

DELAWARE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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> > Tina B. Molé, Chairman Christa M. Schafer, Clerk

Limited English Proficiency Policy Statement

It is the policy of Delaware County not to discriminate against any person who is limited English proficient (LEP). In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Executive Order 13166, Delaware County will take reasonable steps to provide LEP persons meaningful access to its programs and activities. This commitment applies to all of Delaware County's federally conducted programs and activities.

Delaware County hereby adopts a Language Access Plan (LAP) which articulates Delaware County's responsibilities, policies, and strategies for providing language assistance services to LEP persons. The LAP applies to all Delaware County program areas and to all subdivisions. Delaware County intends for the LAP to evolve as we learn more about the many interactions with LEP persons and groups, and as we gain experience in providing language assistance services.

Providing appropriate language assistance will require identifying critical points of interaction with the LEP public, assessing LEP communities particular language assistance needs, and determining, with specificity, how to ensure meaningful access for LEP persons. Delaware County recognizes that many of these tasks are best addressed by the Department or Office, which often have more direct contact with the persons and communities requiring language assistance. The LAP is a general framework within which the Department or Office may develop more targeted solutions to the challenge of providing effective language assistance services. To spur the process, I direct each Delaware County Department or Office to issue a memorandum:

- 1) emphasizing the importance of providing appropriate language-based access to the Department's or Office's programs and activities;
- 2) setting forth the Department's or Office's language access policy; and

3) assigning and naming managers and staff responsible for implementation.

Delaware County is committed to implementing and using the LAP at all levels of Delaware County. Delaware County will require all managers, supervisors and employees to join in working to eliminate limited English proficiency as a barrier to meaningful access to the Delaware County programs and activities.

Dated: September 14, 2020

Tina B. Molé, Chairman