

Dear Advocate:

On March 31<sup>st</sup>, the Multicultural Immigrant Coalition Against Violence (MICAV) decided to focus its efforts on increasing language access in the court system for immigrant survivors of domestic violence. No other coalition is doing this work.

As a group of domestic violence and sexual assault organizations, social service agencies, and immigrant service providers, MICAV works together to develop, promote, and enhance prevention and intervention initiatives for immigrant survivors of violence. MICAV supports immigrant survivors of domestic violence in receiving fair and equitable rights within the legal system and to do so we are asking you to complete our survey, ***Assessing Language Access in Massachusetts Courts***.

Our first goal is to gather advocates' opinions about the effectiveness of courts providing interpreters for immigrant survivors, especially in restraining order cases, across the Commonwealth. Please click here to complete the survey:

**<http://survey.lstech.org/phpsur/index.php?sid=595>**

Or fill out the attached hard copy and fax to the number at the bottom of this letter. We need everyone's assistance in filling out the survey to compile accurate information and to make effective recommendations. No other group is doing this work and we need your support!

Survey Details:

- You do not have to give your name or your organization's name.
- You do need to provide the name of the court about which you are providing your opinion. You can submit one survey per court.
- We encourage you to respond to all questions but it is not necessary.
- It takes approximately 15 minutes to complete the survey.

**MICAV is going to collect survey responses from May 1 to July 31, 2009,  
and will be sharing the results at our  
MICAV Conference on October 20, 2009, at Simmons College.**

This is the time for advocates to voice their opinions about the effectiveness of court interpreter services. We are seeking your honest and compelling feedback.

Please forward the survey link widely within your organization and networks.

Sincere thanks,

Jeff Wolf, MICAV Language Access Liaison  
99 Chauncy St., Suite 500  
Boston, MA 02111-1722  
P: 617-357-0700 ext. 305  
F: 617-357-0777  
E: [jwolf@mlri.org](mailto:jwolf@mlri.org)