

# CCRA *online*

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SAVE THE DATE!  
October 7-10, 2011  
San Diego, CA**

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The Electronic Magazine of  
the California Court Reporters Association

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### CCRA MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the California Court Reporters Association is to advance the profession of verbatim shorthand reporting by promoting professional reporting excellence through education, research, and the use of state-of-the-art technology; establishing and maintaining professional standards of practice; and advocating before legislative and regulatory bodies on issues which impact the judicial system and others served by the court reporting profession of California.

## President's Message — Will You Be the Wind Beneath Our Wings?

By Debby Steinman, CSR, CRR, RDR  
CCRA President



I recently received a letter that makes a very good point that I'd like to share with you.

*Every significant event is made possible by "supportive unknowns." We know those who are up front, but we seldom acknowledge those who provide the wind beneath our wings."*

*Battles are fought and won by those on the front lines — top-gun pilots, brave paratroopers, and heroic warriors who strategize, practice, and confront the enemy, fire heavy weapons, and carry compatriots to safety.*

*But we seldom consider the "unknowns" who build the planes, sew the nylon used as parachutes, or forge the steel for making rifles and rockets. Those on the front lines could not survive without these unknowns.*

Parallels can be drawn between the supportive unknowns in the letter above and the supportive unknowns in our organization. Are the unknowns less important than those who visit our legislators or volunteer their time to go to the Capitol to testify at hearings?

Au contraire! Each and every one of us is important to the success of CCRA. Some lead the parade and take us where we need to go; others help by being supportive.

At the end of the 2010 convention in Sacramento, an exit survey was conducted. This was one of the questions on the survey:

### **"What do you feel is the most important benefit you receive from being a member of CCRA?"**

There were 170 similar responses to this question, and I'm going to quote just a few of the shorter ones.

"A voice in the political process reminding the legislature that court reporters are a valuable and necessary resource."

"As a group, we are more effective in Sacramento fighting for our profession."

"Being able to work in a profession I love due to the lobbying efforts of CCRA."

"CCRA's lobbying efforts are and have been incredibly impressive and are the MAIN reason I impress upon my fellow non-CCRA member court reporters how important their membership is."

"Fighting for our profession; education."

"First of all, participating in the process of protecting my profession knowing that CCRA is proactive in being right there when attacks on our profession are happening in the budget process in Sacramento..."

"Keeping up-to-date on ER developments/threats in the State."

And last, but definitely not least,  
"CCRA is the best!!!"

*continued on Page 4*

# President's Message — Will You Be the Wind Beneath Our Wings?

*(continued from Page 3)*

But no success comes without a price. Your CCRA representatives donate their time and effort, including using vacation and sick leave, to make the aforementioned visits to our legislators and Capitol hearings. CCRA doesn't ask them to personally pay for these appearances.

So how can you help? There are two ways: PACCRA is a fund that is used to donate to legislators. We want to support our friends in the legislature. You can donate online, or you can buy PACCRA tickets from a fellow reporter who is selling tickets at your courthouse or agency. The tickets are \$25 for three or \$10 for one. By buying PACCRA tickets, you are not only helping our effort, but you will be eligible to win 10 percent of the total amount collected. The drawing will be held at the annual convention in October at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina in San Diego. I hope to see you there.

Another way to contribute is to donate to the Special Fund. This fund is what makes it possible for board members to appear in Sacramento at hearings and other events where court reporters need representation.

These are the funds supported by our members, our "supportive unknowns," who have made it possible for us to fight for our profession. I hope that I, as president, and CCRA can count on your continued support.

Will you be the wind beneath our wings?

Sincerely and with warm regards,  
Debby Steinman  
President, CCRA

[CLICK HERE TO MAKE A PACCRA DONATION.](#)



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## Brain Injured Court Reporter — Steno Therapy!

*Excerpted from the Ohio Dispatcher:*



**Mark Neal has returned to work as a county court reporter.**

Ohio court reporter Mark Neal was struck on the way home from work one evening while riding his motorcycle. He bounced off a car and into the street, smacking the back of his head on the pavement.

He wasn't wearing a helmet. He had suffered a severe brain injury that required doctors to open his skull and remove a blood clot to relieve pressure on the brain. His prognosis was grim. Even if he lived, the medical staff prepared his wife for the possibility that her husband would never recover from his neurological injuries.

Five months later, Neal was back at work, taking down every word of testimony. A scar on the right side of Neal's head is the only visible sign of his brush with death. After weeks of intense physical therapy, his wife saw gradual improvement in his cognitive function, but said the most dramatic recovery came in October after doctors covered the opening in his skull with a plastic implant. She remained skeptical that her husband would ever return to work until a therapist at Grove City Health Center suggested taking his stenotype machine to an outpatient therapy session. The therapist read from court cases, and Neal typed the words flawlessly.

"You don't lose something you did for 20 years," Neal said. "That's ingrained."



## Keep on Learning!

*The following was received by Lesia Mervin after the Nevada Convention.*

Hi, Lesia,

You inspired me!

I'm a Reno reporter who attended the CRR and KISS presentations you gave to the Nevada Court Reporters Association Convention at the Atlantis Hotel Casino this past April. During your discussion, I began to think "Why not? I can do this." I subsequently registered for the CRR exam.

Your tips and handouts were extremely helpful — actually, an invaluable reference and guideline.

Many, many thanks to you for your leadership!

Constance S. Eisenberg, RMR — and CRR!  
Nevada CCR 142  
California CSR 4157



# Winner of our Student Scholarship this Year!

## Congratulations to Angela Pourtabib

Congratulations to Angela Pourtabib, the winner of our student scholarship this year! Angela attends College of Marin School of Court Reporting. She is in the 200 level. Angela recently joined the Support Our Students (SOS) committee as a student member. Angela won a \$500 scholarship.

Here is her award-winning essay. For more information on the SOS and the scholarship fund, contact Gerie Bunch at [gerie@psln.com](mailto:gerie@psln.com).

1           People from many different backgrounds become court reporters. They use  
2 their experiences to get through school and make the push to get licensed.  
3 Though the spectrum of personalities in the profession has a wide range,  
4 there are two qualities that I believe make a reporter successful: the  
5 ability to maintain a calm demeanor under pressure, and a strong level of  
6 trustworthiness.

7           Good court reporters are people who can work within chaos and adapt to  
8 the environment that they will be working in. The spoken word in real,  
9 everyday life will never be reported in a vacuum. Reporters have honed their  
10 listening skills and are able to grab each word in spite of the distractions  
11 around them. They don't necessarily ignore the fact that there is craziness  
12 around them, but a reporter who is going to go far in the field knows how to  
13 do her best work within it.

14           When most people enter a court or deposition environment, one of the few  
15 things they are concerned with is the sanctity of the record. This is what  
16 the court reporter is most concerned with! Everyone present is counting on  
17 the reporter to create a true and accurate transcript, and people just accept  
18 that this will be the case without further thought. In some instances,  
19 people are leaving their lives in the hands of the court reporter. A good  
20 reporter is not merely aware of the trust that is placed in her. She is the  
21 embodiment of that trust.

22           Different people may choose the profession for their own specific  
23 reasons, but successful court reporters are able to maintain their cool  
24 within disorder and uphold the tenet of being the trustworthy and faithful  
25 guardians of the record.



**\*The Official Videographers Of The CCRA!!\***

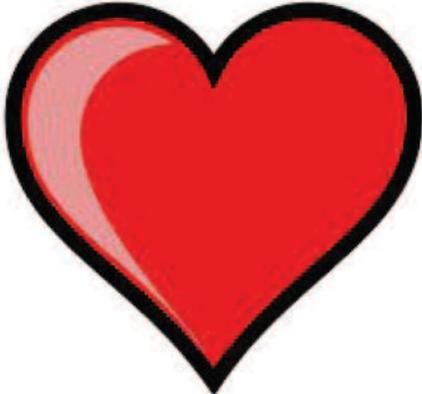
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#### Delete Old Gmail Auto-Fill Addresses

**Q. When I start to type an address in the To: field of Gmail, a drop-down list of old recipients appears. How can I delete the addresses I no longer use?**

A. They can be deleted from All Contacts. To do that, click Contacts > All Contacts. Click to select an address that you would like to remove, then click the Delete Contact button.

**Q. My computer displays invalid or expired security certificate alerts when I visit some sites. What I can do to resolve this problem? I look forward to your newsletter each week. Keep up the good work.**

A. Thank you. The most common cause of the invalid or expired security certificate alerts you are receiving is an inaccurate date setting on your computer. Right-click the date display in the lower right-hand corner of your screen. You will see where you can adjust the date and time.

If you frequently need to adjust the date and/or time, chances are the battery that maintains that date, which is located on the motherboard, needs to be replaced. It is not expensive and any reputable computer repair person or service can do that for you. If you had any work performed on your computer recently, it is also possible that battery was disabled or removed and not reset thereafter, which would cause it to display its default year of 1980. In either case, if an older date is being used, your computer will think that any Web site security certificates it encounters have expired and display the alerts you have been receiving.

**Q. How do I create a Desktop shortcut for the Device Manager? I have two computers, one running XP and one running Vista.**

A. The executable or launch file for the Device Manager is named devmgmt.msc, so in Windows XP, click Start > Search > File and Folders and search for that file by name. When the file is located, usually in the C:\WINDOWS\System32 folder, right-click it and select Send to > Desktop (create Shortcut). You can then rename the shortcut by pressing F2.

In Vista and Windows 7 — or if you cannot locate the devmgmt.msc file as described above — you can manually create a shortcut by right-clicking the Desktop and selecting New > Shortcut. Use the Browse button to navigate to the Device Manager folder and locate the file, or simply type in devmgmt.msc and click Next. Provide a name (“Device Mgr” will work nicely), then click Finish.

**Q. It seems to me that my iPad is running slower than it used to run. Can there be programs running in the background like there are on my computer that are affecting its performance?**

A. Yes, indeed. It's not the identical situation that we encounter with computers, but it is similar. Unlike a computer in which you click the X in the upper right-hand corner to close a program, when you move from app to app to app on your iPad, each application remains open and effectively running in the background. Because of this, it is a good idea to periodically close all apps to free up memory.

Either daily or several times a week, depending how much you use your iPad, double-tap the Home button, which will cause a bar to appear at

*continued on Page 10*

(continued from Page 9)

the bottom of the screen that displays all running or open apps. Press and hold the first app icon until it starts to jiggle and a little red circle with a white line appears. Tap each circle to quickly close each app, one at a time.

**Bonus Tip:** If your iPad ever completely freezes, after you regain consciousness hold down both the Sleep/Wake button and the Home button until the device reboots. iPads are designed to remain on all the time and hibernate (sleep) when not being used, so if you do need to reboot in this manner, be patient. It may require a couple of minutes.

## Mr. Modem's DME (Don't Miss 'Em) Sites of the Month

### 20 Questions

Test your skills and try to outsmart this site in a match of traditional 20 Questions, or choose one of the uniquely themed games such as Harry Potter, The Simpsons or 20-Q Sports.

[www.20q.net](http://www.20q.net)

### The Body Explained

Hosted by Baylor College of Medicine, here you will find short videos created to answer common questions about the human body. Browse the site's list of delightfully light-hearted yet informative answers to such life-altering questions as, "What causes an ice cream headache?" "Why do our ears pop?" and "What causes goosebumps?" (It gives me chills just thinking about it.) [www.bioedonline.org/body-explained](http://www.bioedonline.org/body-explained)

### Episode Guides

As its name implies, the focus here is television episode titles and air dates for more than 5,500 TV shows, with links to additional information. Type the name of a show, use the Current Shows link, or the alphabetical listing. [www.epguides.com](http://www.epguides.com)

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# Briefs Online

## Subhead

Looking for a quick brief for those hard-to-write words or common phrases? If you have a word or phrase that you would like a brief form for, let me know, and I will publish your requested brief in the next CCRA Online. If you have briefs that you would like to share with our members, please send them to Doreen Perkins, [CortReptr1@aol.com](mailto:CortReptr1@aol.com) 1100 Van Ness, Dept. 50, Fresno, CA 93724-0002.

If you currently work in Family Law, or temporarily assigned, you will find these briefs that were sent to me by your colleagues to share very helpful:

## BRIEF FORMS AND PHRASES:

Alimony	LOM	Irreconcilable	RAOIBL
Annulment	NUMT	Irreconcilable differences	RAOIBLDZ
Biological	BLAL	Joint custody	JOID
Brother	BRO	Joint legal custody	JOILD
Care, custody and control	K-KD	Jurisdiction	JURD
Children	KHIRN	Jurisdictional	JURLD
Child support	KHORT	Marital property	MAERPT
Child support guidelines	SGLINS	Marriage	MAIRJ
Child support order	KHORD	Maternal	MAERNL
Child support payment	KHORMT	Mediate	DMAIT
Conference	K-FRNS	Mediation	DMAIGS
Conference call	K-FRK	Mediator	DMAIRT
Custody	KUD or KUFT	Minor child	MOIRLD
Custody and visitation	KUFGS	Minor children	MOIRN
Date of separation	DRAIGS	Mother	MOER
Declaration	DEL or DLAIRGS	Order to show cause	SHOERK
Disposable income	SPOIK	Orientation	OERNGS
Dissolution	DOLGS	Parental	PARNLT
Dissolution of marriage	DAIRJ	Paternal	PARNL
DissoMaster	DMAFR	Paternity	PIRNT
Divorce	DWOF	Readiness	R*NS
Domestic violence	D*F	Reconciliation	RILGS
Domestic violence restraining order	D*FRD	Restraining order	RO
Exchange	KPAIJ	Separation	SPRAIGS
Exemption	KPEJ or KPEMGS	Settlement agreement	SGREMT
Family Court Services	FAEMSZ	Settlement conference	SK-FRNS
Family home	FO*EM	Single-family	SFAEM
Father	FA	Sister	SIS
Furniture & furnishings	F-FGS	Sole custody	SOID
Genetic	GENT	Sole legal custody	SO*ILD
Grandfather	GR-FR	Spousal support	SPORPT
Grandmother	GRAMD	Supervised visitation	SPRIFGS
Grandparent	GR-PT	Supervised visits	SPRIFS
Grandparents	GR-PTS	Temporary restraining order	TRO
Head of household	HEFLD	TRO	TR*O
Income and expense	NAX	Visitation	VIFGS



# Vocabulary Test 8

By Debby Steinman

The words for this test came from either the Commentary section of the newspaper or civil court hearings and trials. Enjoy!

1. **thrall – noun**
  - a. a person in servitude
  - b. a large ocean wave
  - c. something exciting
  - d. a severe headache
2. **obsequious – adj.**
  - a. painfully embarrassed
  - b. exhibiting a fawning attentiveness
  - c. boldly deceitful
  - d. extremely haughty
3. **sycophant – noun**
  - a. opponent
  - b. fault-finder
  - c. close friend
  - d. self-seeking flatterer
4. **venal – adj.**
  - a. corruptible
  - b. heavenly
  - c. diseased
  - d. moronic
5. **abnegation – noun**
  - a. self-denial
  - b. self-hatred
  - c. self-mutilation
  - d. self-flattery
6. **excoriate – trans verb.**
  - a. to skewer
  - b. to censure
  - c. to disembowel
  - d. to free of evil spirit
7. **acolyte – noun:**
  - a. award
  - b. apology
  - c. assistant
  - d. brainstorm
8. **chicanery – noun:**
  - a. probity
  - b. integrity
  - c. deception
  - d. absurdity
9. **sophomoric – adj.**
  - a. sophisticated
  - b. overconfident of knowledge
  - c. modest
  - d. elementary
10. **mantle – noun**
  - a. something that enfolds, covers or envelops
  - b. window sash
  - c. the finish around a fireplace
  - d. a parapet

Answers:

1. **thrall – noun: (a)** a person in moral or mental servitude
2. **obsequious – adj.: (b)** marked by or exhibiting a fawning attentiveness; subservient
3. **sycophant – noun: (d)** a servile self-seeking flatterer
4. **venal – adj.: (a)** open to corrupt influence and esp. bribery
5. **abnegation – noun: (a)** self-denial
6. **excoriate – trans verb: (b)** to censure scathingly
7. **acolyte – noun: (c)** one who attends or assists; follower
8. **chicanery – noun: (c)** deception by artful subterfuge or sophistry
9. **sophomoric – adj.: (b)** conceited and overconfident of knowledge
10. **mantle – noun: (a)** something that covers, enfolds or envelops





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# The Secure Delivery of Transcripts Using Wireless and Internet-Based Realtime Methods — An NCRA White Paper

By Sandy Bunch Van Der Pol, FAPR, RMR, CRR  
Realtime Systems Administrator credentialed

Imagine showing up for your realtime assignment and being informed that there was a ban on all wireless programs including your wireless realtime. That's exactly what occurred in a federal court in Santa Ana, California.

After the official court reporter had provided stellar service to her civil litigant clients, providing an Internet Realtime Stream to the "war room" and on-site wireless realtime, a decision was made to ban all wireless realtime and the "broadcasting" of the proceedings in this jurisdiction until security issues could be defined and addressed.

The word of this situation filtered to NCRA's Technology Evaluation Committee, of which I am cochair along with Bill Weber. Then NCRA President Sue Lynn Morgan appointed a task force to define and address wireless realtime in a secure environment, culminating in the white paper entitled, "[The Secure Delivery of Transcripts Using Wireless and Internet-Based Realtime Methods.](#)"

This white paper was released at the NCRA midyear in conjunction with a seminar which included members of this task force, including:

SueLynn Morgan, RPR, Chair  
Jerry Kelley, RPR, CRR, FAPR  
Julie Hedelson Thomas, RMR, CRR  
Sandy Bunch VanderPol, RMR, CRR, FAPR  
William Weber, RDR, CRR, FAPR  
Adam Finkel, NCRA Staff

It is hopeful that court reporters throughout the country will use this white paper to their advantage in the furtherance of on-site and remote wireless realtime. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to e-mail me at [realtimecsr@calweb.com](mailto:realtimecsr@calweb.com)



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for over 100 years. >>>

## Congratulations to the following reporters on their NCRA certifications.

### Certified Realtime Reporters

Kristine Rogalewski-Mayo, RPR, CRR, San Diego, CA  
LaWanna Walters, RPR, CRR, Claremont, CA  
Debra Read, RPR, CRR, Alta Loma, CA  
Michael Rowell, RPR, CRR, Placerville, CA  
Janet Pond, RPR, CRR, San Francisco, CA  
Janet Walling, RMR, CRR, Fortuna, CA  
Abby Waller, RPR, CRR, Woodland, CA  
Louise Sanford RMR, CRR, Garden Grove, CA

### Registered Professional Reporters

Amee Zaradnik, RPR, Wildomar, CA  
Erin Winn, RPR, San Diego, CA  
Douglas Unger, RPR, Yorba Linda, CA

### Registered Merit Reporters

Beverlee Nagata, RMR, CRR, Garden Grove, CA  
Irene Kubert, RMR, CRR, San Pedro, CA



## Tax Info 2011

By Sandy Bunch Van Der Pol

E-mail: [realtimecsr@calweb.com](mailto:realtimecsr@calweb.com)

[www.realtimecsr.com](http://www.realtimecsr.com)

For those of you who deduct auto expenses on your taxes, by the mileage calculation, you may be interested to know that the standard mileage rate is going up for the second half of 2011, which means you will need to keep track of mileage separately for the first half of the year (reimbursed at 51 cents/mile) and the second half of the year (reimbursed at 55.5 cents/mi). So you may want to calculate your mileage through June 30 and write it on your calendars, and then you can track the second half through December 31 and write that amount down to make things easier for when the organizer arrives in January 2012.

Also note that medical mileage amounts changed as well. If you have any questions, please let me know.



### Is your transcript half-full or half-empty?

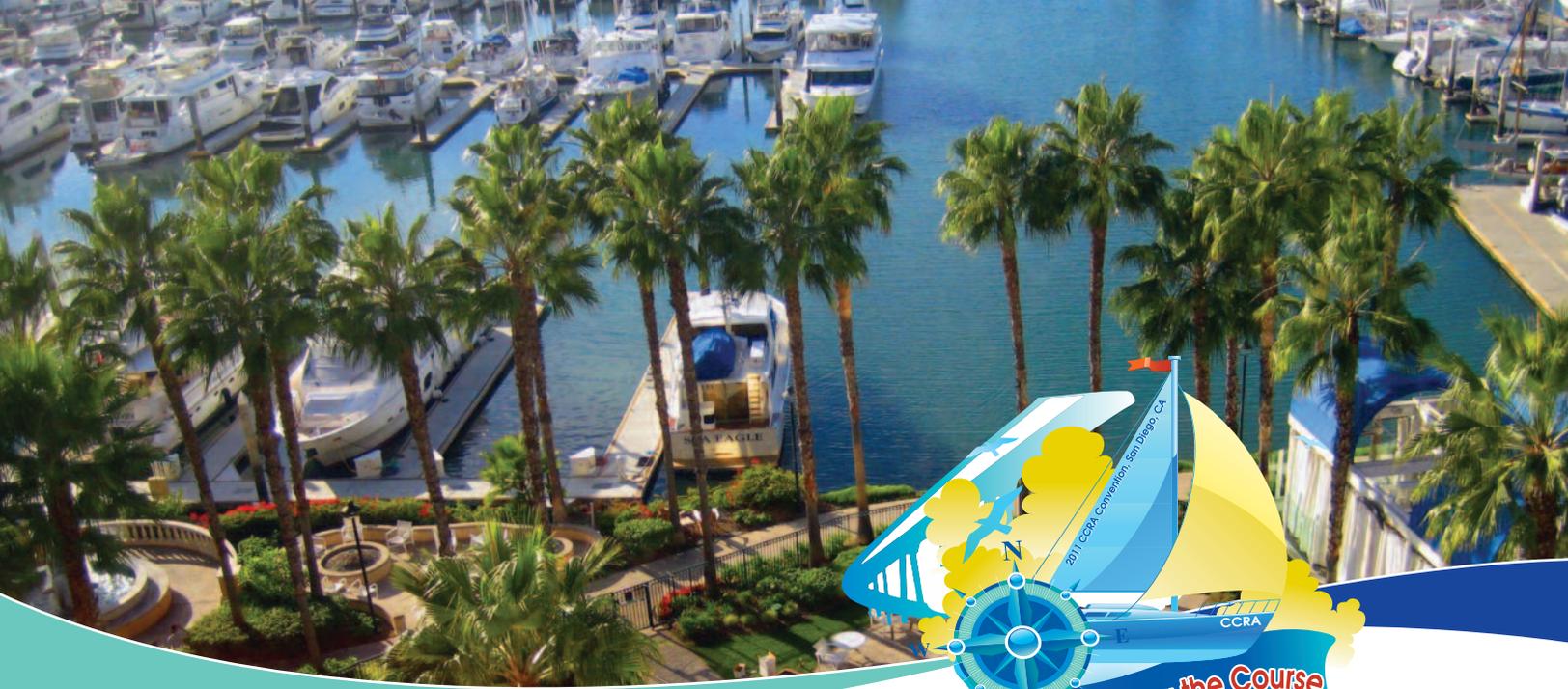


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## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

### Friday, October 7

Welcome Reception under the stars on the Lanai overlooking the marina. This beautiful outdoor setting is heated and has outstanding views. Network with your friends and peers while enjoying a beverage of your choice and some tasty hors d'oeuvres.

### Saturday, October 8

Cocktails and dinner Saturday night is a celebration. Dinner and dancing are just a few of the things we have lined up for you. Join the party!

Reception in the Presidential Suite — Enjoy a nightcap and networking Saturday evening.

### Sunday, October 9

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