

Communication from Public

Name: Andrew Moore

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Comments for Public Posting: Los Angeles County was sued in 2009 for failure to include people with disabilities in emergency planning. They hired an individual to oversee and improve planning, response, and recovery efforts to address the settlement and ensure disability/DHH is integrated in all their programs. However, the individual hired has no real connection to the disability community and has failed to understand the linguistic and cultural needs of the DHH community by failing to ensure that their contractor complies with the minimal qualifications for ASL interpreters. Los Angeles County OEM lacks internal Deaf professionals as well as not having any Certified interpreters on staff, to oversee interpreter contracting, raising concerns about its ability to ensure that vendors meet qualifications and adhere to ADA requirements.