

VOLUME 14 | ISSUE 4

CCRA

California Court Reporters Association

C C R A O N L I N E



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OFFICERS

President

Carlos Martinez
carlos.martinez@cal-ccra.org

Vice President Official

Brooke Ryan
brooke.ryan@cal-ccra.org

Vice President Freelance

Gerie Bunch
gerie.bunch@cal-ccra.org

Secretary-Treasurer

Christy Cannariato
christy.cannariato@cal-ccra.org

Immediate Past President

Kristi Garcia
kegarcya@comcast.net

ONLINE COMMITTEE

Lesia J. Mervin
Connie Parchman, Editor
3420 Finnian Way #219
Dublin, CA 94568
Tel: (510) 853-5260
parchman1@aol.com

MAIN OFFICE

CCRA
65 Enterprise
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656
Tel: (949) 715-4682
Fax: (949) 715-6931
staff@cal-ccra.org

www.cal-ccra.org



California Court Reporters Association

CCRA ONLINE

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.

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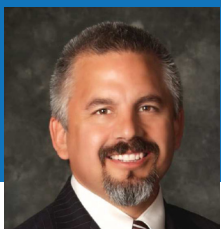
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

OUR FIRST SIX MONTHS

By Carlos Martinez, CSR, RPR, CMRS
President, CCRA

Today, April 11th, marks the half-way point of my term as president, so a brief bit of reflection is in order. What have we done so far? We've built a stronger relationship with the schools in California through visiting nearly every school and attending career fairs. Increased the number of student members and mentors. Increased the number of students on CCRA committees. Held a wildly successful BOOT CAMP. Held a Mock CSR and have another one scheduled for shortly before the next test. Have had a table at each CSR test, one in Sacramento and one in LA, supporting the test takers. Have been to CRB board meetings. Had our first ever Legislative Reception in Sacramento. During National CART and Court Reporting Week, we made a motion to include CART and Captioning Reporters as full voting members of CCRA, which will be voted on by our membership in Palm Springs at the annual convention. In Sacramento, we have supported the initiative or Reggie Jones-Sawyer to have a full, independent audit done of the Administrative Office of the Courts. The audit was approved last month and will take place this year. We have also had reporters who were affected by the Placer County contracting takeover testify at an Assembly Judicial Committee hearing on a bill to stop the practice of contracting out services in the courts, AB 2332 (Wieckowski). Their testimony was persuasive and helpful in getting the proposed bill moved out of the Judiciary Committee and on to its next step, which is Appropriations. We have also been working with shareholders to defeat the newly resurrected preliminary hearing bill AB 2487 (Wagner), which was pulled from its first hearing date, a sign that there is much opposition to the proposed language. And we are also in the process of working to change the proposed language in AB 2006 (Wagner), a bill that would allow a recording in place of a deposition transcript at trial.

I don't write this to attempt to impress you or to toot our own horn. I'm writing to let you know that we have got your back. The representatives that you have bestowed your faith in and given your hard-earned money are working to improve the profession for new, old, and not-yet certified court reporters.

We have done a lot in the first six months, and that is with a new board and in a rebuilding season for CCRA.

Now for the next six months. We are now in the latter half of this two-year legislative session.

While the legislators are on Spring Break for the next two weeks, we will be preparing for the next push in Sacramento to ensure that we are successful in defeating the proposed bills that hurt our profession and passing the proposed bills that strengthen the profession. Your help will be necessary. In order to defeat AB 2487 (Wagner), the bill aimed at stopping the automatic production of preliminary hearing transcripts, we will need reporters from each county to approach their District Attorney, Public Defender, bar association, private attorneys and educate them on what is being proposed. We will need those attorneys to write letters in opposition to AB 2487 (Wagner). We will send talking points and sample letters for ease of discussion with the attorneys that you approach. Watch for that information to come out in the next few days.

Plan on attending our annual convention in October so that you may vote on the proposal to allow CART and Captioners into CCRA as full members. Watch for blasts covering what is happening in Sacramento regarding legislation aimed at both freelance and judicial reporters.

What is written in this month's president's message is by no means a complete list, but it's written to let you know what we are working on and that we are not yet finished. I know that I like to be assured that those that I have placed my trust in are working on my behalf. I hope that this will give you that assurance.





IF YOU CAN INVEST IN ONLY ONE CONVENTION THIS YEAR... MAKE YOUR INVESTMENT COUNT WITH CCRA

Inspired by the overwhelmingly positive feedback from previous convention attendees, CCRA is heading back to the Miramonte Resort & Spa in Indian Wells, California, October 3-5, 2014. Why is this the best investment for your hard-earned dollars?

- 1. PRICE!** CCRA's convention is an incredible value! Other conventions being held in California this year will cost you over \$450, and that's just to get in the door. Their room rates are also higher. Get those CEUs instead with CCRA for just \$349 (students \$165), which includes 5 meals and 2 receptions at a luxurious hotel and spa.
- 2. LOCATION!** The Miramonte Resort & Spa is remarkably close to metropolitan areas of Southern California and Ontario International Airport, yet far enough away to still feel like you're getting a refreshing getaway in the Palm Springs Valley, nestled at the base of the beautifully scenic Santa Rosa Mountains. SoCal residents can pop over just for the day. And did we mention shopping? The Desert Hills Premium Outlets is tantalizingly close.
- 3. NETWORKING!** The convention this year will include two receptions and five meals. Bring those business cards, because you will not only renew friendships with colleagues but also meet more people from your own state who are in the best position to help you expand your career opportunities. Our conventions typically draw over 350 people, more than any other state association in the country.
- 4. SEMINARS:** We are excited about the wide range of seminars we are developing. We have expanded and intensified our offerings on technology and realtime. Plus, interested in CART and captioning? Wondering if you have what it takes? Thinking about transitioning to a new career path? We are introducing a CART/Captioning track. Bring your writer and get some hands-on practical training from some of the top realtimers in California.
- 5. STUDENTS:** When you attend a CCRA convention, we don't track you into a limited number of classes. Your low registration fee admits you to your choice of any of our seminar offerings.

We at CCRA believe reporters and students should attend all the conventions they can. But if you can only afford one in 2014, you will be sorry to have missed CCRA's 104th, our best convention yet.

Like us on Facebook and regularly visit our website to receive all of the exciting details in the coming months.



ARE COURT STENOGRAPHERS NECESSARY?

After a court reporter with a drinking problem left behind an incomplete record of at least six trials and two dozen other proceedings in Manhattan, the legal community was left to debate again if, in the age of digital recordings, court stenographers are needed (*NY Times* Opinion Page, April 7, 2014). *The New York Times* opinion page published a question-and-answer piece titled: Are Court Stenographers Necessary? Nancy Varallo, President of the NCRA, was asked to respond as a debater to the question. Her response is listed below. The link to the story is here: <http://nyti.ms/1dVX95A>

Nancy Varallo, president of the National Court Reporters Association, owns The Varallo Group, which offers court reporting, business development and administrative support services to reporters and reporting firms.

There Is No Substitute

In an era defined by technological advancement, stenographic court reporters remain the gold standard for capturing the spoken word. It's not just that they produce the most accurate legal records, including capturing certain

interpersonal nuances that digital recordings might miss. Nor is it simply because they are trained to handle complex procedures associated with trials and depositions. Court reporters are indispensable to the legal system because they offer 21st Century solutions to unyielding situations that demand speed without sacrificing accuracy. They are certainly not relics of a bygone era.

Court reporters can now filter their shorthand through computers to provide judges, attorneys and clients with instantaneous, understandable transcripts.

Today's court reporters are able to filter their shorthand through computers to provide judges, attorneys and clients with instantaneous, understandable transcripts. No other technology can come close. Truth be told, the incident that inspired this discussion probably would have been curtailed had the court been using the real-time method. Traditionally, stenography is expanded into a readable transcript following the day's events. But real-time uses computer software to instantaneously translate shorthand into understandable English. The text then scrolls across the laptop or tablet, much like captioning on a television.

In recent years, court systems have struggled to contain costs. Even in courts that have been forced to implement more affordable methods of record keeping, court reporters nearly always remain in place for complex civil litigation and felony criminal proceedings, because they are the most reliable in high stakes situations. Likewise, in the deposition setting, outside of the courts, where true market demand is at play, court reporters remain the overwhelming choice for attorneys because they know there is no substitute for what we do.

BOOT CAMP 2015

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2015

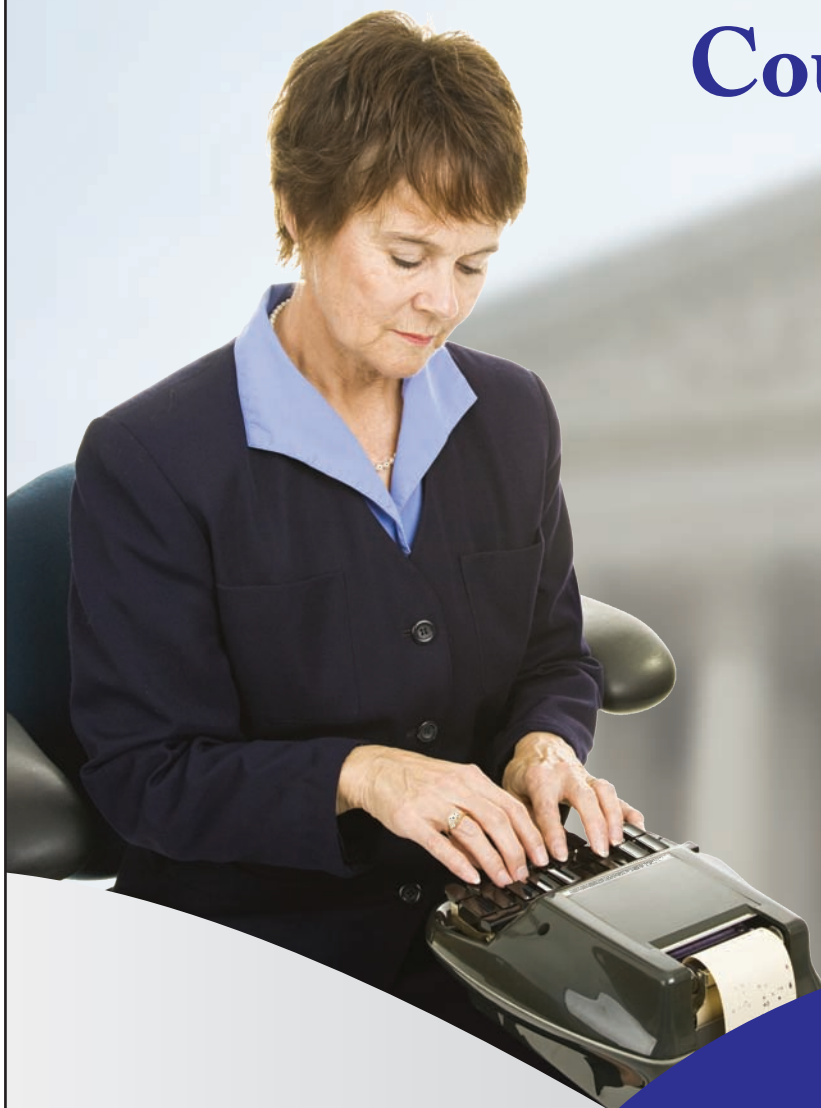
Hit the ground running on your new career! BOOT CAMP returns to the beautiful Pickwick Gardens Conference Center in Burbank, California. This is the event you have heard all your friends talking about. Judging by your reviews, our first BOOT CAMP was a hit, but wait to see what we have in store for you on this one!

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CAPTION IT FORWARD: SPRING FORWARD

By Regina DeMerville, CSR

We recently moved our clocks ahead which cause us to “lose” an hour. Many people experience fatigue and laziness the next day. Before this time change, “Spring Forward” has never affected my internal clock. For whatever reason, this year it hit me. I think I slept for 10 hours that night, and I still woke up feeling like I hadn’t slept at all. I must be getting old (ha ha)! Once the fatigue wore off, I kind of “sprang into action.” Got the usual spring cleaning done (eventually) and have enjoyed having the sun around for longer in the evening. We’ve transitioned to a new season. We have to learn to adjust to the time change and make the best of our days.

In Court Reporting School, we go through “seasons.” We have our times where we are constantly passing tests and times where we get stuck and think we’re never going to pass a test. Just like the time change, we have to adjust to each speed. Not every speed is going to be as easy as changing a clock forward one hour. We have to adjust to the new speakers, the new classroom, and the new terminology.

I recently had the pleasure of speaking at Cerritos College (shout out to all the wonderful students at CC). One of the questions I get asked most often is how did I make the transition from school into a working reporter and from a deposition reporter to a broadcast captioner/CART provider? My answer is similar to the situations above. I had to adjust. Adjust to each environment, adjust to the different speeds of each speaker, and adjust to the far different terminology in each setting.

I started CART while still in school. Some classes were easy, while others kept me on the edge of my seat. I learned to fingers spell fast and paraphrase when need be. The name of a class can be deceiving. It might be an English 101 class, but the professor doesn’t know how to breathe while speaking. Or you might have something like Religion 500 and the professor might be an older woman who speaks at 10 words a minute (a little exaggerated but you get the picture). So my point is you have to learn to adjust. Don’t assume because it’s a 101 class that it’s going to be easy. And don’t assume that a molecular biology class is going to be hard. You have to dive in head first with those fingers ready to fly at any given moment. And within the first five minutes, you will get a feel of how the class is going to be.

In my experience, depositions were the easiest jobs to take down; usually slow speakers, the same vocabulary (most



of the time), and the same routine. I think the hardest part as a depo reporter, for me, was the two-hour drive there and back. In Southern California, you don’t get anywhere fast nowadays. CART was one of the hardest but extremely productive times in my career, as far as building my dictionary. I had the opportunity to add in words I never knew existed. And broadcast captioning took it to a whole other level. I was/am writing speeds I never thought I would even see on my word-per-minute counter!

But let me take a step back and remind you all of something. I was a student at one point too. I was scared of real time, and I never thought I would be able to write the material or speeds I am today. If you’re in the 60 class, remember back to Theory I and how excited you were when you figured out how to write “cat” for the first time. Now you can write cat 60 times a minute! Or if you’re in the 200’s class, think back when you were in 100’s and how you saw a qualifying student write and you thought to yourself “Wow, how do they write that fast?” And now look at you. You ARE writing THAT fast! The same thoughts might be running through your head. “I will never be fast enough to do broadcast,” or “I will never have good enough real time for CART.” Use that as motivation to get to where you want to be! You know you can do it! Adjust to your “season” and show your internal clock that you will not let losing one hour defeat you! Now, spring into action and pass those tests!

Happy Easter!

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CSR EXAM

Have you ever thought of volunteering but maybe didn't know how, where, or what you could do to give back? The Certified Shorthand Reporters exam, held three times a year in California, provides the perfect platform for those who would like to donate some time and enjoy themselves, as well.

Through CCRA I had the pleasure and privilege of assisting the 140-plus candidates at the CSR Exam in March 2014. We arrived early Thursday morning to meet and greet the students while they set up for the skills portion. Now, there is always some level of anxiety that comes with taking a test, but when success or failure of countless years of schooling culminates into an all-or-nothing, 10-minute dictation, the anxiety and excitement can reach a fever pitch.

We had the pleasure of meeting candidates ranging from first-time test takers to out-of-state reporters looking to procure a California license. Despite the stress of taking the CSR exam, the candidates were in good spirits, making it easy to interact and share in their experience.

This was the first CSR exam I had attended since I passed in '01, but it didn't take long before all the memories came rushing back: practicing the night before, double-checking equipment, and trying to get enough sleep. Every CSR has a story of their own exam experience, a common bond that inextricably links us together, and it was exciting to volunteer and partake in further creating bonds and links that would strengthen and fortify our beloved profession.

Following the skills test on Saturday, CCRA held a reception on-site. We provided snacks, refreshments, a free raffle, and more importantly, a place to decompress -- and by decompress, I mean celebrate. Because regardless of how you felt about the test, it was over. It is time to exhale and enjoy the moment with the only people who truly understand

what we go through to become CSR's, each other. We'd also like to thank the volunteers who helped us bring it all together and turn it into a very successful event: Julie Granger, Teresa Russ, Carol Herrera, and Christine Taylor.

Now, as the results roll in this month, the best of luck to all the candidates. Certainly, you are all skilled and qualified to be out in the working force; but, unfortunately, we don't always get the test that's right for us. It's only a matter of time before you become a licensed CSR. In fact, I did not pass the first time taking the test, but now with over 12 years of reporting experience behind me, I can confidently attest to the fact that it's definitely worth the wait and the effort.

The next CSR exam will be July 25th at the Westin Los Angeles Airport. CCRA looks forward to attending the event and encourages working professionals to please give back. Contact CCRA for more information. We all play a part in keeping our profession strong and vital.



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1. Proof of a year's worth of full-time experience in reporting a verbatim record of hearings, or judicial or related matters with a shorthand machine, in addition to writing and transcribing such records. (See further information on how to submit this proof under the DCA Eligibility Requirements)
2. Verified certificate of satisfactory completion of course of study from a California recognized court reporting school. A certification from a recognized California court reporting school stating equivalent proficiency pursuant to Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations may also be provided.
3. A National Court Reporters Association RPR Certificate or Certificate of Merit along with a letter from NCRA stating the original issuance date of the certificate.
4. A passing grade on the California State Hearing Reporters Examination. A copy of your pass letter from the State Personnel Board is required as proof of taking and passing the examination.
5. A valid CSR's certificate or license to practice shorthand reporting issued by a state other than California. - Georgia (certificate issued after 1990), Nevada and Texas are the only state licenses accepted by the DCA, Court Reporter's Board of California.

For further information, please refer to the DCA Court Reporters Board of California website under "Eligibility for Examination."

MOCK CSR: JUNE 21, 2014, 8 AM – 2 PM

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- Q&A Panel of Professionals from all aspects of our great profession to answer questions.
- Vendor exhibition of products and services.
- Lunch provided

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Moreno Valley, CA 92557-6720

Central: Sierra Valley Business College
4747 North First Street, Ste. D
Fresno, CA 93726-0517

Northern: Golden State College of
Court Reporting and Captioning
7901 Stoneridge Dr., Ste. 105
Pleasanton, CA 94588

REGISTRATION FEE

- \$35 for CCRA Student Member/\$55 Non-Member (includes new 1-year membership)
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FIFTH GRADE MOCK TRIALS

By Shivaneer Sujata

Seeing the 5th graders perform at the San Joaquin Superior Courthouse mock trial was fascinating. When I was in the 5th grade, I did not get this opportunity. In fact, when I was in the 5th grade, I did not know what a court reporter was. I did not know what their function in the courtroom was, nor did I know why they were so important. I thought a court reporter was like a news reporter.

I was not introduced to my chosen profession until it was mentioned by a teacher in my senior year of high school.

It's really great that kids are able to interact with different career choices at such a young age. It's even better that they can pursue them when they are older. I felt very proud



to represent as a Court Reporter. It felt good answering the 5th graders questions. One question that a 5th grader asked me was, "How do you know what letter is on the key?" I responded, "Court reporting is a specialized career. You go to school and learn what each letter is on the key. It's a whole new language. "

They were really amazed that a person can write everything that's said. Court reporters' skills are definitely something to boast about, and I find myself doing that when asked about my career. The 5th graders' mock trial was a great experience for me because I felt good sharing what court reporters do.

SAGE COLLEGE OPEN HOUSE

By Robin Casey

I had the privilege of representing CCRA at an open house held by Sage College on Saturday, March 29, 2014, at their San Diego campus.

Sage College graciously opens their doors and hosts NCRA testing three times per year, but the open house provided a glimpse into school life offered at the campus. In addition to doing a four-voice dictation demonstration, there were court reporting vendors in attendance. Representatives from the Deposition Reporters Association (DRA) and the San Diego Superior Court Reporters Association (SDSCRA) were also present to share information about their organizations and answer many questions about the future of our profession.

It was very refreshing to meet current and prospective court reporting students. There were even students who were awaiting the opportunity to take and pass the Certified Short-hand Reporter (CSR) examination and begin their careers.

After years of sitting in the courtroom day after day, it is easy to forget how exciting our profession really is and the many opportunities it presents. I actually left the open house feeling uplifted and optimistic about the future of our profession.

I shared with those in attendance the many programs and opportunities CCRA offers:

- Each One Reach One mentoring
- \$500 scholarship given out twice/year
- Sponsor a student to the annual CCRA convention
- A complete student track at our conventions, including a mock CSR & WKT
- Sponsor a student membership to CCRA
- Articles published in "CCRA Online"
- Free online dictation
- Free online practice WKT exams
- BOOT CAMP

Several current students signed up for the mentoring program, and many also signed up to win a free CCRA student membership.

The open house was a great success to all stakeholders in the court reporting profession.



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CART IS A PURPOSE-DRIVEN GIFT TO THE WORLD

By Saba McKinley, CSR, RPR

I have been providing CART services since 2010. I had no idea how fulfilling this work experience would be in my life. When I started it was simply to see what it would be like to work in a classroom environment, but it quickly became more than merely a way to produce income for my needs and my family's needs.

One of the students I worked with early on was from another country. So imagine, she was a person with a severe hearing loss and English was not her first language. She found it best to sit directly in front of the professor so that she could lip-read, and she wanted me sitting right next to her so she could ask me to explain some of the English words that she did not understand. She was so grateful for my assistance that she bought a beautiful scarf as a gift for me on the last day of service.

Another colleague shared a story about her experience with a student whereby the student at the end of the term brought all of the notes he had received throughout the term, dropped them on her desk, and told her that is why he passed the course. He thanked and expressed his sincere appreciation for her service.

Engage in conversation with anyone who has used this wonderful skill set of realtime stenographic reporting to provide CART services, and I can assure you each one can share a similar story.

If you have a zest for learning, providing CART in the educational setting is also rewarding in that you gain knowledge and get paid. What could be better?

It has now become my life's mission to bring awareness to students and professionals in this field, and anyone else who cares to listen, about the growing demand for this service. To that end I have written a book, been selected to be part of the CART COI (Community of Interest) Committee with NCRA, am a member of the Board of Directors for CCRA, and, lastly, I am now offering training on how to get into the field.

It is through my speaking opportunities and training that I have noticed a common thread. People who are drawn to and love providing CART services feel that this is their purpose-driven gift to the world.

If you, too, would like to learn how you can use your stenographic skill set to serve a greater purpose in the world, or, you simply want to be more marketable in the industry, now may be the time to explore CART as a career choice. At CCRA's 104th Annual Convention October 3-5, 2014, at the beautiful Miramonte Resort in Spa in Indian Wells, California, a full track of CART and Captioning classes will be offered.

If you are interested in a more intimate setting and more personalized attention, you can follow me on my Facebook Group, Divinescripts, where I post upcoming workshops and any and all things CART specific and some other fun facts and inspiration. Go to Facebook, under Groups, type in Divinescripts.

Remember, you can do what you love and get paid for it. What a concept, huh?

Happy CARTing!

BEST COBBLER EVER

By Gerie Bunch

Filling:

3 cups fruit of your choice, cut into bite-sized pieces
1/2 - 3/4 c. sugar
1/4 c. tapioca

Topping:

1/2 c. sugar
1 c. flour
1 egg, beaten
1/4 tsp. salt
5 tbsp. melted butter.

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350. Spray pan or dish with non-stick spray. Mix together 1/2 to 3/4 c. sugar, tapioca and fruit; place in pan.

Mix together 1/2 c. sugar, flour and salt until it starts to stick together and then make nice crumbles. Sprinkle/spread over the top of your fruit. Then drizzle with melted butter.

Bake for 45 minutes. Serve with vanilla ice cream or whipped cream.



COURT REPORTING IN AUSTRALIA

By Shivaneer Sujata

What is required to be hired as a CR in Australia?

- There are very few requirements to be hired as a court reporter in Australia. Most firms and jobs give you specific procedural trainings. The only requirement that is needed so you can work as a machine shorthand reporter in Australia is to have completed a course in machine shorthand.

In what areas of the judicial system are CRs hired?

- In the judicial system in Australia the court reporter is a government employee on fixed salary, conditions, and working hours. The ladder of the judicial system in Australia starts with the High Court of Australia. To work at the High Court of Australia one must be an Australian citizen to be eligible for employment. A background check and medical exam are also required.

- The other federal courts are the Federal Court of Australia, the Family Court of Australia, and the Federal Magistrates Court of Australia. Australian state and territory courts have jurisdiction in all matters brought under state or territory laws. Each state and territory court system operates independently.
- Courts known as 'district' or 'county' courts hear the more serious cases. Lesser offenses are dealt with in lower courts, known as local or magistrate courts (or courts of petty sessions). In Australian courts, like in the judicial system of the United States, evidence is reported verbatim.
- Unlike California, there is no death penalty in Australia.
- In Hansard, the working hours depend on the sittings of Parliament. Hansard is the name given to the edited transcripts of debates in the Senate, House of Representatives, Federation Chamber and parliamentary committees. They are published shortly after the chamber or committee proceedings have concluded.
- In the parliaments, the official record is an edited version of the parliamentary proceedings. The editing is performed by court reporters who have excellent language skills, as well as high-speed shorthand skills.

Are CRs freelancers or hired by the country/province (whatever it is there)?

- Machine shorthand reporters in Australia often work for the state, territory and federal governments. Job opportunities depend on the number of courts in operation and the length of time that the courts and parliament are in session.
- Some machine shorthand reporters work for private contracting firms or are self-employed. They may also find jobs reporting the proceedings at tribunals, conventions, conferences, and in medical services.

What are salaries for reporters there? Do they all earn salaries? Benefits?

- Victorian Government Reporting Service is similar to a court reporting firm here in the US. They offer a salary to their court reporters ranging from \$67,557 to \$81,738, plus superannuation, which is the arrangement that is made in Australia to have funds available in retirement.
- A Hansard Parliamentary Reporter is offered a total remuneration package of \$104,338 per year, or it can range from \$82,653 to \$94,552, plus superannuation and leave loading.
- Hansard Reporter offers a salary of \$59,236 to \$72,832, plus superannuation and incidentals.

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COURT REPORTING IN AUSTRALIA
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

- Parliament of New South Wales offers a salary of \$82,653.00 to \$94,552.00, plus superannuation and annual leave loading.
- Annual leave loading is an additional payment employees receive when taking paid annual leave. An incidental is an employment benefit given in addition to one’s salary.

Are reporters doing real time there?

- Yes, reporters are doing real time in Australia.
- Red Bee Media is a well-known agency in Australia. Red Bee Media is similar to court reporting firms in the United States.

Red Bee Media recruits freelance real time stenographers to work in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, and Perth offices. The requirement for freelance real time stenographers are: Ability to write steno-machine shorthand at minimum speeds of 180 wpm, a conflict-free stenotype theory and dictionary, ability to work under pressure, a flexible approach to work hours. Freelance real time stenographers are provided with an on-the-job training.

Are there schools there?

- Yes. One of the most popular schools in Australia is The National College of Court Reporting which offers a machine shorthand course. Their requirement for entry is completion of Year 12 with English and good keyboard

skills. Their program admits those who seek careers as Court or Parliamentary Reporters, Television Captioners, CART Reporting for the hearing-impaired, or who wish to use machine shorthand as a reporting skill for rapid data entry in the medical professions and in the business world.

Their program is divided into three units of study. On average, each unit takes 500 hours of study/keyboard practice to complete, that is, 10 hours per week for 50 weeks. Unit one covers the theory of a real time machine shorthand system including writing principles and transcription techniques and dictation at a minimum speed of 80 words per minute. Unit two improves a student’s language use and vocabulary development and extends dictation to a minimum speed of 150 words per minute. Unit three further improves a student’s language use, vocabulary development, and personal dictionary while extending dictation to a minimum speed of 200 words per minute.

What is the job outlook?

- Over the five years to November 2017, the number of job openings for Keyboard Operators (machine shorthand reporters) in Australia is expected to be above average (between 25,001 and 50,000). Job openings can arise from employment growth and people leaving the occupation.
- The chart below shows the job outlook in Australia.

INDICATOR	LEVEL	DECILE
How many workers are employed in this occupation?	55,000	9
How many work full-time (% share)?	61.4	3
What are the weekly earnings for full-time workers (\$ before tax)?	950	3
How does unemployment compare with other occupations?	Average	5
What has been the long-term employment growth - 10 years (%)?	46.1	1
What will be the level of future job openings?	Above Average	8



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STUDENT HIGHLIGHT: ANNABEL VALDEZ

by Kristi Garcia, CCRA Immediate Past President
and member of the Support Our Students Committee

*Annabel Valdez is currently enrolled as a student
at Sierra Valley College in Fresno, California.*

KG: Annabel, what made you decide to choose a career in court reporting?

AV: Actually, I had a friend who, in 2001, was in court reporting school. Since she lives in Porterville she kept wanting me to come with her, be a carpool buddy. No, no, not at that time. Many years later I worked at a credit union and she kept coming in there showing me her paychecks and said, "They're in high demand, Annabel. You would be great for this." I was going through a rough time. I thought, "You know what? I'm going to start a new chapter in my life. Let's just do it." So I started court reporting school at 31.

KG: Did you research public school versus private school before you chose Sierra Valley College?

AV: I didn't personally. I had called another school. They told me at that time they had an online course. I thought, "That's not for me." So my friend said, "Go to my school." I thought, "Let's just do it." And I set up an appointment.

KG: So your friend was a court reporter and encouraged you?

AV: She is now. She graduated in 2001. She kept telling me go to the school she went to. They are great there. And so that's why I came here.

KG: When did you begin Sierra Valley College?

AV: I started in January of 2011. And currently I'm in my 160's.

KG: What would you say has been the most challenging during your schooling?

AV: I'm going to say English is very challenging. It's very different from the English that I'm accustomed. This is completely different. That's been a challenge for me. And life. Life happened to me last year, but what can you do?

I don't work because, thank God, I have a very supportive family. I live with my parents. And I have five children myself. But they said, "As long as you finish this career, we're going to help you in every which way 150 percent. So you just give it your all." And that's exactly what I do. They help me with everything. If it weren't for them, this would not be possible. I'm a single mom with five kids. And, unfortunately, I did lose my mom last year to lung cancer. So now my dad helps me out financially. I take care of him. He scratches my back; I scratch his back.

KG: Do you have a mentor? Did you know CCRA offers to match up a student with a working court reporter?

AV: Actually, I did know. And on Facebook. I'm under the Facebook with CCRA, I believe it is, so I just go on there. Any questions that I have or any time I want to vent, I'll go

on there and I'll vent.

As far as a personal court reporter as a mentor, I don't. But the students that have just recently graduated and became certified court reporters, I'm constantly in contact with them. Because it's so recent with them, I feel like they understand the frustration or any little milestone, like, I got my first pass. That's who I go to. They are my go to people right now. Even though family is supportive and the teachers are supportive here, too, it's not the same. It's not the same as talking to a student that knows exactly what you are going through. Only a court reporter knows what we're going through. And the teachers will be there and say, "You know, you can do it. We have faith in you." I believe what they are saying. But at that time I don't want to believe what they are telling me. I want to hear it from a student to say, "Annabel, I was right there, but look at me now."

120 was my plateau. The 160's this past couple weeks has been very challenging for me, but this is a new quarter.

KG: What area of court reporting do you see yourself in after achieving your CSR? CART? Captioning? Depositions? Court?

AV: I want to try depositions first, but I would really like to go into the court system. But depositions is really what I would like. Even though my kids are all older now, I still have my dad to take care of. And they are really my main priority.

Last week was a hectic week for me, because in between classes I'm sitting down in my car and trying to do all of my dad's paperwork. He's self-employed. And then oh, my gosh, it's time to go back to class. I have to set my mind in dad work mode and then I have to get back into class and put my fingers to work. Last week was hectic, but this week seems a little easier. I've been in school three years this January.

I don't have much time to practice at home. I get up at 4:15 to make it to school. I carpool with one of the teachers here. It's an hour and 25 minutes each way. So I wait for her to finish up teaching. I live in Porterville. She lives in Lindsay. So that extra hour I wait after school I hook up in the CAT room. And I've cleaned up my writing just by being hooked up that extra hour every single day. Last quarter I saw this huge difference. And sometimes when I do feel frustrated I have to remember, I may not be close in passing 160, but at least in CAT my writing is cleaner. When I first started practicing in CAT last quarter I was spending forever to clean it up and editing. And everything now it's just so much easier.

KG: Thank you, Annabel, for taking the time to talk with me. I'm infringing on your after school CAT time.

EDUCATOR HIGHLIGHT: KARLA DAY

by Kristi Garcia, CCRA Immediate Past President
and member of the Support Our Students Committee

*Karla Day is currently a teacher at
Sierra Valley College.*

KG: How did you decide to become a teacher at a court reporting school?

KD: As you know, I was a court reporter at Fresno Superior Court. And I developed tendinitis. It got to the point where I just wasn't physically able to work. So by the time I went through all of the doctor visits and all of that disability, it was recommended to me that I come to the court reporting school and possibly teach.

And so I came to see Mr. Goodpastor, the owner of Sierra Valley College. I didn't know what else I was going to do. I'm the first court reporter that he had on staff. So even though I told him what my story was and that I would not hide that from the students, I thought, "Okay. I can do this." So I've been here since 2002. 12 years.

KG: When did you start your career as a court reporter?

KD: I got my license in 1989. I freelanced my first year. I worked for a deposition firm. She was an official in Tulare County, which is where I started working. And she opened up a firm. So she went out and did depositions so she could do her PR, and I covered her court. I did a lot of work down in Bakersfield, Kern County. That's where she had her connections. And then I'd fill in for her.

And I had been to Fresno and made connections. So when things had slowed down in Tulare County, which, as you know, it always does, I reconnected with Fresno. And at that point they had three positions open. That's when I started to work for Judge Sarkisian. I had to retire under a medical disability, but the school has been good in the sense being a student and then a reporter and then coming back as a teacher. It has been full circle for me as far as court reporting. So I've been involved in court reporting since 1978 in one way or the other.

I have a story to tell now. And then what's hard to believe is I only reported 12 years total. So now I've been out of reporting as long as I was in it at this point. So in some ways I feel a little archaic. I teach theory. They start out on the manual machines. And so when I tell them that I worked my first year on that kind of machine, they just kind of look at me. And I said that's just what the technology was. I took a typewriter with me to the CSR exam. They are so young. Gosh. Either that or I'm just that old.

I'm here until 3:30 every day. I counsel with students in addition to the classes I teach. A lot of times it has to do with just where they are in the program, if they have any questions or problems. I usually have suggestions for them about how to practice, what to do as far as working briefs, you know, needing to really know those. Always encouraging how much they should practice at home and how important transcription is. For most of our students, because they are working and have families, I always try to get them to balance that all out. Because you do see burnout, as you know.

I'm also involved with the students that are qualifying, so we read the qualifier once a week. And then I'm the one that determines whether a transcript is a pass or not. So it goes to the instructor. If it's a potential pass, they look at it. And then it comes to me for a final grade and just make sure that all of their T's are crossed and their I's are dotted. And I'm the supervisor, basically, for the instructors, just making sure that they have their lesson plans ready to go. I'm a substitute teacher. I'm the paperclip fairy. Many hats.

We also have created the tests for the realtime examinations for Fresno County Superior Court. I go to the CSR exams with Mr. Goodpastor. And I help read the warm-up for the students and just make sure that I get them from Point A to Point B. So, again, another hat. I dry the tears, all of that good stuff. Really different to be on this side than to be a student. I've been doing that now for five or six years as well. Just kind of whatever needs to be done. I think really I've taught every speed class there is and two kinds of theory. So I've seen a lot of students, a lot of faces in the 12 years that I've been here. Some staff have come and gone. Also, we have two others CSRs on staff.

Sometimes the students have trouble getting apprenticeship hours for depositions. And the school policy used to be a 20/20 split. It was 40 hours total: 20 in court, 20 in depositions. They had to change that because they couldn't get the depo hours. We always encourage them to have a mentor, to make connections. We always tell them they have to do five hours just observation at different points in the program. And then when they get into 200, they have to do the 40 where they actually take the machines. And we try to give them as much information about how to dress professionally, be on time and networking, because it's kind of like a preemployment interview. We know that some of our students have been able to secure employment because they sat with a person or they knew someone, which I think is true in any industry.

It's amazing to me. I think sometimes how young the students really seem to be and some of the things that they don't

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EDUCATOR HIGHLIGHT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

know. You know, the things that the school teaches them is to get through that test. They learn the machine. They build the speed. We have several English classes. We have the two medical classes. Our law class is taught by an attorney. And we even started a review class that split over the week; it's two days of law and then three days of English. Because once they get the academics done and they're still working on speed building, they have been out of the academics for a year, or whatever it is. We set up this review class and put the upper speeds back into that class because they just set those books aside. They don't realize how important that is. If you don't use it, you'll lose it.

We stress reading. Our vocabulary teacher at this point is always stressing that they need to read. And, of course, when we are doing the dictation, if something comes up, I tell them, "Could be a vocabulary word on the CSR."

One of the things the school has done since I've been here is incorporate more of the CAT classes. Because it used to be they waited until they were in the upper speeds and then they split between the fourvoice in the afternoon and then a CAT class. And for probably four or five years now, at least there is a regular academic class that is a CAT class. They are constantly given jobs to do, so they work on the captioning. They work on include files. They know how to do a cert page. They know how to set up polling of a jury. And it's all transcripts we get from court reporters, whatever we could possibly incorporate to the students that they don't normally get. They need to have that information. It isn't necessarily something we would dictate to them in their fourvoice class, but they need to see the transcripts. And they need to see how that's done. I think that's one of the best things we could have done for the students is incorporate CAT on a more full time level. And then get them back into it at a certain point to review.

And then because we have switched to a theory that is conflict free, that's extended out the length of theory. It's tedious sometimes at best for the students. But we just try to tell them, the big picture is that at a certain point if you learn it now that you won't have to discern those conflicts later on. That's been a big change for us as well.

KG: How do you encourage students when they are struggling?

KD: Because we have a small student body compared to some of the bigger schools, the staff is really good. They are always able to talk to the teachers. Sometimes there's even a classroom discussion about how to stay as positive as you can be. Our

director is really good with the students. And he came from a court school background. I mean, he's got an English degree and he teaches English I. I am here all the time. We always encourage them to come see me. We do that from orientation day. We do meet with students, like I said earlier. I have a list of 38 students to see this quarter. And so when I talk to them it is from the practical side of practicing and transcribing and knowing briefs, but it is about remembering why they are here, recognizing their accomplishment, what they have already achieved at this point. And I see a variety of students. I could see someone who needs to be out of their 80's or someone who needs to qualify, telling them to envision themselves as a court reporter. Even if you want to write down this is where I want to work, this is what I want to achieve, this is what it looks like.

I think because we do counsel with them on a yearly basis but, like I said, because you are really involved with the students. The classes are small, and you can tell. And they don't have any problems in you could see the frustration sometimes in their transcripts. Sometimes if they are out for a few days and it's like, what's going on? So I think we have a good rapport with our students.

At this point we have three certified court reporters on staff. One of the teachers let her license lapse when she stopped to have kids. She's been here about three years now, I think. And when she got here just as a reader she went back through and studied her English and her law and her medical. She bought a new machine. When we had a rotation where she could sit in fourvoice in the afternoons, she'd record all the classes. She'd lap write when we were sitting in fourvoice if she didn't have to talk. She went back. She got her license. So for the students that was really encouraging for them, because they saw her working. Not just at the job, but the time that she had to put into it to go back. And it just was they were all so excited for her when she was able to get her license.

The thing is, working at the school has been you know, it could be frustrating. You share with the students their frustrations and their lows, but there are victories as well. We're always so excited when they get third passes and get to go on or when they do go to the CSR. And anytime we call someone to tell them they passed a qualifier, we're all on the phone congratulating them. We do try to be really as positive as we can.

I really feel like from my perspective personally the 12 years I've been here, if I could help one person get through the program and get out there and be a reporter, then that just makes me feel really good. And I've really enjoyed that. For me it's full circle.



ZEN AND THE ART OF TRAFFIC

TEN TIPS TO BETTER COMMUTING

By Christy Cannariato, Secretary-Treasurer

Freelancers from all over the state routinely factor in drive time when deciding which job offers to accept. But in metro areas especially, distance is discussed in terms of time to destination rather than miles. For example, “How far is the airport?” 75 minutes. It may be only 20 miles, but that metric is irrelevant in heavy traffic areas.

Have you ever accepted a job “in Los Angeles,” even checked a map first before accepting, only to learn later that you basically can’t get there from here without hating your life due to traffic? Some reporters elect to drive 50 miles one way to places that are against traffic rather than accept a job 20 miles away in the opposite direction if it means having to endure bumper-to-bumper traffic.

To many calendar assignment representatives who do not live and drive here, our geographic prohibitions seem nonsensical. “Wait, you will drive to Century City but not to Santa Monica? But it’s only six more miles! C’mon, Google says it will only take thirteen minutes!” First, non-Angeleno, Google lies. Secondly, those can be twelve excruciating, soul-sucking round-trip miles.

I know several reporters who have opted out of traffic altogether. They moved downtown, accept only downtown assignments, and walk or take a short bus ride to their jobs.

But maybe you do not have the luxury of turning down work. Or maybe you are new to commuting entirely and feel you cannot possibly work this way the rest of your life. Maybe you would like to accept lucrative work in, say, Los Angeles or San Francisco but fear that you will hate your life due to traffic. Or maybe you have heard that a Swedish study found marriages are 40% more likely to break up if one partner commutes more than 45 minutes per day.

Since you cannot change traffic, cannot opt out of it to

sustain the living you want, then change your attitude. Find the bright side of your commute. Most importantly, do not view your commute as a goal-oriented activity. When you do, traffic stands between you and your goal; therefore, the time you are sitting in traffic cannot be viewed as anything other than a waste of precious time.

Instead, view the span of time as a gift. After all, if you were home already, you would be cooking dinner, doing the laundry, reading the mail, working on that rough draft, and listening to your spouse drone on endlessly about how bad the traffic was today.

Try some of these tips:

- Embrace your drive time as personal “me” time. What other time of your waking day do you get 90 minutes or more where you are not expected to juggle six different things and can instead slow down and think and escape demanding human voices, especially after a long day of listening intently?
- Give yourself plenty of time. Calculate a generous amount of time to your destination. Now add 15 minutes. Pick a route that is fairly consistent in terms of time. Personally, I prefer bumper-to-bumper freeway traffic that is theoretically traveling in the same direction. The frustrated people on surface streets who block intersections and run red lights cause me undue stress. Check the traffic on your route before starting out using an app (like Waze) or listen to the radio, then stick to that route rather than try to game the system for the quickest route or the quickest lane that day that invariably will save only a few minutes but will shorten your lifespan.
- Create the perfect environment. Invest in a comfortable car that you love, one that brings a little smile to your face when you are walking toward it in the parking lot. My must-haves are a great stereo, very adjustable driver’s

seat, and air conditioning to block out exhaust and noise. But maybe you're a convertible kind of person, and the wind in your hair is your happy place. You spend a very big chunk of your life in this car. You deserve to be comfortable.

- Stock your car with your favorite (nonalcoholic) beverage and snack. Hunger and thirst makes for grumpy traveling and makes time to destination seem far longer.
- Create a playlist of music that makes you happy, or relaxed, or energetic, or whatever mood you want. Perhaps listen to audiobooks and get super smart or get transported to another time or place by listening to a great novel (nineteenth-century novels will improve your vocabulary). I subscribe to a music service. The night before a commute I download a few new albums from various genres to my queue that I play on my phone through my car speakers via wireless Bluetooth. I have discovered a lot of great music this way.
- Breathe deeply. When you are stressed, you breathe shallowly. So while driving, concentrate on breathing deeply from your diaphragm, in through the nose, slowly out through the mouth. It is amazing the benefits of deep breathing exercises. Also amazing how smiling, even at nothing, changes brain chemistry to make you feel happier.

- Avoid talking on the phone if that distracts or distresses you. But maybe you are a very social person, and having a long chat with a friend is what will pass the time and recharge your batteries and make you forget the chaos out your window. Beware, though, of distractions. No texting! Illegal and dangerous. No text you could possibly write or read is important enough to risk a catastrophic collision.
- Use that time to think. Some people come up with their best ideas in the shower. Mine come while driving. I have an audio recorder app on my phone to record voice memos to capture those brilliant, change-the-world ideas of mine.
- Exercise. Stretch your wrists, roll your shoulders and neck, do jaw exercises to stave off that double chin, do ab crunches, clench and release several other muscle groups. Arrive stretched and toned.
- Create a little bubble of oblivion. Pay attention to avoid collisions, of course, and drive purposely and defensively, but do not focus on the actions and facial expressions and gestures of others. If they cut you off, brake and shrug. You are in your own private oblivion. You are not the sheriff. It is not your job to police and control the driving habits of others nor teach the world a lesson in etiquette. Let it go. Breathe deeply and smile.

I THOUGHT I WAS DONE TAKING TESTS?!?

By Jesse Pickelsimer

Hello, fellow reporters! Now that I have a WHOLE couple of months under my belt as a brand new reporter, I'm happy to report that I am totally loving my chosen profession! It is everything I could have ever imagined, multiplied by ten! It truly makes all of those years that it took me to get through school and to pass the CSR so much more rewarding and fulfilling.

I have met some really wonderful people so far, from Superior Court judges to some really fantastic attorneys to other reporters that I've come across out in the field. I even bumped into somebody I went to court reporting school with, but she has already been working a couple of years. I commented how she was glowing and seemed so happy. She said it's because she loves her career so much too.

So we started having a conversation and talked about the different types of jobs she's getting from her agency. In last month's article I touched on how there are so many different types of jobs, and she also confirmed that.

Then we started talking about how nothing is as hard as passing a qualifier at school and then passing the CSR. There's just something about the word "test" that seems

to freak people out. Thankfully, I was able to finally work through that myself.

Anyway, I made a comment about how glad I am that I never have to take that test again and to have passed that milestone. Then she said something that really made a huge impact on me. She said, "You know, Jess. I really think you should go take the RPR exam in May." I said, "Are you crazy?!? I just finished taking a huge test," and then let out a big sigh. She said, "Sorry. Vacation's over, buddy."

Now, of course, we all know this, but she reminded me how important it is to constantly hone your skills and to push yourself to do better. I knew she was right. None of us can rest on our laurels. That's how you become stagnant, and that doesn't benefit anyone.

So here I am, sitting at home, writing this article while I'm taking a short break from practicing 240 Q&A because now I'm going to the RPR exam in May. Somehow my friend talked me into going already. Ugh. Of course, I have dived headfirst into this and I am applying myself completely, but I thought I was done taking tests! Wish me luck, and I hope to see some of you there next month!



FROM THE CAPITOL: INTERVIEW WITH INA LEBLANC

By Candy Newland

What brought you to court reporting?

My mom was an English teacher, and I loved English and spelling. I also loved the legal system. Court reporting provides a front-row seat to individuals who enjoy observing life (those with voyeuristic tendencies) while keeping their hands clean.

How long have you been a court reporter?

Since July 1985. 28+ years.

How long have you been with the California State Legislature?

I have been with the California State Legislature, Senate Rules Committee, since December 2008. Prior to that time, I was a

freelance deposition reporter.

What do you like most about your job?

The variability and the environment.

What has been one of your most memorable moments in reporting?

Traveling to Paris to report a deposition.

Do you have any suggestions about how to balance work and home life?

Don't take yourself too seriously, try to remain flexible, and schedule weekly stay-home-alone nights.

How long did it take you to get through school? Did you have a job while in school? Kids?

Court reporting school was the most difficult thing I've ever done. It took three years to complete. I don't have children, so I didn't have that responsibility. I taught a couple classes at the court reporting school, but going to school was my full-time job with deferred compensation.

Do you think it's important to attend seminars and stay current with the times?

Definitely. As far as the court reporting profession, I think it's a must. However, when it comes to social media, I'm a dinosaur. Not ready to participate!

How do you keep your concentration while writing?

I keep my eyes on an inanimate object. I sometimes get distracted when looking at someone's mouth when they're speaking, but I ALWAYS have that option available.

Are you ever nervous before or during a hearing? If so, how do you tackle those challenges?

I wouldn't say I get nervous. After years of reporting, I know work days always end. Hearing in some committee rooms in the Capitol can be challenging, so I will ask people to speak up or slow down, if necessary.

What is your workload?

I am very fortunate. My job with the Senate is 9:00-5:00, Monday through Friday, and I am able to complete my work during normal work hours. Occasionally, hearings will go past 5:00, and I may proofread transcripts on weekends.

Do you love what you do?

Absolutely! I am the only court reporter in the Capitol.

If you had it to do all over again, would you choose this career?

Definitely. Court reporting has been a great career for me. I liked the flexibility when freelancing, and I now enjoy the stability of working for the Legislature.

JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

By Brooke Ryan

On Wednesday, March 12, I, on behalf of CCRA, attended the Joint Legislative Audit Committee (JLAC) hearing related to a request by Assemblyman Jones-Sawyer for an audit of the AOC. Many court employees and stakeholders were in attendance.

Below is the language of the Audit request.

AUDIT SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

The audit by the California State Auditor will provide independently developed and verified information related to the funds administered by the Judicial Council of California (Judicial Council) and the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- *Review and evaluate the laws, rules, and regulations significant to the audit objectives.*
- *Determine whether the Judicial Council and the AOC have complied with the key reforms contained in Senate Bill 1021 (Chapter 41, Statutes of 2012).*
- *Determine whether the AOC's methodology for determining its budget for administration and staffing is consistent with the best practices of one or more comparable-sized organizations.*
- *Determine the size and composition of the AOC's staff. Analyze whether staffing is appropriate for the AOC's mission. Determine whether reductions in trial court funding over the last three years have made any of the AOC's functions unnecessary. If so, assess whether the Judicial Branch of California (Judicial Branch) can re-direct funds for these AOC functions to trial court operations.*
- *Determine whether the Judicial Branch has any reserves, contingency funds, or any other set-asides that could be made available immediately for trial court operations.*
- *Review and assess any other issues that are significant to the audit.*

First Assemblyman Jones-Sawyer spoke, explaining the need for the audit. He believes the audit will be an effective tool in rebuilding trust between the stakeholders and the judicial branch. Next to speak was the State Auditor, Elaine Howle. She stated the audit findings would be completed within six to seven months.

Next to speak were the stakeholders.

First to speak in support was Judge Steve White, the president of the Alliance of California Judges. He spoke of the need for transparency. After him, a long line of supporters spoke. On behalf of CCRA, I expressed our support.

The public comments concluded with retired Third District Court of Appeal Presiding Judge Arthur Scotland. He suggested that the audit was not necessary, that the Judicial Council had a mechanism in place to address the above-stated objectives.

After the commentary period ended, it was time for a vote. All of the bipartisan committee members, five Assemblypersons and six Senators, voted unanimously in favor of the audit.

Now we will wait six to seven months for the findings. Once the findings are available, CCRA will read the report and summarize it for you. It should prove to be very interesting.

CCRA 2014 LEGISLATIVE TRACKING SHEET

AB 365

(Mullin D) Court reporting.

Current Text: Amended: 4/3/2013

Introduced: 2/14/2013

Last Amend: 4/3/2013

Last Reviewed: ccra24: 4/8/2013 9:55 AM

Status: 2/6/2014 – Referred to Coms. on JUD. and APPR.

Location: 2/6/2014-S. JUD.

Summary: Current law provides that the report of the official court reporter or official court reporter pro tempore, of any court, duly appointed and sworn, when transcribed and certified as being a correct transcript of the testimony and proceedings in the case, is prima facie evidence of that testimony and proceeding. The bill would make clarifying changes to those provisions.

AB 655

(Quirk-Silva D) Court reporters: salary fund.

Current Text: Amended: 6/14/2013

Introduced: 2/21/2013

Last Amend: 6/14/2013

Status: 8/30/2013 – Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a) (11). (Last location was APPR. on 6/25/2013)

Location: 8/30/2013-S. 2 YEAR

Summary: Existing law provides for the appointment of official reporters of the courts, and prescribes the fees and compensation for reporting services. Existing law requires the charge of an official court reporter fee, in addition to any other fee required in civil actions or cases, for the services of an official court reporter on the first and each succeeding judicial day those services are provided, as specified. Fees collected pursuant to this provision may be used only to pay for services of an official court reporter in civil proceedings. This bill would authorize each trial court to establish a Reporters' Salary Fund for the payment of the salaries and benefits of official reporters, as specified. This bill contains other existing laws.

AB 788

(Wagner R) Court transcripts.

Current Text: Amended: 6/24/2013

Introduced: 2/21/2013

Last Amend: 6/24/2013

Status: 7/12/2013 – Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a) (10)(SEN). (Last location was JUD. on 6/24/2013)

Location: 7/12/2013-S. 2 YEAR

Summary: Existing law authorizes a superior court to appoint official reporters and prescribes the fees for their services. Existing law requires that transcripts prepared by a reporter using computer assistance and delivered on a medium other than paper be compensated at the same rate set for paper transcripts, except as specified. Existing law establishes certain fees for second copies of transcripts, as specified, including transcripts in computer-readable format. Existing law authorizes a court, party, or person who has purchased a transcript to reproduce a copy or portion thereof as an exhibit, pursuant to court order or rule, or for internal use, without paying a further fee to the reporter, but prohibits otherwise providing or selling a copy or copies to any other party or person. This bill would limit the reproduction provisions described above to computer-readable transcripts. This bill would additionally authorize, in the case of transcripts that are not computer-readable, the purchaser of a transcript to reproduce the transcript for internal use or in response to a request for discovery, a court order, rule, statute, or subpoena without paying a further fee to the reporter. The bill would also authorize, without paying a further fee to the reporter, but would prohibit otherwise providing or selling a copy or copies to any other party or person. Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

AB 1457

(Skinner D) Budget Act of 2014.

Current Text: Introduced: 1/9/2014

Introduced: 1/9/2014

Status: 1/10/2014 – From printer. May be heard in committee February 9.

Location: 1/9/2014-A. PRINT

Summary: This bill would make appropriations for the support of state government for the 2014-15 fiscal year. This bill contains other related provisions.

AB 1657

(Gomez D) Courts: interpreters.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/11/2014

Introduced: 2/11/2014

Status: 4/1/2014- In committee: Hearing postponed by committee.

Location: 2/20/2014-A. JUD.

Calendar: 4/22/2014 8 a.m. - State Capitol, Room 4202 ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY, WIECKOWSKI, Chair

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Summary: Would authorize the court to provide a court interpreter in any civil action or proceeding at no cost to the parties, regardless of the income of the parties. This bill contains other existing laws.

Summary: The California Constitution provides that a person unable to understand English who is charged with a crime has the right to an interpreter throughout the proceedings. Existing statutory law requires, in any civil or criminal action, as specified, a sign language interpreter to be appointed for a party or witness who is deaf or hearing-impaired and generally requires the payment of these court interpreters' fees to be a charge against the court. This bill would authorize the court to provide a court interpreter in any civil action or proceeding at no cost to the parties, regardless of the income of the parties. This bill contains other existing laws.

AB 1742

(Maienschein R) Trial court funding.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/14/2014

Introduced: 2/14/2014

Status: 2/18/2014 – From printer. May be heard in committee March 20.

Location: 2/14/2014-A. PRINT

Summary: Current law, for the purpose of funding trial court operations, authorizes the Judicial Council to establish bank accounts for the superior courts, into which shall be deposited all moneys appropriated in the Budget Act and allocated or reallocated to each court by the Judicial Council, moneys held in trust, and other moneys as deemed necessary or appropriate. "Court operations" is defined for these purposes. This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to the provision defining court operations.

Summary: Existing law establishes the Trial Court Trust Fund, the proceeds of which are required to be apportioned for authorized purposes, including apportionment to the trial courts to fund trial court operations. Existing law, for the purpose of funding trial court operations, authorizes the Judicial Council to establish bank accounts for the superior courts, into which shall be deposited all moneys appropriated in the Budget Act and allocated or reallocated to each court by the Judicial Council, moneys held in trust, and other moneys as deemed necessary or appropriate. "Court operations" is defined for these purposes. This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to the provision defining court operations.

AB 1773

(Allen R) Public contracts: courts.

Current Text: Amended: 3/13/2014

Introduced: 2/18/2014

Last Amend: 3/13/2014

Status: 4/9/2014 – From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 11. Noes 0.) (April 9). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 4/9/2014-A. APPR.

Summary: Current law requires the Judicial Council to provide two reports each year to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee and the State Auditor that provide information related to the procurement of contracts for the judicial branch. This bill would require the semiannual reports to include a list of all new contracts, the complete history of contracts amended during the reporting period, and other specified information about how and to whom the contract was let. The bill would also require the reports to be provided in an electronic format, as specified.

Summary: Existing law requires the Judicial Council to provide two reports each year to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee and the State Auditor that provide information related to the procurement of contracts for the judicial branch. This bill would require the semiannual reports to include a list of all new contracts, the complete history of contracts amended during the reporting period, and other specified information about how and to whom the contract was let. The bill would also require the reports to be provided in an electronic format, as specified.

AB 1900

(Quirk D) Victims of sex crimes: testimony: video recording.

Current Text: Amended: 3/27/2014

Introduced: 2/19/2014

Last Amend: 3/27/2014

Status: 4/10/2014 – Read second time. Ordered to consent calendar.

Location: 4/10/2014-A. CONSENT CALENDAR

Calendar: 4/21/2014 #100 ASSEMBLY CONSENT CALENDAR-FIRST LEGISLATIVE DAY ASSEMBLY MEASURES

Summary: Current law provides that when a defendant has been charged with certain sex crimes, including rape and sodomy, and the victim is a person 15 years of age or less or is developmentally disabled as a result of an intellectual disability, when the defendant has been charged with spousal rape or corporal injury resulting in a traumatic condition upon certain persons, or when the defendant is charged with certain sex crimes, including rape and sodomy, that are committed

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with or upon a person with a disability, the prosecution may apply for an order that the victim's testimony at the preliminary hearing be recorded and preserved on videotape. This bill would allow a court to use any means of video recording to comply with these recording and preservation requirements.

Summary: Existing law provides that when a defendant has been charged with certain sex crimes, including rape and sodomy, and the victim is a person 15 years of age or less or is developmentally disabled as a result of an intellectual disability, when the defendant has been charged with spousal rape or corporal injury resulting in a traumatic condition upon certain persons, or when the defendant is charged with certain sex crimes, including rape and sodomy, that are committed with or upon a person with a disability, the prosecution may apply for an order that the victim's testimony at the preliminary hearing be recorded and preserved on videotape. This bill would allow a court to use any means of video recording to comply with these recording and preservation requirements. This bill contains other existing laws.

AB 2006

(Wagner R) Depositions: video recordings.

Current Text: Amended: 4/2/2014

Introduced: 2/20/2014

Last Amend: 4/2/2014

Status: 4/3/2014 – Re-referred to Com. on JUD.

Location: 4/3/2014-A. JUD.

Calendar: 4/29/2014 8 a.m. - State Capitol, Room 4202
ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY, WIECKOWSKI, Chair

Summary: Current law prescribes the procedure for taking oral depositions inside the state, including the procedure for recording a deposition by means of audio or video technology. At the trial or any hearing in an action, current law authorizes the use of a deposition against a party for specified purposes. This bill would define "use of a deposition" to mean the use of a transcript or a video recording of the deposition testimony.

Summary: Existing law prescribes the procedure for taking oral depositions inside the state, including the procedure for recording a deposition by means of audio or video technology. At the trial or any hearing in an action, existing law authorizes the use of a deposition against a party for specified purposes. This bill would define "use of a deposition" to mean the use of a transcript or a video recording of the deposition testimony.

AB 2058

(Wilk R) Open meetings.

Current Text: Amended: 4/9/2014

Introduced: 2/20/2014

Last Amend: 4/9/2014

Status: 4/10/2014 – Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 4/10/2014-A. APPR.

Summary: The Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act requires that all meetings of a state body, as defined, be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate in any meeting of a state body, subject to certain conditions and exceptions. This bill would modify the definition of "state body" to exclude an advisory body with less than 3 individuals, except for certain standing committees. This bill contains other related provisions.

AB 2165

(Patterson R) Professions and vocations: licenses.

Current Text: Amended: 4/10/2014

Introduced: 2/20/2014

Last Amend: 4/10/2014

Status: 4/10/2014 – From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on B.,P. & C.P.
Read second time and amended.

Location: 4/10/2014-A. B.,P. & C.P.

Calendar: 4/22/2014 9 a.m. - State Capitol, Room 447
ASSEMBLY BUSINESS, PROFESSIONS AND CONSUMER
PROTECTION, BONILLA, Chair

Summary: Under current law, boards within the Department of Consumer Affairs license and regulate persons practicing various healing arts, professions, vocations, and businesses. This bill would require each board to complete within 45 days the application review process with respect to each person who has filed with the board an application for issuance of a license, and to issue, within that 45 days, a license to an applicant who successfully satisfied all licensure requirements.

Summary: Under existing law, boards within the Department of Consumer Affairs license and regulate persons practicing various healing arts, professions, vocations, and businesses. Existing law requires these boards to establish eligibility and application requirements, including examinations, to license, certificate, or register each applicant who successfully satisfies applicable requirements. This bill would require each board, as defined, to complete within 45 days the application review process with respect to each person who has filed with the board an application for issuance of a license, and to issue, within those 45 days, a license to an applicant who has successfully satisfied all licensure requirements, as specified. The bill would also require each board to offer each

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examination the board provides for licensure, a minimum of 6 times per year, unless the board uses a national examination. The bill would also authorize a person who has satisfied the educational requirements of the licensing act of which he or she seeks licensure to immediately apply for and take the professional examination required for licensure regardless of whether his or her application for licensure is then pending with the board for which he or she seeks licensure.

AB 2216

(Muratsuchi D) Regional occupational centers and programs: funding.

Current Text: Amended: 3/28/2014

Introduced: 2/20/2014

Last Amend: 3/28/2014

Status: 4/1/2014 – Re-referred to Com. on ED.

Location: 4/1/2014-A. ED.

Calendar: 4/30/2014 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 4202
ASSEMBLY EDUCATION, BUCHANAN, Chair

Summary: Would express findings and declarations regarding career technical education, and would require a regional occupational center or program established and maintained by local educational agencies or a joint powers authority, as specified, to receive an annual appropriation from the General Fund for purposes of providing high-quality career technical education services. The bill would require the appropriated funds to be apportioned directly to the regional occupational center or program based on a formula agreed upon by the local educational agencies participating in the regional occupational center or program.

Summary: Existing law authorizes the county superintendent of schools of each county, with the consent of the State Board of Education, to establish and maintain a regional occupational center, or regional occupational program, in the county to provide education and training in career technical courses. Existing law also authorizes the governing boards of any school district maintaining high schools in the county, with the consent of the state board and county superintendent of schools, to cooperate in the establishment and maintenance of a regional occupational center or program, except as specified, and authorizes the establishment and maintenance of a regional occupational center or program by 2 or more school districts to be undertaken pursuant to a joint powers authority. Existing law also requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to calculate a revenue limit for each regional occupational center or program, as specified, and requires the Superintendent to apportion funds to the regional occupational center or program based on that

calculation. This bill would express findings and declarations regarding career technical education, and would require a regional occupational center or program established and maintained by local educational agencies or a joint powers authority, as specified, to receive an annual appropriation from the General Fund for purposes of providing high-quality career technical education services. The bill would require the appropriated funds to be apportioned directly to the regional occupational center or program based on a formula agreed upon by the local educational agencies participating in the regional occupational center or program.

AB 2332

(Wieckowski D) Courts: personal services contracts.

Current Text: Amended: 4/10/2014

Introduced: 2/21/2014

Last Amend: 4/10/2014

Status: 4/10/2014 – Read second time and amended.

Location: 4/10/2014-A. APPR.

Summary: Would establish specified standards if a trial court intends to enter into a new contract, or renew or extend an existing contract, for any services that are currently or customarily performed by that trial court's employees or for court reporter services. Among other things, the bill would require the trial court to clearly demonstrate that the contract will result in actual overall cost savings to the trial court for the duration of the entire contract as compared with the trial court's actual costs of providing the same services.

Summary: The Trial Court Employment Protection and Governance Act establishes a trial court employee personnel system that provides authority to hire trial court personnel, regulates the classification and compensation of trial court employees, labor relations, and personnel files, and requires each trial court to establish a system of employment selection and advancement and an employment protection system. This bill would establish specified standards if a trial court intends to enter into a new contract, or renew or extend an existing contract, for any services that are currently or customarily performed by that trial court's employees or for court reporter services. Among other things, the bill would require the trial court to clearly demonstrate that the contract will result in actual overall cost savings to the trial court for the duration of the entire contract as compared with the trial court's actual costs of providing the same services. The bill would require a contract for services in excess of \$100,000 annually to include specific, measurable performance standards and provisions for audits on performance and cost savings, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

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AB 2397

(Frazier D) Criminal procedure: defendant's appearance by video.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/21/2014

Introduced: 2/21/2014

Status: 3/10/2014 – Referred to Com. on PUB. S.

Location: 3/10/2014-A. PUB. S.

Summary: Would, if the defendant is represented by counsel, provide that the attorney shall not be required to be personally present with the defendant for noncritical portions of the trial, if the audio video conferencing system or other technology allows for private communication between the defendant and the attorney. The bill would state that it does not expand or limit the right of a defendant to be personally present with his or her counsel at a particular proceeding as required by the California Constitution.

Summary: Existing law generally requires a defendant in a criminal trial in which a felony is charged to be present at the arraignment, at the time of plea, during the preliminary hearing, during those portions of the trial when evidence is taken before the trier of fact, and at the time of the imposition of sentence. Existing law requires the accused to be personally present at all other proceedings unless he or she executes a written waiver of his or her right to be personally present. Existing law authorizes a court to permit the initial court appearance and arraignment of a defendant held in any state, county, or local facility within the county on felony or misdemeanor charges, except for those defendants who were indicted by a grand jury, to be conducted by 2-way electronic audio video communication between the defendant and the courtroom in lieu of the physical presence of the defendant in the courtroom. Existing law requires the defendant to execute a written waiver if the defendant decides not to exercise the right to be physically present in the courtroom to make his or her plea. This bill would delete the requirement that the attorney be present in any county exceeding 4,000,000 persons in population. The bill would allow a court to require the appearance of a defendant held in any state, county, or local facility within the county on felony or misdemeanor charges to be conducted by 2-way electronic audio video communication between the defendant and the courtroom in lieu of the physical presence of the defendant in the courtroom for noncritical portions of the trial. The bill would require a defendant who wishes to be personally present for noncritical portions of trial to submit a written request to the court and would allow the court to grant the request in its discretion. The bill would, if the defendant is represented by counsel, provide that the attorney shall not be required to be personally present with the defendant for noncritical portions of the trial, if the audio video conferencing system or other

technology allows for private communication between the defendant and the attorney. The bill would state that it does not expand or limit the right of a defendant to be personally present with his or her counsel at a particular proceeding as required by the California Constitution. This bill contains other existing laws.

AB 2487

(Wagner R) Criminal procedure.

Current Text: Amended: 4/10/2014

Introduced: 2/21/2014

Last Amend: 4/10/2014

Status: 4/10/2014 – From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on PUB. S. Read second time and amended.

Location: 4/10/2014-A. PUB. S.

Calendar: 4/29/2014 9 a.m. - State Capitol, Room 126
ASSEMBLY PUBLIC SAFETY, AMMIANO, Chair

Summary: Current law authorizes the magistrate before whom the examination of a witness is had to order that the testimony and proceedings be taken down in shorthand, and to appoint a shorthand reporter for that purpose. This bill would instead require the reporter to transcribe his or her shorthand notes within 10 days following the close of examination, making originals and copies available, as specified, when a defendant is charged with homicide. In all other cases, the bill would require the reporter to transcribe his or her shorthand notes at the request of the defendant or the prosecution, within 10 days following that request, making originals and copies available, as specified.

Summary: Existing law requires the testimony of each witness in cases of homicide to be reduced to writing, as specified. In cases other than homicide cases, existing law requires the testimony of each witness be reduced to writing, as specified, at the request of either the defendant or the prosecution. Existing law authorizes the magistrate before whom the examination of a witness is had to order that the testimony and proceedings be taken down in shorthand, and to appoint a shorthand reporter for that purpose. Existing law requires that deposition or witness testimony to be authenticated, as specified. This bill would instead require the reporter to transcribe his or her shorthand notes within 10 days following the close of examination, making originals and copies available, as specified, when a defendant is charged with homicide. In all other cases, the bill would require the reporter to transcribe his or her shorthand notes at the request of the defendant or the prosecution, within 10 days following that request, making originals and copies available, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

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AB 2745

(Committee on Judiciary) Courts.

Current Text: Introduced: 3/4/2014

Introduced: 3/4/2014

Status: 4/8/2014 – From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 10. Noes 0.) (April 8). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 4/8/2014-A. APPR.

Summary: Current law requires a court-ordered family centered case resolution plan to conform with due process requirements and authorizes the plan to include, among other things, an early neutral case evaluation and alternative dispute resolution, as specified. Current law requires the Judicial Council to adopt a statewide rule of court to implement these provisions by January 1, 2012, and also authorizes the council, by rule, to modify the procedures described above. This bill would instead authorize the Judicial Council, by rule, to increase the procedures described above.

Summary: Existing law authorizes courts to order a family centered case resolution to provide judicial assistance and management to parties in actions for dissolution of marriage. Existing law requires a court-ordered family centered case resolution plan to conform with due process requirements and authorizes the plan to include, among other things, an early neutral case evaluation and alternative dispute resolution, as specified. Existing law requires the Judicial Council to adopt a statewide rule of court to implement these provisions by January 1, 2012, and also authorizes the council, by rule, to modify the procedures described above. This bill would instead authorize the Judicial Council, by rule, to increase the procedures described above. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

SB 315

(Lieu D) Civil actions: telephonic appearances.

Current Text: Amended: 4/30/2013

Introduced: 2/15/2013

Last Amend: 4/30/2013

Status: 8/16/2013 – Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a) (10)(ASM). (Last location was JUD. on 7/2/2013)

Location: 8/16/2013-A. 2 YEAR

Summary: Existing law provides that courts should, to the extent feasible, permit parties to appear by telephone at appropriate conferences, hearings, and proceedings in civil cases to improve access to the courts and reduce litigation

costs. Existing law permits a party to make appearances by telephone at specified conferences, hearings, and proceedings. This bill would expand the circumstances under which a party may appear by telephone to include all conferences, hearings, and proceedings except a trial and a trial readiness conference.

SB 794

(Evans D) Juries: criminal trials: peremptory challenges.

Current Text: Amended: 1/21/2014

Introduced: 2/22/2013

Last Amend: 1/21/2014

Status: 1/28/2014 – In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk.

Location: 1/28/2014-A. DESK

Summary: Would, until January 1, 2017, recast specified provisions to apply to a criminal case in which the offense charged is punishable with a maximum term of imprisonment for one year or less. The bill would provide that in that instance the defendant and the state would each be allowed 5 peremptory challenges of prospective jurors. The bill would, until January 1, 2017, provide that if 2 or more defendants are jointly tried for an offense punishable with a maximum term of one year or less, their challenges would be exercised jointly, but each defendant would also be entitled to 2 additional challenges which may be exercised separately, and the state would also be entitled to 2 additional challenges.

Summary: Existing law provides that in a criminal case, if the offense charged is punishable with a maximum term of imprisonment of 90 days or less, the defendant and the state are each entitled to 6 peremptory challenges of prospective jurors. Existing law also provides that when 2 or more defendants are jointly tried, their challenges are to be exercised jointly, but each defendant is also entitled to 4 additional challenges which may be exercised separately, and the state is entitled to the same number of additional challenges. This bill would, until January 1, 2017, recast these provisions to apply to a criminal case in which the offense charged is punishable with a maximum term of imprisonment for one year or less. The bill would provide that in that instance the defendant and the state would each be allowed 5 peremptory challenges of prospective jurors. The bill would, until January 1, 2017, provide that if 2 or more defendants are jointly tried for an offense punishable with a maximum term of one year or less, their challenges would be exercised jointly, but each defendant would also be entitled to 2 additional challenges which may be exercised separately, and the state would also be entitled to 2 additional challenges.

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SB 851

(Leno D) Budget Act of 2014.

Current Text: Introduced: 1/9/2014

Introduced: 1/9/2014

Status: 1/9/2014 – Introduced. Read first time. Referred to Com. on B. & F.R.

Location: 1/9/2014-S. BUDGET & F.R.

Summary: This bill would make appropriations for the support of state government for the 2014-15 fiscal year. This bill contains other related provisions.

SB 1058

(Leno D) Writ of habeas corpus.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/18/2014

Introduced: 2/18/2014

Status: 4/10/2014 – In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk.

Location: 4/10/2014-A. DESK

Summary: Current law authorizes every person unlawfully imprisoned or restrained of his or her liberty, under any pretense, to prosecute a writ of habeas corpus for specified reasons, including when false evidence that is substantially material or probative on the issue of guilt or punishment was introduced against the person at any hearing or trial relating to his or her incarceration. This bill would require, for purposes of these provisions, false evidence to include opinions of experts that have either been repudiated by the expert who originally provided the opinion at a hearing or trial or that have been undermined by later scientific research or technological advances.

Summary: Existing law authorizes every person unlawfully imprisoned or restrained of his or her liberty, under any pretense, to prosecute a writ of habeas corpus for specified reasons, including when false evidence that is substantially material or probative on the issue of guilt or punishment was introduced against the person at any hearing or trial relating to his or her incarceration. This bill would require, for purposes of these provisions, false evidence to include opinions of experts that have either been repudiated by the expert who originally provided the opinion at a hearing or trial or that have been undermined by later scientific research or technological advances.

SB 1190

(Jackson D) Courts: judgeships.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/20/2014

Introduced: 2/20/2014

Status: 4/10/2014 – Set for hearing April 22.

Location: 3/6/2014-S. JUD.

Calendar: 4/22/2014 1:30 p.m. - Room 112
SENATE JUDICIARY, JACKSON, Chair

Summary: Would increase the number of judges in the division of the Fourth Appellate District of the Court of Appeal located in the San Bernardino/Riverside area to 9 judges. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Summary: Existing law specifies the number of judges for the superior court of each county and for each division of each district of the court of appeal. Existing law provides that the Court of Appeal for the Fourth Appellate District consists of 3 divisions. Existing law requires that one of these divisions hold its regular sessions in the San Bernardino/Riverside area and further requires this division to have 7 judges. This bill would increase the number of judges in the division of the Fourth Appellate District of the Court of Appeal located in the San Bernardino/Riverside area to 9 judges. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

SB 1313

(Nielsen R) Courts: court reporters.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/21/2014

Introduced: 2/21/2014

Status: 3/6/2014 – Referred to Com. on JUD.

Location: 3/6/2014-S. JUD.

Summary: Would repeal those provisions of law prescribing the compensation and conditions of employment of official court reporters in Butte, El Dorado, Lake, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Mono, Monterey, Nevada, San Luis Obispo, Shasta, Solano, Tehama, Trinity, and Tuolumne Counties.

Summary: The Trial Court Employment Protection and Governance Act establishes a trial court employee personnel system that provides authority to establish job classifications, salaries, and benefits for trial court employees, including court reporters, without the approval of the county or the board of supervisors, and without further legislative action, except as specified. Existing law authorizes a court to direct the making of a verbatim record of court proceedings, as specified. Existing law also regulates the appointment, certain conditions of employment, remuneration, and benefits of official court reporters in specified counties. This bill would repeal those provisions of law prescribing the compensation and conditions of employment of official court reporters in

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Butte, El Dorado, Lake, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Mono, Monterey, Nevada, San Luis Obispo, Shasta, Solano, Tehama, Trinity, and Tuolumne Counties.

SCA 13

(Anderson R) Courts: appellate jurisdiction.

Current Text: Amended: 4/1/2013

Introduced: 2/22/2013

Last Amend: 4/1/2013

Last Reviewed: ccra24: 4/8/2013 10:14 AM

Status: 4/30/2013 – Set, first hearing. Failed passage in committee. (Ayes 2. Noes 5. Page 758.) Reconsideration granted.

Location: 5/1/2013-S. PUB. S.

Summary: The California Constitution provides that courts of appeal have appellate jurisdiction when superior courts have original jurisdiction in causes of a type within the appellate jurisdiction of the courts of appeal on June 30, 1995, and in other causes prescribed by statute. The California Constitution authorizes the Legislature to permit courts exercising appellate jurisdiction to take evidence and make findings of fact when jury trial is waived or not a matter of right. This measure would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions.

Summary: The California Constitution establishes the jurisdiction of the courts, providing that the Supreme Court has appellate jurisdiction when judgment of death has been pronounced. The California Constitution provides that courts of appeal have appellate jurisdiction when superior courts have original jurisdiction in causes of a type within the appellate jurisdiction of the courts of appeal on June 30, 1995, and in other causes prescribed by statute. This measure would , instead, establish appellate jurisdiction in the courts of appeal in cases when judgment of death has been pronounced . This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.