

Lawrence J Brick
PA Society for the Advancement of the Deaf
3017 Midvale Avenue
267-612-4017
lbrick@ga-sk.com

Although Deaf, I have friends and acquaintances from the Speech Impaired community and wish to be communicatively accessible to them.

Operators need to stay on the call long enough to get used to the way the PERSON with a speech disability talks.

Each person with a speech disability has a unique speaking pattern and it takes time for the CA to become familiar with the person's speaking pattern. This is true also with deaf people with deaf speech. It's not unlike listening to someone speak with a foreign accent. It takes time to adjust to and become familiar with the speech patterns.

Operators should tell callers that everything is confidential.

Many institutions are uncomfortable with third party calls and need to be informed and educated about the CA's code of ethics. It takes time to educate the public about this and providing this information is a small step in that direction.

People with a speech disability need an easy way to reach Speech-To-Speech.

this is true of all people with atypical speech patterns and providing functional equivalency is important to such individuals in order to have equal access and level playing fields in society.

The FCC must stop people in jails from abusing STS.

This is important in ensuring trust in users of assistance.

More people with speech disabilities need to be taught to use STS.

Outreach is critical if people with speech disabilities are to function as equals in society.

There should be competition, as that makes STS work better.

Being able to choose the STS provider promotes improved technology and service.

The operators need to be paid enough so that they do a good job, and they need good training.

No parent would accept a foreign speaking person with poor oral, written, or reading command of the English language to teach their child any form of English in the classroom, let alone other subjects. Why should people with speech disabilities, the speech impaired, the deaf and hard of hearing, expect less.

