**Informed Consent Form**

**Date:** January 2019

**Researcher:** Mariam Al-Naser, MSW Student, York University, School of Social Work, Ross Building 8th Floor, 4700 Keele Street Toronto, ON, Canada, M3J 1P3. Tel: (1) 647-676-6460 Email: [malnaser@yorku.ca](mailto:malnaser@yorku.ca)

**Study name:** *Experiences of Multilingual (M.E.N.A. languages) Social Workers in Canada with Informal Language Interpretation for Immigrants and Refugees*

**Purpose of the research:** The purpose of this research is to explore the perspectives on the challenges and opportunities of informal language interpretation work in the social services sector in Canada from the vantage point of the informal interpreter (the social worker).

**What you will be asked to do in the research:** You will be asked to engage in a semi-structured interview in January 2020 that will range from 45 to 60 minutes with the researcher. This session will be centered around your professional experiences in interpretation work (formal or informal) in the social services context.

**Risks and discomforts:** In terms of risk of emotional discomfort, despite providing detailed information ahead of time and the researcher’s care in selection of interview questions and prompts, you may still feel slight discomfort during the interviews. However, this risk will be managed by going over the informed consent form guidelines prior to beginning, as well as outlining the options always available to you during the session such as pausing, coming back to certain questions or passing on these questions, or ending the interview. Furthermore, if you do experience discomfort during the session, you will be offered the opportunity to talk it over, to take a break, or to end the session.

**Benefits of the research and benefits to you:** You may benefit from this study by having the opportunity to provide your perspective as a multilingual worker and interpreter in the social services, which is an often underrepresented perspective in the literature on social services in Canada. Furthermore, the time of reflection may offer self-knowledge or insight.

**Voluntary participation:** Your participation in the study is completely voluntary and you may choose to stop participating at any time. Your decision not to volunteer will not influence the nature of the ongoing relationship you may have with the researcher and other participants to the project, nor will it influence the nature of your relationship with York University either now, or in the future.

**Withdrawal from the study:** You may stop participating in the study at any time, for any reason, if you so decide. Your decision to stop participating, or to refuse to answer particular questions, will not affect your relationship with the researchers, York University, or any other group associated with this project. In the event that you withdraw from the study, all associated data collected will be immediately destroyed wherever possible.

**Confidentiality:** All information you supply during the research will be held in confidence and your name will not appear in any report or publication of the research. Data will be collected through digital audio recording of the interview. Your data will be safely stored on encrypted USB flash drives in a locked facility (the researcher’s home office) and only the researcher will have access to this information. For the analysis of the interview session, the data will be transcribed and all identifying information will be removed. The original data will be stored for two weeks after the interview date. At the end of the project, the anonymized data will be securely erased from the USB flash drives and the flash drives will be destroyed. Confidentiality will be provided to the fullest extent possible by law.

**Questions about the research?** If you have questions about the research in general or about your role in the study, please feel free to contact Mariam Al-Naser by e-mail at malnaser@yorku.ca. You may also contact her faculty supervisor Dr. Shamette Hepburn S810, Ross Building South, Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies, York University, 416- 736-2100, ext. 66324 or email hepburns@yorku.ca. This research has received ethics review and approval by the Delegated Ethics Review Committee, which is delegated authority to review research ethics protocols by the Human Participants Review Sub-Committee, York University’s Ethics Review Board. If you have any questions about this process, or about your rights as a participant in the study, you may contact the Senior Manager and Policy Advisor for the Office of Research Ethics, 5th Floor, York Research Tower, York University, telephone 416-736-5914 or e-mail [ore@yorku.ca](mailto:ore@yorku.ca).

**Legal Rights and Signatures: 15.1**

“I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ consent to participate in **Middle Eastern-Canadians' Professional Experiences Interpreting in Social Service Settings** conducted by Mariam Al-Naser. I have understood the

(fill in your full name here - a )

nature of this project and wish to participate. I am not waiving any of my legal rights by signing this form. My signature below indicates my consent.

**Signature Date**

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Researcher: Mariam Al-Naser

**Signature Date**

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Participant

**Additional consent -** Do you authorize consent for the researcher to audio record the interview? If yes, please write "YES", and if not please write "NO" and scratch out the sentence.

\_\_\_I authorize consent for audio recording of the interviews for the sole purposes of the research project.