

## DHS Releases Component Draft Language Access Plans for Public Comment CRCL Will Host National Stakeholder Engagement Meeting on October 24, 2014

The ability to communicate efficiently and effectively is critical to the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) diverse missions. The DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) recently announced the release of draft Language Access Plans from the Department's component agencies, which address the language needs of persons with limited English proficiency. These draft Language Access Plans, developed pursuant to Executive Order 13166, Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency and the DHS Language Access Plan issued in February 2012, provide a framework for the Department's components and offices to improve the delivery of language services for diverse communities across the country.

DHS welcomes public and stakeholder feedback on the draft plans through **October 31, 2014**, by providing written comments or through participating in stakeholder engagement meetings, including a national stakeholder meeting in Washington, DC on October 24, 2014 at the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Tomich Center.

DHS National Stakeholder Engagement Meeting on Language Access

Date: October 24, 2014 Time: 1-3 p.m. (Eastern)

Location:

USCIS Tomich Center 111 Mass Ave. NW Washington, DC

**RSVP:** (required for in-person

participation)

CRCLOutreach@hq.dhs.gov

By phone:

Toll-free: 1-888-455-3620

Password: DHS

To RSVP to attend the national stakeholder meeting in person and/or to submit written comments, please email <a href="mailto:CRCLOutreach@hq.dhs.gov">CRCLOutreach@hq.dhs.gov</a>. Requests for reasonable accommodations for the stakeholder engagement meeting can be made by contacting us at this same email address or through the other avenues below. Government issued photo identification is required of all in-person participants.

Additional information about language access efforts at DHS, including information in multiple languages, can be found at: <a href="http://www.dhs.gov/language-access">http://www.dhs.gov/language-access</a>. For those who do not speak or write in English, CRCL has access to interpreters and translators.

Phone: 202-401-1474 • Toll Free: 866-644-8360 • TTY: 202-401-0470 • Toll Free TTY: 866-644-8361 Email: CRCLOutreach@hq.dhs.gov.

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