

Statement of Candidacy

Since I found my calling in this profession 37 years ago, I have devoted myself to learning and honing my craft. I have mentored interpreters and actively worked to provide them with a greater voice in the shaping of our profession. To this end, I have participated in numerous projects sponsored by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts that have been geared to educating and orienting interpreters and those who use interpreting services. I have also been intimately involved with the drafting of performance standards in the area of interpreting, heading the Drafting Subcommittee for Interpreting Performance Descriptors and participating in the development of audio translation standards among others, all under the auspices of the Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR). I have also actively participated in the drafting of the original and the new interpreting standard of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM). Currently, I am involved in the drafting of the ASTM Standard Guide for Testing Interpreters.

As a professional interpreter, my rule of thumb for the profession has always been, do no harm and pave a more professional path for future generations of interpreters to follow. As individual interpreters we all have a responsibility to ensure that interpreters be at the helm of the continuing professionalization of the field, and I believe that the key instrument in consolidating our efforts is our one national professional association, NAJIT. Much has been accomplished in the past 30 years, but much remains to be done. My purpose in running for a position on the 2018 NAJIT Board of Directors is to contribute my energy and effort to making NAJIT a more purposeful and dynamic organization that responds to the issues facing the profession and interpreters in general. Additionally, if elected to the Board, I would work unstintingly to forge a closer, more open and aboveboard relationship between the membership and the Association. At this stage in my life and profession, I believe that I am equipped to take on what I consider a great responsibility and serve the greater community of interpreters in this new area.