT REQUESTED SERVICE

