



OATHS

OATHS

Table of Contents

Anti-Bribery Oath of Appointed Officer.....	1
Anti-Bribery Oath of Elected Officer.....	2
Oath of Office.....	3
Oath for Language Interpreter.....	4
Oath for Interpreter for Deaf or Hard of Hearing Juror, Defendant, or Witness.....	5

THE STATE OF TEXAS

Statement of Appointed Officer

(Please type or print legibly)

I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm), that I have not directly or indirectly paid, offered, promised to pay, contributed, or promised to contribute any money or thing of value, or promised any public office or employment, as a reward to secure my appointment or confirmation thereof, so help me God.

Affiant

Office to Which Appointed

City

Sworn to and subscribed before me by affiant on this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Signature of Person Administering Oath

(municipal court seal)

Printed Name

Title

Editor's Note: File with your city before filing the Oath of Office.

THE STATE OF TEXAS

Statement of Elected Officer

(Please type or print legibly)

I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm), that I have not directly or indirectly paid, offered, promised to pay, contributed, or promised to contribute any money or thing of value, or promised any public office or employment for the giving or withholding of a vote at the election at which I was elected, so help me God.

Affiant

Office to Which Appointed

City

Sworn to and subscribed before me by affiant on this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Signature of Person Administering Oath

(municipal court seal)

Printed Name

Title

Editor's Note: File with your city before filing the Oath of Office.

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF

THE STATE OF TEXAS

Oath of Office

I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm), that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of _____ of the State of Texas, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and the laws of the United States and of this State, so help me God.

Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me by affiant on this ____ day of _____, 20__.

(municipal court seal)

Signature of Person Administering Oath

Printed Name

Title

Editor's Note: File with records of your office.

OATH FOR LANGUAGE INTERPRETER (Art. 38.30, C.C.P.)

OATH FOR A LANGUAGE INTERPRETER

"I, _____, (am a state licensed interpreter for) (am not a state licensed interpreter, but I have experience, training, or education in) the _____ language with a (basic) (master) license designation.

I, _____, do swear (or affirm) that I will truly and correctly interpret for the court, jury, attorneys, defendant, and the person being examined in all of the proceedings in this case into the language the (witness) (person charged) understands, and I will repeat the statements made by said (witness) (person charged) in the English language to the best of my skill and judgment (so help me God).

I shall not influence or attempt to influence or give my personal views regarding any part of the proceedings or the evidence presented at this trial to the (witness) (person charged)."

Signature of Interpreter

(Judge) (Clerk) (Bailiff), Municipal Court

City of _____

County, Texas

Editor’s Note: Article 38.30(a), C.C.P., requires that an interpreter be sworn to interpret for the person charged or the witness. Although there is no statutory requirement that the oath be taken in writing, signed, or filed in the court’s record, it is recommended to ensure some documentation that the oath requirement has been met. This is especially true in courts of non-record where there is no transcript.

A court shall appoint a licensed court interpreter for an individual who can hear but does not comprehend or communicate in English if a motion for the appointment of an interpreter or provider is filed by a party or requested by a witness in a civil or criminal proceeding in the court. Sec. 57.002, G.C. Generally, appointed interpreters must be licensed by the Judicial Branch Certification Commission (JBCC). To interpret in a municipal court of record, the interpreter must hold a license with a master designation, unless the proceeding is one in which the judge is acting as a magistrate. In that case, and for all interpreter appointments in municipal courts of non-record, the appointed interpreter may hold a license with the basic designation. Sec. 157.101(d), G.C.

Courts in cities located in counties that have a population of less than 50,000 are not required to appoint a state licensed interpreter. But any interpreter who is appointed must be qualified as an expert under the Texas Rules of Evidence, must be at least 18 years of age, and may not be a party to the proceeding. In a county of 50,000 or more, if the language needing translation is not Spanish and a licensed interpreter is not available within 75 miles of the court, the court may swear a non-licensed interpreter subject to the same qualifications. Sec. 57.002, G.C. A qualified telephone interpreter may be sworn to interpret before a judge or magistrate if an interpreter is not available to appear in person at the proceeding or if the only available interpreter is not considered to possess adequate interpreting skills for the particular situation or is unfamiliar with the use of slang. A “qualified telephone interpreter” means a telephone service that employs (1) licensed court interpreters, licensed by the State of Texas under Sec. 157.001, G.C.; or (2) federally certified court interpreters. Art. 38.30, C.C.P.

OATH FOR INTERPRETER FOR DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING JUROR, DEFENDANT, OR WITNESS (Art. 38.31, C.C.P)

OATH FOR INTERPRETER FOR DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING (JUROR) (DEFENDANT) (WITNESS)

“I, _____, am a qualified interpreter for the deaf who holds a current legal certificate issued by the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf or a current court interpreter certificate issued by the Board of Evaluation of Interpreters at the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services.

I do swear or affirm that I will make a true interpretation to the (juror) (defendant) (witness) of all the proceedings (and deliberations of the jury) in this case in a language that he/she understands; and that I shall repeat said deaf person’s statements, questions, and answers to counsel, the court, or the jury, in the English language, in my best skill and judgment.

(I shall not influence or attempt to influence or give my personal views regarding any part of the proceedings or the evidence presented at this trial to any juror or jurors and shall not divulge to any person any part of the jury's deliberations under penalty of perjury.)”

Signature of Interpreter

(Judge) (Clerk) (Bailiff), Municipal Court
City of _____
_____ County, Texas

Editor’s Note: Article 38.31(e), C.C.P., requires that an interpreter appointed under that section for a defendant or a witness take an oath. Although there is no statutory requirement that the oath be taken in writing, signed, or filed in the court’s record, it is recommended to ensure some documentation that the oath requirement has been met. This is especially so in courts of non-record where there is no transcript.