

Janis Palma – Short Bio

Janis Palma became a federally-certified judiciary interpreter in 1981, while working as a freelancer in Miami, Florida. She worked briefly as a staff interpreter for the Southern District of Texas in the Brownsville Division shortly after getting federally certified, then freelanced again, mostly for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York. In 1986 she was accredited by the ATA as a translator into/from English and Spanish, and between 1986-87 worked for the U.S. State Department as a contract escort & seminar interpreter, then again between 2000-2001 while she lived and worked in Washing D.C., where she also freelanced in D.C. Superior Court. In 2002 she joined the District of Puerto Rico as a staff interpreter, where she was appointed Supervisory Interpreter from 2009 to 2015. She retired in 2017 and moved to San Antonio, Texas, where she currently lives with her daughter, son-in-law and 2 of her youngest grandchildren.

Janis Palma joined NAJIT in 1984, served as President during the late 80s and early 90s during the transition from CITA (Court Interpreters and Translators Association) to NAJIT, and is currently a Life Member. She was certified by NAJIT in 2004. She has also served as President of the Society for the Study of Translation and Interpretation (SSTI) Board of Directors, the Board of the Texas Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators (TAJIT), and the *Asociación Profesional de Traductores e Intérpretes* (APTI) in Puerto Rico. During her 29-year career Ms. Palma has published extensively, participated in many professional conferences, taught courses and workshops around the country, and been a rater for federal and state certification examinations. She is still active interpreting in various federal courts, translating for private clients, and volunteering for her state's professional association, in addition to writing a paper whenever she can to present at a professional conference, or a piece for the NAJIT blog.