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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NAJIT COMMENTS ON ERIK CAMAYD-FREIXAS ESSAY Comments of Federal Interpreter Raises Ethical Issues

Washington, DC -- July 15, 2008 -- In a formal statement issued today, the National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators provided comments on the essay recently published by Professor Erik Camayd-Freixas in regard to the May 12 raid of the Agriprocessors meatpacking plant in which a large number of immigrant workers were arrested.

"NAJIT encourages all judiciary interpreters to abide by the longstanding ethical principles that exist for our profession, including confidentiality, impartiality, and neutrality," said NAJIT Chair Isabel Framer. "These are cornerstones of our profession, and are treated very seriously. Dr. Camayd-Freixas spoke out consciously and with the belief that his actions do not fall outside the recognized ethics of the profession. NAJIT neither condemns nor condones his position, however, NAJIT welcomes the opportunity to help the public gain a better understanding of the role and importance of interpreters in the U.S. legal system."

(more)

The National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators is a professional association that promotes quality interpretation and translation services in the judicial system. NAJIT members' services are key to assuring due process and adequate legal representation, as provided for by the 5th, 6th, and 14th Amendments to the United States Constitution. NAJIT has a code of ethics that can be obtained directly from its webpage, located at www.najit.org.

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