**PRESENTORS BIOS**

**TAJIT ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2019**

**Javier Castillo**

**Javier Castillo Jr. is a conference interpreter, Federally Certified Court Interpreter, North Carolina AOC certified court interpreter, certified medical interpreter (CCHI) and contract interpreter for the US Department of State. Mr. Castillo has interpreted for international delegations and high-level speakers at international conferences and meetings through the US. He has provided interpreter training workshops since 2007 fir hospitals, community agencies and court personnel. He has designed and taught courses on working with interpreter in the legal field at the Campbell Law School and the UNC School of Law as well as continuing legal education courses for members of the judiciary. He is currently the President of the Carolina Association of Translators and Interpreters, and an active member of IAPTI, ATA and NAJIT.**

**Jeff Rinard**

**Office of Court Administration**

**Jeffery L. Rinard is the Certification Division Director of the Office of Court Administration (OCA). He is responsible for the transition to and subsequent operation of the Judicial Branch Certification Commission (JBCC), which will be administratively attached to OCA beginning September 1, 2014. The reorganization will combine the certification, registration, licensing and compliance functions for court reporters and court reporting firms, guardians, and process servers that are currently handled by separate certification boards and OCA, and transfer licensed court interpreters to the JBCC and OCA.  The goal of the Certification Division is to standardize procedures and improve processes to make our team more efficient in serving the professions. Mr. Rinard was previously employed as the enforcement investigations manager with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, the state's umbrella occupational licensing agency. In that position he directed the daily operation of 40 investigative personnel, overseeing 28 diverse industries and professions. Jeff also graduated from the Governors Executive Development Program. Prior to joining TDLR, Jeff served for eleven years with the United States Air Force Security Forces.**

**Ellen Wingo**

**Ellen Wingo is a State Certified Court interpreter and Federally Certified Court Interpreter. Additionally she is a contract seminar interpreter for the US Department of State. Ms Wingo holds a Master’s Degree in Translation and Interpreting from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, CA. Based in Washington DC, she has eleven years of experience working in the DC and Maryland courts as well as in conference interpreting. She has taught classes in note taking and consecutive interpreting throughout the DC area to both new and veteran interpreters. She is an active member of ATA and NAJIT.**

**Cynthia de Peña**

**Cynthia de Peña is a judicial interpreter and translator who obtained federal certification in 1982 and presently serves as Supervisory Staff Interpreter for the Southern District of Texas. Her career began in freelance interpreting for seminars, conferences, workshops, public meetings and depositions with extensive legal translation work for law offices and law enforcement agencies, both state and federal. Although an avid autodidact as an interpreter and translator, academic course work included business administration, accounting and Mexican law. She presently serves on the Advisory Board for Licensed Court Interpreters in the State of Texas, the federal  Advisory Group for Interpreters and has participated in federal court interpreter exam rating since 2009**. **.**