

SEP 2020

## I AM DEAF. I AM HARD OF HEARING.

This card is for law enforcement officers. This card will help us to communicate.



## COMMUNICATION TIPS

When communicating with me, please:

- Get my attention first.
- Make eye contact when you speak.
- Repeat, rephrase, or write your request down
- Be aware that:
  - Shining a flashlight in my face will make it difficult for me to understand you.
  - Flashing lights and visual or loud distractions will make it difficult for me to understand you.
  - I may require you to obtain a certified sign language interpreter to communicate.
  - I may require an assistive device with my hearing aid or cochlear implant to hear better.
  - A hearing aid or cochlear implant does NOT allow me to understand everything you say.

If I am going to be arrested or asked to come in for questioning, I may require:

- A MA or Nationally Certified sign language interpreter for the Deaf with legal specialization and a Certified Deaf Interpreter.
- A communication access realtime translation Provider (CART) for captioning conversations.
- For a phone call—a video phone, internet service, a computer, a captioned telephone, a cell to place a call or text.

In MA request a certified legal interpreter 24 hours a day 7 Days week, call 800-249-9949.

Disclaimer: This card does not waive the user's right to effective communication under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).





For more information or to provide feedback: www.mass.gov/MCDHH or email at MCDsafety@mass.gov