

CCRA *online*

October 2007

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to participate in the

Silent Auction

Saturday, October 6, 1 p.m.

through Sunday, October 7, 6 p.m.

in the Board Room Lounge

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**CCRA 97th Annual Convention
October 6-8, 2007**

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Cover: Thank you to our generous contributors to the CCRA 97th Annual Convention Silent Auction, October 6 at 1 p.m. through Sunday, October 7 at 6 p.m. in the Board Room Lounge.

CCRA Online Copy Deadlines

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CCRA Online

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 Page

It's Been My Pleasure.....

to serve this past year as your CCRA President. The pleasure really was all mine! Thank you for your support and your vote of confidence.

Many of you may have wondered why it has taken me so long to say "yes" to the nomination of president; I had often wondered why myself. I never felt the timing was quite right in past years, I guess. Also, on a personal level I knew the commitment would be large; on a family level I knew the commitment would be large; on a professional level I knew the commitment would be large – and, frankly, I was not sure I could commit the time necessary to do the job that needs to be done as President of CCRA. Well, I made it through this exciting year, and every sacrifice I made was well worth it. I love this association and I love this profession – what better way is there to give back to what I love than to volunteer for what is near and dear to me?

My goal this year was to leave CCRA as president in a better and stronger position than when I was installed as president.

With the help of all of your volunteer board members, Sandy Virago and her staff, committee chairs and volunteer committee members, I firmly believe CCRA is a better, stronger, and continues to be a well-respected association. I'm pleased to say that your next president, Lesia Mervin, is at the starting blocks, ready to sprint the next twelve months, finishing her reign by also leaving CCRA in a better position than it is in today. CCRA is positioned with dedicated volunteer leaders well into the future, leaving CCRA stronger each successive year.

In my first president's message to you in November of last year, each of the committees' charges was shared with you – and I'm happy to say most all, if not all, have been attained. Each of your committee chairs has submitted their year-end report for publication in this month's *CCRA Online*. Please take the time to read and digest what CCRA has done for you and will continue to do for you.

A special thanks to Lisa Kaplan, our lobbyist, on her dedication and hard work on the passage of AB 1211. After the passage of AB 1293 last year, CCRA's bill on the transcript reimbursement fund, we took full advantage of that success, keeping our momentum going with the passage of AB 1211. Thank you, Lisa.

A special thanks to Doreen Perkins, who was Michelle Castro's right-hand woman on the support work on AB 582, a transcript fee increase for official reporters. SEIU will be moving forward next year on AB 582, with the help of CCRA and COCRA.

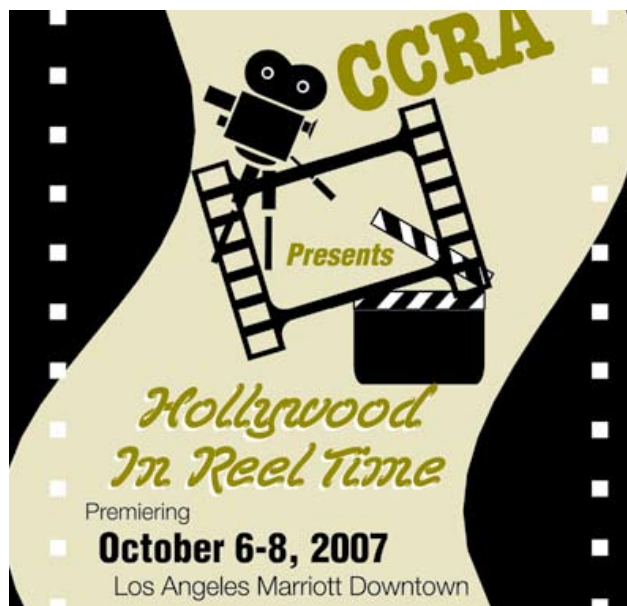


*Sandy Bunch
VanderPol
CSR, RMR, CRR*

A special thanks to Connie Parchman, your *CCRA Online* editor. Connie has worked tirelessly with me and the board to produce the best online magazine in our profession. I truly believe that *CCRA Online* has reached this new level by the commitment of many dedicated volunteers in this association.

It's time for me to move on. I have enjoyed my year as president, and I will enjoy my year as immediate past president. Each of you has been a great asset to CCRA and to me personally.

Thank you...I'm signing off. ☺



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Jim Partridge

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Lesia Mervin



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Did you know....Eclipse Series

By Steven Kosmata, Official Court Reporter, San Diego Superior Court

This is the first in a series of short articles on Eclipse 4.2. Here are the first two "Did You know" tidbits:

First is Alt-U, Paragraph tab, and click on the Parenthetical paragraph; click on advanced. Check to be sure that the "Behaves as" is set on parenthetical. Why you might ask? When running your spell checker, have you ever noticed that it sometimes stops on the same speaker with a parenthetical in between? No longer. Your spell checker will now glide on by.

How about "Clean Playback"? Let's assume for a minute that you have changed your listening speed while editing or your threshold settings and can't quite understand what someone might be saying, so now you need to listen to this passage at normal speed – What do I do?

No problem. It's so easy!!

Go to tools – multimedia – Control Panel -- and there is a "Clean Play" function, which returns your audio file to its normal settings without compromising your settings just for that one brief moment....simple, fast, and reliable.

If you have any topics that you want explored further, please E-mail me at eclipse-sd@att.net.



The Court Reporters Board Needs You

We are currently looking for volunteers for the Item Review workshop scheduled for Friday, November 9, 2007, and Saturday, November 10, 2007. Please let me know at your earliest convenience if you are available to participate.

All participants receive \$150 per day (reimbursed) to cover meals and incidentals. Airline, hotel (reimbursed at state rate) is covered for those outside of the Sacramento area. We provide airline tickets up front, the remaining expenses are paid for by the volunteer and reimbursed by the Board with a voucher/travel form. Due to the full day schedule, it has been standard practice to arrive the night before the first day of the workshop. Training specific to the subject of the workshop is provided at each event. For further information, please contact Kim White at (916) 263-3662.

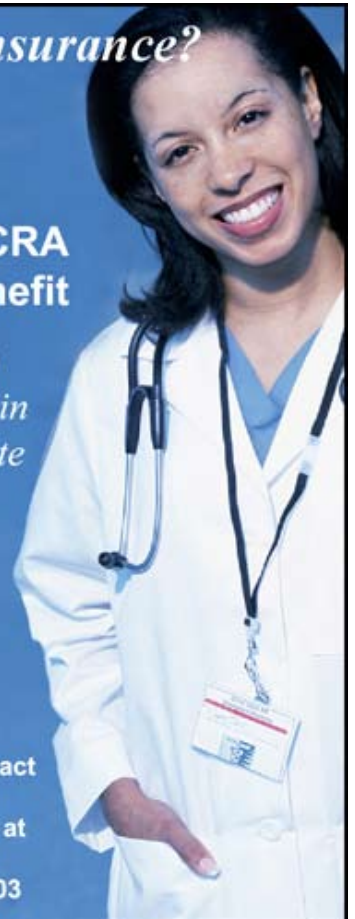


Need Health Insurance?

Consider this CCRA Membership Benefit

You can purchase an HMO or PPO plans in most areas of the state as well as a Health Savings Account compatible high deductible plan.

For more information contact Peter Burford, CCRA's Insurance Expert by email at pbur98@hotmail.com or by phone at 904-955-0703



Jim Partridge Receives ABOTA's Civility Award – San Diego Chapter

By Sandy Bunch VanderPol, CSR, RMR, CRR, CCRA President

The San Diego Chapter of the American Board of Trial Attorneys recently voted almost unanimously to award Jim Partridge their court reporter Civility award. Over the past seven years, the Civility Award has been presented to a court reporter, along with a clerk and a bailiff. The Civility Award is presented to an individual who demonstrates traits that make the litigator's job easier and less stressful while in the courtroom.

According to Charles Grebing, San Diego ABOTA Board member and presenter of the Civility Award to Jim, this award is based on the concept of recognizing the court reporter that really goes above and beyond in making the litigator's job less difficult. Mr. Grebing describes Jim as being "Just Perfect." He further describes Jim as a reporter eager to work with counsel by providing all the technological services and products at his disposal, along with being prompt and accurate in transcript preparation. Jim always has a smile on his face and is responsive to all questions posed to him by counsel, including specific procedures and processes that Judge Strauss expects in his courtroom.

Jim's dedication to the profession goes beyond his duties in the courtroom.

Jim is currently a board member of CCRA and will be installed as Vice President Officials at the upcoming CCRA Annual Convention on October 7. Additionally, Jim is chief steward for SEIU and a past president of the San Diego Official Court Reporters Association.



Jim has been reporting the past 11 years in the Honorable Richard E. L. Strauss's courtroom. Historically, Jim has served the San Diego Superior Courts in all of its civil courthouses throughout the county, including reporting at the Old San Diego Hotel while the building of the new courthouse was taking place. Prior to becoming an official reporter for San Diego County, Jim reported for the California State Legislature and for many state boards and commissions before commencing his duties with the San Diego Superior Courts in 1986.

Congratulations, Jim!

CCRA is honored to have you as a board member and soon-to-be Vice President. You are truly a person of integrity and character.



StenoCAT Tips

By G. Allen Sonntag, CR AZ, RDR, CRR, FAPR; President of StenoCAT Users Group

One of my favorites from the last update, 5.8, is under User Preferences, Edit, New Job Options, where you can pick your default file naming convention. Try it and you'll find it gives you the freedom many were asking for on the default basis.

Or try some of the new realtime writer commands or macros. Download and check out the Up and Running Guide for specific usage.

Our next user seminar is in San Francisco in February. Check our Web site for further details. [StenoCAT Users Network](http://www.sughome.com/)
<http://www.sughome.com/>



By Lesia Mervin, CSR, RMR, CRR, CCRA President-Elect/Vice President (Officials)

Case CATalyst Internet Search



Before the days of the Internet, many hours were spent in research. Every reporter had a personal library of dictionaries and reference works, including medical dictionaries and legal dictionaries, Physician's Desk References, Zip Code Directories, Atlases..... anything that would speed up the process to find a spelling. Investing in those books

is a thing of the past with the invention of the Internet. (In my personal opinion, it's the greatest invention of our time.) Countless hours have been saved by a click of a mouse and the information is right at our fingertips.

Starting with CATalyst version 8.0, a feature was added that allows you to do an Internet search right from within Edit. (Only if you have an active Internet connection, of course.) CATalyst will connect to the search engine of your choice, display the word or phrase in the Text field, and display the search results.

The default search engine is Google, but if you prefer another search engine, that can be changed by going to your UserSettings.ini file and specifying which search engine you prefer. The instructions for changing your user settings can be found in the CATalyst Help section under Set Internet Search Engine.

There are several different ways to access the Internet Search.

From the Edit menu (Alt E/n)

Right click, Internet Search

Assign a key combination to your keyboard map or EZ Keys

Open a file. Highlight a word or phrase for which you would like to do an Internet search.

From the Edit menu, (Alt E/n) click Internet Search.

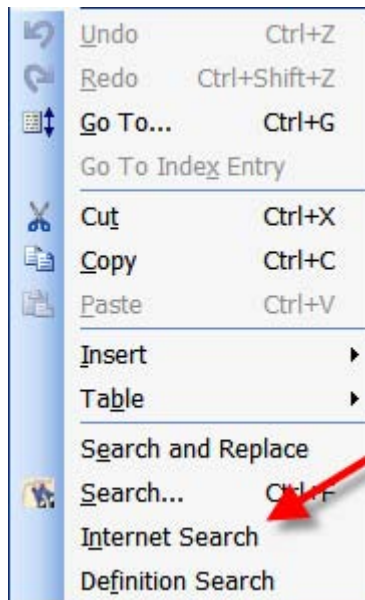
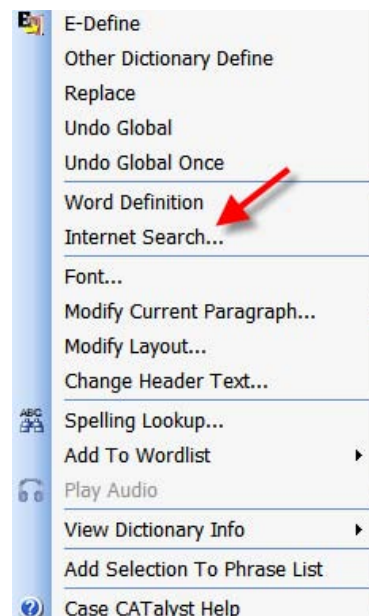
CATalyst will automatically display the Google results from the Google Web site. You can browse through the Web pages by clicking on the desired search result.

If you prefer to use the right click method, here are the instructions to accomplish that.

Highlight a word or phrase for which you would like to do an Internet search. Right Click. Click Internet Search.

CATalyst will automatically display the Google results from the Google Web site.

CATalyst will automatically display the Google results from the Google Web site.



Internet Explorer Shortcut Keys

Submitted by CCRA Technology Committee

Did you know you could save time by eliminating steps while using your Web browser Windows Explorer? Take a look at the shortcuts below and implement a few of them each day. You won't be sorry you took the time to learn these shortcuts.

SHORTCUT KEY	DESCRIPTION
<i>Alt + Left Arrow</i>	<i>Back a page</i>
<i>Backspace</i>	<i>Back a page</i>
<i>Alt + Right Arrow</i>	<i>Forward a page</i>
<i>F5</i>	<i>Refresh current page, frame, or tab</i>
<i>F11</i>	<i>Display the current Web site in full screen mode. Pressing F11 again will exit this mode.</i>
<i>Esc</i>	<i>Stop page or download from loading.</i>
<i>Ctrl + (- or +)</i>	<i>Increase or decrease the font size, pressing '-' will decrease and '+' will increase.</i>
<i>Ctrl + Enter</i>	<i>Quickly complete an address, e.g., type CCRA in the address bar and press Ctrl + Enter to get Http://www.cal-ccra.org.</i>
<i>Ctrl + D</i>	<i>Add a Favorite for the page currently opened.</i>
<i>Ctrl + I</i>	<i>Display available bookmarks.</i>
<i>Ctrl + N</i>	<i>Open New browser window.</i>
<i>Ctrl + P</i>	<i>Print current page/frame.</i>
<i>Ctrl + T</i>	<i>Opens a new tab.</i>
<i>Ctrl + F4</i>	<i>Closes the currently selected tab.</i>
<i>Ctrl + Tab</i>	<i>Moves through each of the open tabs.</i>
<i>Spacebar</i>	<i>Moves down a page at a time.</i>
<i>Shift + Spacebar</i>	<i>Moves up a page at a time.</i>
<i>Alt + Down arrow</i>	<i>Display all previous text entered in a text box and/or available options on drop down menu.</i>



Committee End of Year Reports

Bylaws Committee

There were no issues assigned to the Bylaws Committee during this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Arnella Sims, Chair

Centennial Committee

This Committee was developed for the sole purpose of planning CCRA's Centennial Convention in 2010.

Our first task was to select a site for this historical occasion. We sent out a survey to you, our members, and there was overwhelming support for our convention to be held in Monterey, Napa or Palm Springs. The following were the results of the top three sites:

Monterey 43.5% of member votes
Napa 37.7% of member votes
Palm Springs 31.2% of member votes

Now that we have heard where you would like the convention to be held, we are in the process of securing a suitable hotel that will enable us to put on the convention of all conventions!!!!

This committee is comprised of many dedicated members of CCRA. There is plenty of room for more. If you're interested in helping with this momentous occasion, feel free to contact me at CortRepr1@aol.com.

Committee Members:

Gerie Bunch
Allen Edelist
Charlotte Freeman
Michele Oken
Connie Parchman
Debby Steinman
Sandy Bunch VanderPol

Respectfully submitted,
Doreen Perkins, Chair

Continuing Education Committee

In the changing times of technology, education is a core value in the mission of CCRA.

CCRA continues to offer the CRR Tips & Tricks e-seminar.

Check out our Web site at www.cal-ccra.org and prepare for the CRR! You'll earn .3 CE points from NCRA and you'll be one step closer to passing the CRR. Most courts offer more money for a CRR certificate. Why not start now?

As a member benefit, CCRA produces an Official and Freelance Compendium each year. The Compendiums are easy to use and contain all the code sections applicable to reporters in the state. This year, there were code number

changes in the Official Compendium. The Compendiums are available at the registration table and online as well! The cost is minimal and it's a must have!!

The Continuing Ed committee would like to thank you for your attendance at the CCRA Convention this year. The committee worked hard to plan a program that is both educational as well as interesting. Please help us make a successful convention next year by filling out the evaluation form in your packet. We plan these conventions for our members and your input helps us schedule classes that you want to attend!

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Joy Dasher, Chair

Depo Advisory Committee

This year the goals of the Depo Advisory Committee were to increase freelance membership in CCRA, to promote CCRA as representing and protecting freelancers, to address the issues facing freelancers in protecting our industry, to encourage professionalism, to educate freelancers especially in the area of technology, to increase income for CCRA, and to increase freelance representation on the CCRA Board of Directors.

The Depo Advisory Committee was heavily involved this past year with helping to write the language for AB 1211, which clarifies in law the attorney's responsibility to timely pay reporters for their reporting services. CCRA and our lobbyist Lisa Kaplan worked very hard in conjunction with DRA and their lobbyist Ed Howard, and the bill was signed into law in July and takes effect January 1, 2008. We are very pleased with the passage of this legislation by unanimous consent through both houses of the legislature.

Also during the year we had the opportunity to provide opinion and input on various matters of the Court Reporters Board's strategic plan, including issues regarding audiosync and continuing education for reporters.

This committee has been instrumental in answering members' questions posed on the "Ask A Reporter" feature of the CCRA Web site, helping many reporters with the day-to-day performance of their jobs and the quirky and uncommon scenarios that sometimes arise.

Committee members provided informative articles for publication in our CCRA Online magazine, including monthly Depo Daze articles.

We have continued our work on our goal to revise and republish a Deposition Manual as a reference for reporters and students throughout the state, carefully culling through code sections and determining best business practice recommendations for reporters and depo firms, and

Continued on page 10

developing a training program for students and apprentice reporters regarding working in the depo field.

We are very excited about the freelance members of our Board of Directors and know they will provide excellent vision, leadership skills, and representation of our membership: Natie Alvarado, Judy Gillespie, Lynden Glover, Rose Goni-Davis, and Kelly Roemer.

Committee Members:

Mark Brickman
Lynden Glover
Rose Goni-Davis
Bill Greenley
Paula Killion
Leigh Ann Orozco
Kelly Roemer
Sheri Turner
Jan White
Craig Wood
(Ex-Officio Member: Sandy Bunch VanderPol)

Respectfully submitted,
Sheri Turner, Chair

Finance Committee

There were no issues presented to the Finance Committee during this year.

The Finance Committee is happy to report that CCRA continues to have a positive cash flow for this upcoming year thanks to our committed membership and dedicated board members. Let's continue to sign up new members and renew members who have let their memberships lapse.

Respectfully submitted,
Teresa Fletcher, Chair

Judicial Procedures Committee

The Judicial Procedures Committee monitors the activity of several governmental entities responsible for revising and rewriting codes and statutes. Our goal is to identify changes that may affect court reporters, official and freelance, and to recognize opportunities those changes may present. John Avery and myself, Tom Pringle, are the committee.

Among the entities we watch are:

The Judicial Council
www.courtinfo.ca.gov/invitationstocomment
www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courtadmin/cr-legis.htm

The California Law Revision Commission
www.clrc.ca.gov

The Court Reporter's Board
www.courtreportersboard.ca.gov

The Judicial Council has several committees working overtime to come up with proposed changes to the Rules of Court and statutes and new legislation. Proposals are periodically published for public comment; that's where we come in.

In February of 2007, CCRA requested a presence on one of those very committees: The Technology Advisory Committee. Earlier in the year, we had approached the council informally and our request was denied. This letter was a more formal request for reconsideration for the council to approve a court reporter member or liaison for the Technology Advisory Committee.

In spite of the fact that this committee is recommending changes that directly affect reporters and the fact that reporters are typically the most tech-savvy employees in the courtroom, the Judicial Council denied our request.

In April of 2007, CCRA submitted comments in response to a proposed amendment to Judicial Branch Education: Minimum Education Requirements, Expectations and Recommendations, SP07-01. It was our request to add CCRA to the list of approved providers for continuing education required by the court in rule 10.481(a). This is a new rule requiring at least two hours per year of continuing education for court employees.

Even though no training for official court reporters is provided on a statewide basis, our request was denied. Therefore, official reporters who do not want to sit through an hour-long session on how to pick up a box, etc., may want to consider CCRA seminars and convention for reporter-specific education; however, because the council has refused to put us on the approved provider list you will have to get approval locally beforehand.

In June of 2007, CCRA submitted comments in response to Proposals for Changes to Rules, Standards, Forms and Judicial Council sponsored Legislation - SPR07-01 through SPR07-36 as follows:

SPR07-02, Records in Civil and Criminal Cases.

This proposal applies to civil and criminal cases and would add a new rule that clearly lays out all the different options for providing the record of oral proceedings from the trial court. We suggested adding the caveat "if available" when designating a computer copy of a transcript on appeal.

Our concern was, and is, that there may be a handful of reporters not on computer systems. Also, our experience tells us that when dealing with anything digital, difficulties can, and do, arise from time to time which can make a computerized record unavailable.

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SPR07-05, Miscellaneous Appellate Rules.

Rule 8.155 pertains to augmenting and correcting the record. The proposal is that under (2) a new sentence would be added, "The pages of the attachments must be consecutively numbered."

Here the concern was, consecutive to what? It is ambiguous. It could be consecutive to each other or to the previous augment or to the end of the trial transcript or ... There are 58 counties in California that have 58 different appellate clerks who all have a different way of doing things, so very little can be left to the imagination.

LEG07-02, Governmental Fee Exemption (Amend GC section 6103)

The Judicial Council proposed to clarify this law by amending the statute to expressly state that it does not apply to civil jury fees or jury deposits. We suggested that while they were at it, why not clarify that this law also doesn't apply to transcript fees.

As of September 12, 2007, when this report was written, there were no new proposals requiring comment on the Judicial Council Web site.

June was a busy month for the Judicial Procedures Committee. On June 15, CCRA responded to an April proposal from the California Law Revision Commission re: Comments to Technical and Minor Substantive Statutory Corrections: References to Recording Technology. The proposal was to correct and modernize existing references to audio and video recording; specifically, the use of "tape" and "cassette" would be revised to a generic term.

But the Commission also invited comment whether recording using technology that "does not record on an easily identifiable and segregable medium" is a substantive change to those PC sections. Specifically, the Commission asked, "If such technology is used, would it be more difficult for the court to control access to the recording, increasing the likelihood of a breach of privacy?"

CCRA responded that, indeed, the Commission should be very concerned. We directed the Commission to an article written by Robin Springer for SpeechTechMag.com posted May 1, 2007. In a nutshell, this article says, in part, "Because digital information can be so easily manipulated

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TurboCAT

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without physical signs of tampering . . . we have entered an era ...in which, 'you can't believe anything you see or hear anymore.'"

"In response, courts may find that, because digital audio recordings lack the indicia of trustworthiness magnetic audiotape recordings have, the probative value of digital recordings is so diminished their introduction into evidence should be curtailed."

CCRA's position is that digital recording has advanced to the point where it represents a risk to the integrity of the record. It is obvious that to substitute digital recording for a court reporter is removing a time-proven and trustworthy layer of security and putting the integrity of the appellate record in jeopardy.

In addition, the Judicial Procedures Committee, in collaboration with Sandy VanderPol, CCRA's President, made several recommendations as follows:

1. Offer text streaming to the web for Judicial Council business meetings;
2. Utilize the public comment portion of the Council's meetings to present ideas, concerns, and issues;
3. Take advantage of the opportunity the new CE requirements present to educate official reporters on the value of customer service/adopting a businessperson perspective to court positions;
4. Develop a pilot project for pro bono work in conjunction with the Open Community Courts program in Orange County, a program that contains a number of outreach programs in an effort to improve access to the courts in Orange County. Our idea was for reporters to volunteer one day a month to the appropriate program.

It turned out that the outreach programs in No. 4 were not well-suited to our concept, but I wanted to include it in this report because of the overwhelmingly positive response on the part of the official reporters in Orange County.

As part of this process, CCRA's Judicial Procedures Committee has reviewed thousands of pages of proposed rule changes and statutory revisions. This report attempts to capture some of the activity of the Judicial Procedures Committee on your behalf. It has been an honor and a privilege for John Avery and myself, Tom Pringle, to serve you all in this fashion.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Pringle, Chair

Legislative Committee

Great News – AB 1211 (Price) Signed into law!

On Friday, July 27, 2007, Governor Schwarzenegger signed into law AB 1211, a bill cosponsored by CCRA and DRA. This new law will become effective on January 1, 2008. (This bill would make the attorney responsible for payment of products and services provided by the deposition officer and/or the firm rather than the party.)

First and foremost, I would personally like to thank the many dedicated volunteers who made themselves available to work this bill through the legislature. Many of you wrote letters to the Assembly and Senate Judiciary Committees and to our Governor to support this bill. Your effort truly made a difference in the eyes of the legislators and the governor.

Thanks to our Deposition Advisory Chair, Sheri Turner, and the committee members – Bill Greenley, Kelly Roemer, Lynden Glover, Paula Killion, Craig Wood, Mark Brickman, Jan White, Rose Goni and Ray Eggebraaten – for their time spent on the specifics of the language in the bill, the amendments thereto and the analysis of the bill as it worked its way through the legislature.

Special thanks to Lisa Kaplan, CCRA's lobbyist, who dedicated many hours to this bill. Lisa spent hours walking the halls of the Capitol educating the appropriate committee members and their staff about AB 1211, writing support letters, meeting with trial lawyers' lobbyists and much more.

Additionally, CCRA thanks Curren Price, Jr. for his authorship of AB 1211 and specifically Cliff Costa, Assemblyman Price's staff person assigned to this bill.

AB 582 (Evans)

AB 582 is the bill that would give official reporters a raise on their transcript fees, both the original and one and the copy rates. This bill is authored by Assemblywoman Noreen Evans, who was a transcriber for court reporters during her college years. Sponsoring AB 582 is SEIU, the union that represents many of the official court reporters throughout the state. CCRA has been instrumental in supporting the efforts of SEIU in getting this bill passed.

Assembly Member Evans has been a strong advocate for official reporters receiving a raise. After all, it's been 17 years since there's been a raise on the O + 1, and 103 years since there's been a raise on the copies!

Currently AB 582 is located in the Senate Judiciary Committee (SJC) and will be "parked" there and taken up next year. During next year's legislative session, CCRA will, once again, be working with SEIU to move this bill forward.

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One of the main reasons for AB 582 stalling in the SJC results from the state's budget shortfall. Next year CCRA will be working tirelessly with SEIU to get AB 582 passed. Quoting Michelle Castro, SEIU's lobbyist: "We've come a long way and have gotten over some really major hurdles, but there are still some that we just can't overcome this year."

Please see below the additional bills that CCRA and your lobbyists have been tracking this year.

AB 32

(Fuller [R]) Career technical education: work certification training.

Status: 06/01/2007-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a) (5). Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Current Location: 06/01/2007-A 2 YEAR

Summary: Existing law requires school districts to adopt a course of study for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, that includes, among other things, career technical education. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to provide, within the public school system, work certification training options to pupils who are between the ages of 16 and 18 years, have passed the high school exit examination, and have the consent of their parents or guardians, with particular emphasis on job specific skilled labor and technical training. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

AB 159

(Jones [D]) Courts: judgeships.

Status: 09/10/2007-Read third time, passed, and to Assembly. (Ayes 39. Noes 0.)

Current Location: 09/10/2007-A ASSEMBLY

Summary: Existing law requires the Governor to submit to a designated agency of the State Bar of California the names of all potential appointees or nominees for a vacant judicial office for evaluation of their judicial qualifications. Upon receipt of those names, the State Bar is required to evaluate and determine the qualifications of each candidate for judicial office and to report in confidence to the Governor its recommendation whether the candidate is qualified, as specified. This bill would require the State Bar to consider legal experience of candidates broadly. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

AB 299

(Tran [R]) Maintenance of the codes.

Status: 07/27/2007-Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 130, Statutes of 2007

Current Location: 07/27/2007-A CHAPTERED

Summary: Existing law directs the Legislative Counsel to

advise the Legislature from time to time as to legislation necessary to maintain the codes. This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes in various provisions of law to effectuate the recommendations made by the Legislative Counsel to the Legislature.

AB 310

(Silva [R]) Maintenance of the codes.

Status: 09/06/2007-Enrolled and to the Governor at 6 p.m.

Current Location: 09/06/2007-A ENROLLED

Summary: Existing law establishes the California Law Revision Commission. Existing law authorizes the commission to recommend changes in the law as it deems necessary to modify or eliminate antiquated and inequitable rules of law and bring the law into harmony with modern conditions. This bill would make technical and minor changes to various laws.

AB 500

(Lieu [D]) Civil actions: telephonic appearances.

Status: 09/10/2007-Enrolled and to the Governor at 6:15 p.m.

Current Location: 09/10/2007-A ENROLLED

Summary: Existing law permits attorneys to make appearances by telephone at trial setting conferences, except as specified. This bill would permit a party to appear by telephone in any conference or hearing at which witnesses are not expected to be called to testify. The bill would require the party choosing to appear by telephone to provide notice in either the moving or opposing papers or by oral or written notification at least 3 court days before the appearance. The bill would permit a court to provide teleconferencing appearances by entering into a contract with a private vendor, pursuant to which the vendor would be permitted to charge a party appearing by telephone a reasonable fee, and would also permit a court to require a particular call provider to be used for telephone appearances. The bill would require a court to publish notice providing the information necessary to appear by telephone at conferences and hearings. The bill would also specify the application of these provisions to probate proceedings.

AB 582

(Evans [D]) Court transcription fees.

Status: 06/21/2007-Referred to Com. on JUD.

Current Location: 06/21/2007-S JUD.

Summary: This bill is sponsored by SEIU with CCRA and COCRA actively working with SEIU. This bill would provide for

Continued on page 14

an increase in the folio rates for transcripts prepared by the official court reporter and official reporter pro tempore. This bill would also create a statewide uniform transcript format.

AB 863

(Davis [D]) Los Angeles County Superior Court employees.

Status: 09/05/2007-To inactive file on motion of Assembly Member De Leon.

Current Location: 09/05/2007-A INACTIVE FILE

Summary: Existing law provides that each trial court may establish a salary range for each of its employee classifications, and considerations shall include, but are not limited to, local market conditions and other local compensation-related issues such as difficulty of recruitment or retention. This bill would require the Los Angeles County Superior Court to pay each employee in a bargaining unit represented by any specified employee organization an amount equivalent to the additional amount the employee would have received if the reclassification raise the employee received on October 1, 2005, had been retroactive to August 1, 2005. The bill would also provide that the Legislature urges the Los Angeles County Superior Court to act in a responsible manner and disburse the funds, which are currently held by the Administrative Office of the Courts, as directed for the purposes of paying the amounts prescribed in this act.

AB 1025

(Bass [D]) Professions and vocations: licensure.

Status: 08/31/2007-From committee: Do pass. (Ayes 9. Noes 7.) . Read second time. To third reading.

Current Location: 08/31/2007-S THIRD READING

Calendar Events: 09/11/07 64 SEN THIRD READING FILE

Summary: This bill pertains to court reporter licensure, among other vocational licenses, and would provide that a person may not be denied licensure based solely on a criminal conviction if the person has been rehabilitated, as specified. The bill would also provide that a person may not be denied licensure or have his or her license suspended or revoked solely based on a criminal conviction that has been dismissed on specified grounds, unless the board provides substantial evidence, as specified, justifying the denial suspension, or revocation. The bill would require the board to provide an applicant or ex-licensee whose application has been denied or whose license has been suspended or revoked based upon a crime with a copy of his or her criminal history record, as specified. The bill would require the board to maintain specified information pertaining to the provision of criminal history records and to make that information available upon request by the Department of Justice or the

Federal Bureau of Investigation. The bill would require the department, to prepare annual reports to the Legislature documenting the board's denial, suspension, or revocation of licenses based on the bill's provisions.

AB 1211

(Price [D]) Depositions: costs.

Status: 07/20/2007-Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 115, Statutes of 2007

Current Location: 07/20/2007-A CHAPTERED

Summary: This bill would provide that the obligation to timely pay the deposition officer or entity providing the services of the deposition officer for that transcription, and any other deposition products or services that are requested, shall be the responsibility of the requesting attorney or a party representing himself or herself, unless responsibility for the payment is otherwise provided by law or the deposition officer or entity is notified in writing that the party or another identified person will be responsible for payment. The bill would provide that these provisions do not prohibit or supersede an agreement between an attorney and a party allocating responsibility for the payment of deposition costs to the party .

AJR 38

(Levine [D]) Training for Realtime Writers Act of 2007.

Status: 08/27/2007-Referred to Com. on JUD.

Current Location: 08/27/2007-A JUD.

Summary: This measure would urge the Congress of the United States to enact legislation that would provide competitive grants for training court reporters and closed captioners.

SB 45

(Perata [D]) Private postsecondary education.

Status: 09/10/2007-Read third time. Passed. To Senate.

Current Location: 09/10/2007-S SENATE

Summary: Our private court reporting schools are governed by the former Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education Reform Act of 1989, which became inoperative on July 1, 2007, and is to be repealed on January 1, 2008, generally set minimum standards of instructional quality, ethical and business practices, health and safety, and fiscal responsibility for private postsecondary and vocational educational institutions, as defined. This bill would extend these provisions so that they apply until December 31, 2008.

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SB 145

(Corbett [D]) Court facilities.

Status: 09/06/2007-Withdrawn from committee. Ordered placed on third reading.

Current Location: 09/06/2007-A THIRD READING

Calendar Events: 09/11/07 56 ASM THIRD READING FILE

Summary: Existing law requires the Judicial Council, in consultation with the superior court of each county and the county, to enter into agreements concerning the transfer of responsibility for court facilities from that county to the Judicial Council. Transfer of responsibility may occur not earlier than July 1, 2004, and not later than June 30, 2007. Existing law requires counties to remit to the state, for deposit in the Court Facilities Trust Fund, county facilities payments composed of the costs of various items related to court facility operation and maintenance. This bill would extend the deadline for the transfer of responsibility for court facilities to December 31, 2008. The bill would require that any transfer agreement that is executed on or after January 1, 2008, and on or before June 30, 2008, contain a requirement that the county pay an additional amount annually, to be calculated pursuant to a specified method. The bill would provide that the county is not required to make the additional payment if the county, before January 1, 2008, has submitted a proposed county facilities payment in connection with court facilities. The bill would further require that any transfer agreement that is executed on and after July 1, 2008, contain a requirement that the county facilities payment be calculated pursuant to the greater of 2 specified methods. The bill would make related, conforming changes. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

SB 649

(Committee on Judiciary) Trial court restructuring.

Status: 07/12/2007-Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 43, Statutes of 2007

Current Location: 07/12/2007-S CHAPTERED

Summary: The California Constitution provides for the abolition of municipal courts and their unification within the superior courts, as specified. This bill would conform various statutory provisions of law to the abolition of municipal courts and their unification within the superior courts. The bill would also make related statutory changes with respect to the classification of limited civil cases, appeals in limited civil cases and misdemeanor and infraction cases, and arraignment by 2-way electronic audio video communication. This bill contains other related provisions.

SB 823

(Perata [D]) Private postsecondary education: California

Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2007.

Status: 08/31/2007-Hearing postponed by committee. (Refers to 8/30/2007 hearing)

Current Location: 08/31/2007-A APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: The Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education Reform Act of 1989 generally sets minimum standards of instructional quality, ethical and business practices, health and safety, and fiscal responsibility for private postsecondary and vocational educational institutions, INCLUDING PRIVATE COURT REPORTING SCHOOLS, as defined. The act establishes in the Department of Consumer Affairs the Bureau for Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education, which, among other things, is required to review and investigate all institutions, programs, and courses of instruction approved under the act. This bill would recast, revise, and reenact the provisions of the Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education Reform Act of 1989 as the California Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2007. The bill would establish the Board for Private Postsecondary Education in the Department of Consumer Affairs, and would provide that the board would generally succeed to the duties assigned to the bureau under the 1989 act. The bill would repeal the California Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2007 on January 1, 2015. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy Bunch VanderPol, Chair

Membership Committee

Acting on an inspired idea from Past President Tom Pringle, in an effort to bring back former members and attract new ones, CCRA offered a seven-month "free" trial membership. Invitations for the membership were sent out via e-mail and then followed up with personal phone calls. The response was quite positive, and 92 new "trial" members were gained through these efforts.

In addition, personal phone calls were made to all non-renewing members whose memberships had expired within the last year, in an effort to continue to give that personal one-on-one touch that seems to be crucial in retaining/adding new members. And through those calls, efforts continued to be made not only to update member information but to get those e-mail addresses that are so important in our techie age.

Committee Members:
Rose Goni-Davis, Chairman
Sandra Bunch VanderPol
Sandy Virago

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Respectfully submitted,
Rose Goni-Davis, Chair

Nominating Committee

Nomination Committee's Slate of Officers and Board of Directors for the California Court Reporters Association – Term 2007/ 2008

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, I am pleased to say what a privilege it was to have witnessed and been Chairperson of this committee. We all spent many hours intensely interviewing all candidates and reviewing their qualifications for the respective positions. I want to thank my committee members for their commitment to this huge undertaking and the care they took in coming to their decisions.

The following persons all exhibited excellent leadership skills, commitment and dedication to the profession and CCRA, and following are the results:

Officers:

President – Lesia Mervin

President-Elect/Vice President Freelance – Sheri Turner

Vice President Officials – Jim Partridge

Secretary-Treasurer – Carolyn Dasher

Board of Directors:

District B – Kelly Roemer

District D – Natie Alvarado

District E – (At Large) Judy Gillespie

District F – (At Large) Lynden J. Glover

Committee Members:

Doreen Perkins, Chair

Robin Casey

Allen Edelist

Ray Eggebraaten

Connie Parchman

Tom Pringle

Jan White

Respectfully submitted,
Doreen Perkins, Chair

PACCRA Committee

Once again, many people stepped up to the plate this past year and made generous donations to the PAC, providing the resources that are necessary to ensure that our collective voice is heard when decisions that affect our profession are being made. Our biggest, most exciting fund-raiser, the 10-10-10 drawing, kicks into high gear at the convention. Thirty percent of the proceeds will be split evenly among the holders of three lucky tickets. You can also participate in the PACCRA Fun Walk/Run Saturday morning. Medals will be awarded to the top three

finishers, and all participants will receive a really nice cap. If you'd rather sleep in, you can sign up as a "virtual runner."

Thank you for your continued support of PACCRA, CCRA, and your commitment and dedication to your profession.

Committee Members:

Connie Parchman

Teresa Fletcher

Arnella Sims

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Partridge, Chair

Past Presidents Committee

As Chair of this committee, I have the honor, and I mean the honor, of writing this report. Never will I ever be the chair of such a committee.

I was asked by our President to put together a committee of some of CCRA's past presidents to serve CCRA's board in an advisory capacity. Over the course of this last year, this committee has been called upon to reach into the inner recesses of their minds, basically serve as historians, in order to give advisory opinions to CCRA's current board, or asked to give historical perspectives on various subjects.

Since this was a new committee started this year, we weren't sure how well it would be received. Never in my wildest dreams could I have imagined how responsive your past presidents have been. This group alone offers over 100 years of cumulative experience and knowledge that the board is able to draw upon.

As I leave my position as Immediate Past President, I'm hopeful that future CCRA presidents will appreciate what a valuable asset this committee is, because I, too, look forward to serving as an advisory committee member to the future presidents and board members of CCRA.

Committee Members:

John Avery

Robin Casey

Gary Cramer

Allen Edelist

Yvonne Fenner

Toni O'Neill

Connie Parchman

Tom Pringle

Cheryl Redlich

Diane Saunar

Arnella Sims

Candace Sharkey

Jan White

Respectfully submitted,
Doreen Perkins, Chair



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Public Relations Committee

The objective of the Public Relations Committee is to promote our profession within the legal community and the public it serves, fostering relationships with the California Bar and courts, and initiating and encouraging exchange of mutually beneficial information. Several goals toward that end have been achieved this past year:

The Committee has compiled a database containing contact information of various Bar organizations throughout California, which will facilitate exchange of information in the future.

CCRA has made a proposal to the Judicial Council to webstream real-time text of Judicial Council meetings to allow for wider public access. This proposal is being considered by the Judicial Council and is at their Executive Planning level of consideration.

CCRA and California Women Lawyers have formed a partnership intended to foster the exchange of information between our two communities, and provide the organizations' respective members with training that will mutually benefit all involved.

Committee Members:

Gerie Bunch
Sheri Turner
Lynden Glover

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Partridge, Chair

Support Our Students/PR Committee

The goals of this committee are many. Primarily, we sought to help students and schools through the follow programs:

Students:

Scholarships
Each One Reach One Mentor Program
Sponsor a Student Membership
Ask A Reporter
Sponsor a Student to the convention
Student track at the convention

Schools:

Donations
Articles in our publications
Legislative Action
Survey
Presentations
Career Days

This year, we awarded a scholarship of \$500 in the Spring; and hopefully, we will be awarding one at this convention. Donations by local associations and fund-raisers are the source of the scholarship funds. Applicants are judged by an

essay and must be in good standing with their school and a student member of CCRA.

The Each One Reach One Mentor Program is in its fifth year and still going strong. We have almost 150 students and about 70 mentors. A big thank you goes out to all of our members who volunteer their time to be mentors. It is so rewarding to see students succeed.

Dozens of members have also been very generous by sponsoring a student to the convention and by sponsoring a student membership to CCRA. We offer a complete student track and Mock CSR at the convention. Additionally, many reporters have dusted off those old machines and donated them to schools.

Our "Ask A Reporter" highlight on our Web site frequently receives questions from students needing direction and clarification about a program they may be interested in attending. Our very capable Board and committee members respond to the questions promptly and accurately.

Our publication, CCRA Online (previously Cal-E-grams), has featured articles about several schools over the years and our goal is to eventually have all of 16 schools highlighted. We also publish the scholarship winner's essay, post "thank you" to sponsoring reporters, articles of interest to students and list new CSR's.

Behind the scenes, in large and small communities, our members also participate in career days, make presentations at local high schools and civic groups, and make themselves available for job shadowing – all of which is great public relations and excellent representation of the profession. Some reporters return to their alma maters to speak to our future reporters.

I personally want to thank my committee members for being so dependable. Each of you have stepped up to the task at hand and done it well. You are terrific.

Committee Members:

Allen Edelist
Dina Lossone-Lidis
Myra Pish
Debby Steinman

Respectfully submitted,
Gerie Bunch, Chair

Technology Committee

This year one of the goals of the technology committee was to promote and educate the public and court reporting community in the continuing advances in technology by developing an educational plan for seminars on the E-Future. The committee worked closely with the Convention

Continued on page 18

Committee End of Year Reports - Continued from page 17

Chair to develop technology seminars for the annual convention, including audiosync seminars, Vista operating system seminars, digital signature seminars, and Windows seminars.

Another goal of the committee was to research new technology tools as it relates to the court reporting field. A column for *CCRA Online* was developed that we named CAT Nips. Articles were written for StenoCat, CATalyst, Eclipse, and ProCat on a monthly basis highlighting tips for each software vendor. Due to the huge success of this program, it will become a regular feature in *CCRA Online*.

The Technology Committee is instrumental in furthering legislative efforts for further technological advances in court reporting through the research of new technologies and applying those technologies to the court reporting field.

A successful study was completed of RealLegal Exemplaris, an online transcript repository for official reporters. Exemplaris allows official reporters to add their transcripts to their private, secure online workspace. Customers search the public portion of the repository to locate the transcript applicable to their research. Using their credit card, customers may purchase the transcripts and download them for immediate use. It was determined this is an excellent way for official reporters to make their transcripts available for sale to the public.

Audiosync, use and misuse, has become a hot topic this year. The Technology Committee worked with other committee chairs on the guidelines/issues of the subject, culminating in an Audiosync discussion panel seminar at the convention.

CCRA's CRR Tips & Tricks E-seminar continues to be a successful e-seminar available to our members as well as nonmembers.

Technology is a strong theme in this year's convention, and the Technology Committee worked with the Convention Chair and/or Continuing Education Chair in developing technology seminars for the annual convention.

CCRA Online continues to be the "face" of the association. The Technology Committee has been instrumental in submission of many technology articles and education pieces in regard to new and emerging technology, as well as existing technology.

Transcript repository issues were investigated regarding the uploading of official and deposition transcripts available from Web repository sites, including TrialSmith, without payment to the reporter. A cease and desist letter sent to TrialSmith, by CCRA president Sandy Bunch Vanderpol, resulted in immediate removal of all California official transcripts from their Web repository.

This year Microsoft Windows released Vista, a new operating system. The technology committee developed information relating to court reporting software compatibility issues that may arise, writing articles in that regard for *CCRA Online*. One of the convention's seminars will also address that subject.

Committee Members:
Sandy Bunch Vanderpol
Leigh Ann Orozco
Steve Kosmoto
Charlotte Freeman
Lisa Rouly
Jason Perez

Respectfully submitted,
Lesia Mervin, Committee Chair



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Reporters needed in Bakersfield/Kern County for very busy freelance firm. Looking for experienced reporters with 2+ years experience. Realtime experience a plus. Full-time work with employee benefits. Limited travel. Fax resume to 661-393-0851. Contact Jean Keleher or Ted Kent at 800-635-6044.

Employment Opportunities - Official Reporters

August 29: COURT REPORTER: Monterey Superior Court. \$4,927 - \$6,408/month + excellent benefits. This position requires a license as Certified Shorthand Reporter issued by the State of California. Please visit our website at www.monterey.courts.ca.gov, email courtsjobs@monterey.courts.ca.gov for full description of duties, qualifications and required application materials, or call (831) 775-5586. Priority Screening Date: 9/7/07. PER DIEM COURT REPORTERS: Monterey Superior Court has opportunities available for Per Diem Court Reporters who are licensed in the State of California. Per Diem amount is negotiable. Please contact Rosalinda Chavez at (831) 775-5552 or visit our website at www.monterey.courts.ca.gov. EOE

July 30: Court Reporter: Superior Court of Calif, County of Solano; up to \$75,426 annually + benefits + real time bonus. Visit www.solanocourts.com for more information and an application.

May 24: OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER: Fresno County Superior Court \$57,434 - \$69,810 Starting Salary \$57,434. This position will work under general supervision, report verbatim testimony presented at trials and other court hearings, utilizing the realtime program and transcribing and providing typed transcripts pursuant to standards promulgated by statutes, rules, regulations or policies. Filing period: 5/21/07 - continuous until the needs of the court are met. For complete details on minimum qualifications, job duties and benefits, visit the Fresno County Courthouse, 1100 Van Ness Ave., Room 401, Fresno, CA 93724 or www.fresnosuperiorcourt.org. Submit required application materials as indicated on job flyer. Postmark dates and faxed copies are not accepted. Resumes not accepted in lieu of completed application. Inquiries can be directed to Lizz Moreno, Court Personnel at (559) 488-3919.

Certified Court Reporter. Mendocino County Superior Court Full Time, Benefited Position \$4283.00 - \$5740.00/MO For Information and Application call 707-463-6815, 707-467-6437 or Download from www.mendocino.courts.ca.gov Continuous Filing

Employment Opportunities - Official Reporters, Cont.

Superior Court of California, County of Santa Cruz, Certified Court Reporters sought for either employee status (\$5784 per month + excellent benefits) or per diem status (\$300 per day For complete job bulletin and court application please visit www.santacruzcourt.org or call 831-454-3370.

Instructors Needed

August 20: Court Reporting INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST: College of Marin, Marin County, CA. Part-time, 16.125 Hrs/Wk, 10.5 Months per Year. M,T,W,F: 8:30am-1pm (1/2-hour lunch). Performs a variety of learning resources activities: assisting students, tutoring, directing student workers, administering grades/tests, serving as a resource to the in-lab instructor. Salary: \$1,349.34-\$1,640.45/month. Visit www.marin.edu/humanres/ for more info and an application.

REPORTERS NEEDED TO TEACH REPORTING! Tired of the same-old, same-old? Want to give back some of your knowledge to the next generation? GOLDEN STATE COLLEGE OF COURT REPORTING is hiring steno teachers for day or night; flexible hours. CSR preferred; not mandatory. Know someone who quit school, let license lapse, retired, injury...? DUBLIN in Bay Area ~ (925) 829-0115 ~ Sandy. THE GREATEST JOB YOU'LL EVER HAVE!

Other Opportunities

April 16: National Litigation Support Services company is seeking 3 sales reps (Sacramento, San Francisco, and San Bernardino) The ideal candidate will have relationships with law firms within the territories and knowledge of the internal workings of a firm. PRIOR SALES EXPERIENCE NOT REQUIRED! Base salary \$45K plus/ yr 1 income with commission \$80K plus. Submit resumes immediately to Dmadock@annrogantampa.com. Rapid hires for the proper candidate.

April 4: Mark Gillam Enterprises: Part time stenographer needed on call or full time if experience includes bookkeeping. Financial planning and business management office in Fair Oaks, CA. Phone: 916-961-2200 Email: Jlouisem@gent.com

Seeking Employment

July 5: Scopist CaseCAT. Former CSR, excellent attention to detail, needs clientele. 30 free pages first job! Lori Yared, 925-292-1964, stonhill3@comcast.net

Scopist Available: I am a retired Court Reporter of over 30 years, now enjoying doing scoping for other busy reporters. I work with ProCAT Winner XP. I have extensive experience in both court and deposition work. All exchanges can be done on the computer. Please contact Betsy at Betsy@jackswebs.com

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Training and Instruction

Captioner Training: California Captioning Services offers both onsite and offsite live interactive teletraining and tutoring in the Seven Steps to Broadcast Captioning. For training dates and enrollment information, visit our website at CaliforniaCaptioningServices.com, or give us a call at 949-888-4763.

Equipment Wanted

Machines Needed: After a recent survey that showed new student enrollment up by 40%, many new students are in need of equipment and supplies. Remember what it was like to be a starving student? I sure do. Both public and private schools are asking for your help. They need used steno machines, manual or electric. Also they are asking for donations of scraps of paper, or even a whole box if you are feeling generous, and manuals that you no longer need. Here's how you can help: Go through that back corner of the closet, attic or garage and see what you can find. Or contact someone you know who has retired or no longer pursuing a career in court reporting; see if they'd like to donate their machine. Then contact a local school to make your donation. If you don't know of a school near you or you can't find a home for your precious hand-me-downs, contact me at gerie@psln.com, and I'll find one for you.

Proofreaders

July 25: DepoProofReaders.com & DepoproofReadersOnline.com invite you to try their proof reading services. Over 17 years of legal experience in all types of law. We offer you competitive prices, experienced, skilled and reliable service for the right price. Tel: (916) 293-2670/Email: lcasipit@depoproofreaders.com

Hire an experienced proofreader with a paralegal certificate and medical background for your straight proofreading needs. Visit web site (<http://WeNeverSleep.biz>) or call (760) 409-7547 in Palm Springs, CA (night or day). Due to spam, e-mail addy is only available from web site.



www.cal-ccra.org

Shop at the CCRA Store!



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Travel Mug = \$15



Keychain = \$25



Highlighter = \$4



Mouse Pad = \$15



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Freelance & Official Compendiums = \$25



Sunshade = \$15