

Why we took legal action and where we are in our litigation

How we found out

In mid-2022, a California court reporter alerted a California certified court interpreter that his name had been fraudulently used by an impostor claiming to be him during a remote Workers Comp deposition. The Association of Independent Judicial Interpreters of California (AIJIC) followed up on that and eventually started receiving additional tips from interpreters, more court reporters and attorneys regarding similar incidents during remote depositions. We were informed that some of the “interpreters” would refuse to turn their cameras on or show their badges, gave strange “certification numbers,” were unable to interpret competently or behaved unprofessionally enough to raise red flags. All these individuals impersonated real California certified interpreters and all the instances had in common the same language service provider: One Call, based in Jacksonville, Florida.

The evidence we gathered

AIJIC obtained sworn declarations from court reporters and from the interpreters whose names/certification numbers were fraudulently used by the impersonators. Our attorneys, Rachel S. Doughty and Rae Lovko from Greenfire Law, sent a Cease and Desist letter to One Call in December 2022 demanding a stop of the instances of impersonation. At this point, we had evidence of nine cases of impersonation in remote Workers Comp depositions.

One Call's response

One Call initially ignored our Cease-and-Desist letter but eventually their chief counsel, Steven Davis, met with our attorneys via phone conference and assured us that One Call had terminated its business relationship with the vendors involved in the impersonations.

The impersonators became smarter and bolder

In 2023, the impersonations continued, and we noticed two new trends. First, the impostors were fraudulently using the names of California certified court interpreters employed by the courts. The reason seemed obvious: if court reporters had previously been instrumental in recognizing an impersonator because they knew the real interpreter, by impersonating a court employee the impostors minimized the possibility that the court reporter would know the real interpreter (because interpreters who work for the courts usually don't interpret depositions). Second, the impostors were using fake Judicial Council certification badges with the names of real certified court interpreters and photos of the impostors. Sometimes, fake certification numbers were used too. We uncovered six more cases of interpreter fraud in 2023. It was clear that our Cease and Desist letter hadn't accomplished the intended results.

AIJIC sues One Call

In light of the identity theft that showed no signs of slowing down, in January 2024 AIJIC sued One Call in the Los Angeles Superior Court for unfair business practices. AIJIC is asking the court for an order compelling One Call to stop the impersonation. The judge assigned to our case is the Honorable Wendy Chang. We have 15 proven cases of interpreter fraud, but we believe there are more that went undetected. We also have uncovered additional instances where interpreters sent to a deposition by One Call were not certified despite being legally required to be certified.

One Call's defense

One Call is being represented by Duane Morris, a law firm with more than 900 attorneys in offices in the U.S. and internationally. In May 2025, One Call filed a motion for summary judgment asking the court to dismiss our case. In this motion, One Call argues (without supporting evidence) that the impersonations are no longer occurring and that the involved vendors were not agents of One Call. Their motion, and AIJIC's opposition to their motion, will be heard by the court on 1/8/2026 in Department 36 at the Stanley Mosk Courthouse in DTLA.

How you can help

1. By helping raise awareness among attorneys and court reporters about identity theft of interpreters' names and credentials.
2. By reporting to AIJIC instances where there are suspicions of interpreter fraud.
3. By supporting AIJIC as a member (visit <https://www.aijic.org/plans-pricing>)
4. By making a tax-deductible donation to AIJIC in the following ways:

Zelle (preferred):

Account name: Association of Independent Judicial ("Association of Independent" will also work)

Email: info@aijic.org

Venmo (preferred): @AIJIC-Interpreters

GoFundMe: <https://gofund.me/f8719678>

By mailing a check to AIJIC:

11684 Ventura Blvd. #114

Studio City, California 91604

Stay tuned!