

**Legal Interpreting Skill Development Activity:  
IMPROVING COMPREHENSION OF ASL LEGAL TEXTS**

**Activities:**

One of the most effective ways to enhance your ASL receptive skills is through regular and productive association within the Deaf Community. Learning to NEGOTIATE for understanding is critical. It is easy to get frustrated and just give-up. But there are effective ways to get at the information you missed. Merely asking to have information repeated is not enough. Try some of these strategies:

- If you do not catch a fingerspelled word, ask if it is the name of a person, place, or thing. This information, along with the context in which the word was spelled, will often help you to understand the word much quicker than having it respelled several times.
- When there is a portion of a message you miss, paraphrase for the deaf person what you have understood up to that point. This demonstrates that you are not totally lost, but just looking for a certain piece of information.
- Another strategy is to ask questions about what you do understand. For example, if you miss a

ASL discussion about working with your lawyer, female signer [about 8 minutes in length]

4. <https://youtu.be/699ionfzzVM>

Deaf Interpreters at Work, Mock Trial model interpretations of D-H team [about 45 minutes]

5. <https://youtu.be/dKBYwkPX5d8>

ASL explanation of issues with family law by a Deaf advocate [about 8 minutes in length, turn off sound]

6. <https://youtu.be/l00YfmnsHVo>

Deaf POC discussing in ASL how to file an ADA complaint [about 6 minutes in length, sound included and needs to be turned off]

7. [https://youtu.be/\\_-7u6u3aKM4](https://youtu.be/_-7u6u3aKM4)

Deaf POC man discussing his problems with using VRI interpreting in hospital setting [10.5 minutes in length]

8. <https://youtu.be/rAoaE-URJwY>

Street Leverage Video on Legal ramifications of Federal Court Decision on interpreters presented in ASL [about 25 minutes]

9. [https://youtu.be/RM\\_tBDKuK0o](https://youtu.be/RM_tBDKuK0o)

Disability law podcast in ASL with English voice over that can be turned off [7 minutes in length]

10. [https://youtu.be/iDyHagGt\\_ns](https://youtu.be/iDyHagGt_ns)

ASL discussion of voter restrictions in Wisconsin [5 minutes in length]

11. [https://youtu.be/AaU\\_9RITvFs](https://youtu.be/AaU_9RITvFs)

ASL video on marriage and divorce from Canada [not current in terms of same-sex marriage] [6 minutes in length]

12. <https://youtu.be/VPUqxyk6k4U>

Criminal and Family Law in ASL [13.5 minutes in length]

15. <https://youtu.be/4LBjjS9ABnA>

Deaf woman explaining her interpreting problems at hospital [9.5 minutes in length]

16. <https://youtu.be/MWZ7XWqyTTg>

End of life directives, female ASL signer [7 minutes in length]