



STATE OF ALABAMA

ALABAMA LICENSURE BOARD FOR INTERPRETERS AND TRANSLITERATORS

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Press Release

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After many years of loyal and exemplary service to the Alabama Licensure Board for Interpreters and Translators (ALBIT), Leadership Alliance was forced to end its management contract effective February 7, 2016. Due to the state of Alabama initiating STARRS (State of Alabama Accounting and Resource Systems), ALBIT is now required to pay a large service fee, as well as services such as access to legal services from the Attorney General's office and website support from the state computer services are now billed to ALBIT. These changes are above and beyond the current budget of ALBIT. Leadership Alliance was no longer able to provide management services because of the lack of funds available to maintain their level of support.

At our last ALBIT board meeting, several board members volunteered to assume the ALBIT administrative responsibilities until a permanent solution could be found. Melvin Walker, ALBIT Chair, will oversee all ALBIT business. Tammy Adams will process funds and expenditures and Belinda Montgomery will process applications and renewals. This is a temporary move to give ALBIT time to procure on-going funding and new board management. The state has strict rules and procedures for all monetary and certifying transactions which will be used during this transition period to ensure accuracy and proper procedures are being followed.

Steps have been taken through the state's property management office to secure a new location for the ALBIT office. Once the new location has been approved, the state phone line and internet services have been installed an announcement will be made with the new address. The phone number will remain the same but the e-mail has been changed to ALBIT.gov@gmail.com.

Recently, the Alabama Association of the Deaf (AAD) and the Alabama Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (ALRID) have graciously agreed to contribute funds to purchase a computer and printer for ALBIT. ALBIT is very grateful for their support. ALBIT will do everything possible to ensure this transition is smooth and will continue to provide support and information to interpreters, agencies and organizations in Alabama.