



California Court Reporters Association

C C R A O N L I N E

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OFFICERS

President

Brooke Ryan, CSR
brooke.ryan@cal-ccra.org

President-elect

Kim Thayer, CSR, RPR, CRR
kim.thayer@cal-ccra.org

Vice President

Abby Reisig, CSR, RPR, CRR
abby.waller@cal-ccra.org

Secretary-Treasurer

Steven Kosmata
steven.kosmata@cal-ccra.org

ONLINE COMMITTEE

Lesia J. Mervin
Connie Parchman, Editor
3420 Finnian Way #219
Dublin, CA 94568
Tel: (510) 853-5260
connie.parchman@cal-ccra.org

MAIN OFFICE

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

www.cal-ccra.org



California Court Reporters Association

C C R A O N L I N E

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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P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

By Brooke Ryan, CSR
President, CCRA

In the last four months I have flown to L.A. four times for various CCRA projects. For this NorCal chick, every time I fly to L.A., there is an air of excitement. There is also the reminder to call the freeways by "the" (the 405, the 10) so I don't stand out.

Putting that aside, on my first trip as soon as I saw the Hollywood sign I instantly thought of the line from *Pretty Woman*: "Welcome to Hollywood! What's your dream? Everybody comes here; this is Hollywood, land of dreams. Some dreams come true, some don't; but keep on dreamin' — this is Hollywood. Always time to dream, so keep on dreamin'."

The first trip was for an e-filing presentation to the Orange County court reporters. That's definitely a dream of mine and CCRA's. You can read the article in this issue from Doreen Perkins, the chair of the E-filing Task Force, as to why we believe so vehemently in this statewide project.

The second trip was to attend the Los Angeles County Court Reporters' Association celebration of Court Reporting and Captioning Week. That was a lot of fun. It was, of course, a beautiful Southern California day filled with excited court reporters who deserve to be celebrated. I hope that all reporters know their true value and contribution.. Celebrating it just once a year is not enough.

Next I went down for the CSR test. Now that's a dream, isn't it? I wish all of the nervous young men and women could pass that test and begin their dream career. Nothing would make us happier than welcoming you into this profession with the widest of arms. I am aware you are receiving your results as I type this, and, unfortunately, some of you are disappointed. Please regain your focus, get back to school, and start practicing and believing that you will pass the next test. CCRA will be there to celebrate with you!

The last time I went to SoCal was two weeks ago for our California Action Team Training seminar held in Anaheim. That was one of my long-standing dreams going into my presidency: to bring CATT training back. The CATT seminars have the ability to transform the confidence levels of everyone. I know every time I have attended, I have been truly transformed in learning a new skill. I come out wiser, full of hope, and more driven than I ever thought possible. I dream that you all can attend this seminar someday, and you'll feel empowered yourselves!

I have other dreams for our profession. I hope all of our legislative bills pass this year. That would be an amazing feat. I hope we fully implement our statewide e-filing project. I hope we get more students into court reporting schools. I can promise you that I, as President, and our CCRA board are strenuously working on all of these subjects.

I have dreams for our personal lives as well. I hope we all find peace: peace in work, peace in family, and peace in love.

And, most importantly, I dream we all have the ability to be as successful as we wish to be. We will do our part to keep strengthening the profession. I can promise you that.





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CCRA SACRAMENTO BOOT CAMP 2016



By Karly Powers

Boot Camp 2016 was truly something great. There were so many firsts for CCRA's Boot Camp, and I feel so honored to have been one of the many that played a part in the event. We had the opportunity to bring Boot Camp north to Sacramento this year. With over 100 registrants, the ballroom was packed with eager students, faculty, and working reporters ready to learn about all things court reporting related.

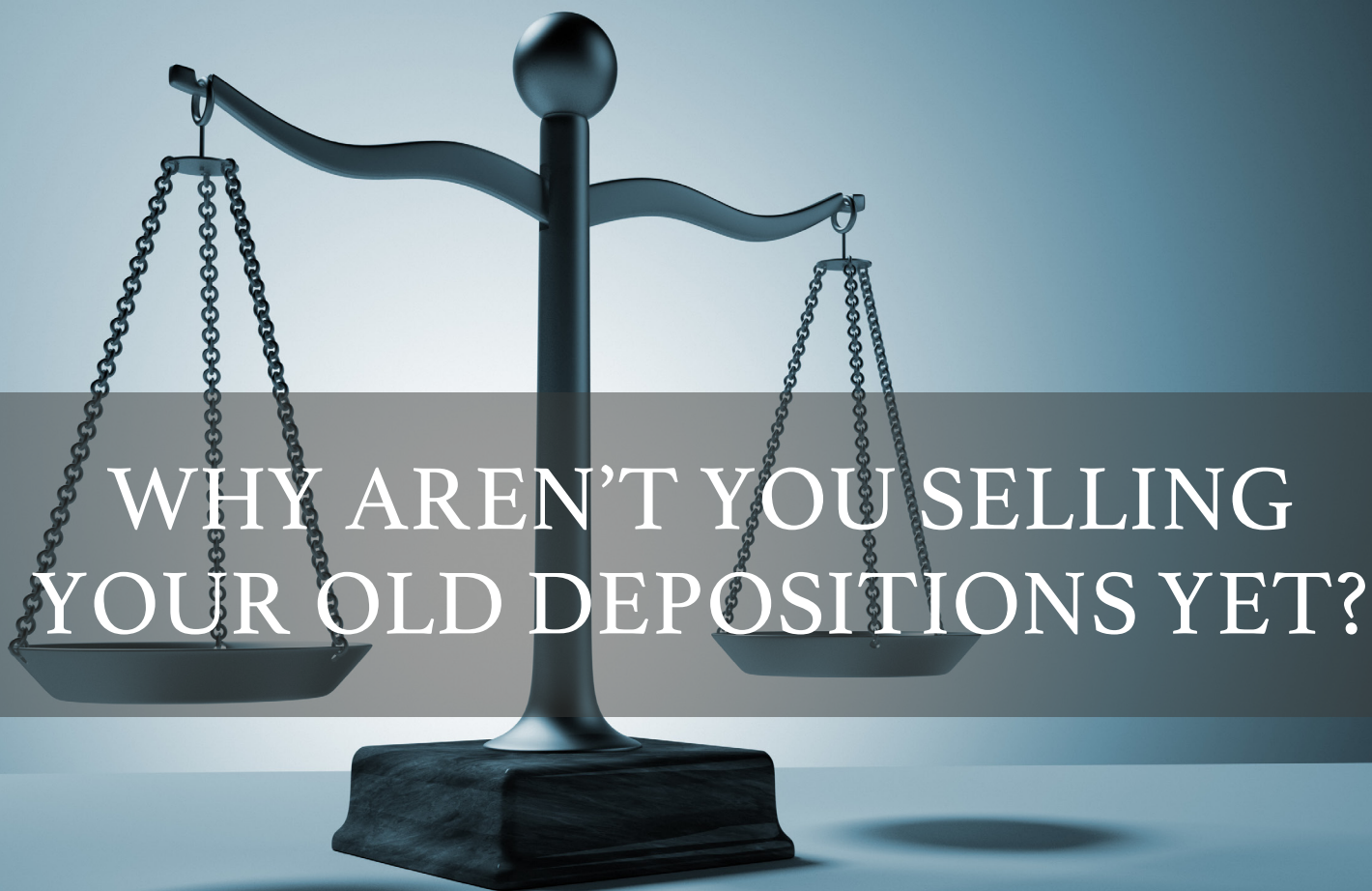
Along with Boot Camp 2016 being our first time in Northern California, we changed some of the formatting this year. We focused solely on each aspect of our diverse court reporting profession. Margie Wakeman Wells, CCRA's Educational Liaison, joined us by flying up from Southern California to talk to our students about the CSR exam and offer her time and support the evening before Boot Camp. We had Kim Thayer, firm owner and CCRA President-Elect, covering the freelance side of court reporting. Anissa Nierenberger, Owner of Dictionary Jumpstart and EduCAPTION instructor, flew all the way to California to teach our members about the world of CART/Captioning. Bob Sullivan, Official Court Reporter and CSR Exam Reader, led the way through his joyful teachings of all things court and gave support to students getting ready to take the CSR Exam. And I had the wonderful opportunity to talk about the ins and outs of networking and how to be confident in all that you do.

Each speaker at Boot Camp gave out specific information on our CCRA-exclusive dog tags. These dog tags, otherwise

known as USBs, contained a wealth of information. We gave our attendees information on what firms expect, transcript preparation, freelance communication skills, and so much more from Kim Thayer. Anissa provided information on dictionary building and tips and tricks on how to prepare yourself for a career in CART and Captioning. Bob Sullivan provided his seamless guide to court and how to be successful. All things networking, from myself, were provided in the form of basic email scripts, resume, and business card examples, as well as a how-to-get-started guide to court reporting.

After our seminar, our presenters and board members had an energetic Q&A session with our attendees. The group was able to ask us about everything from our most difficult days to our happiest days on the job. We were questioned about the possibilities within our career paths and the ever popular topic of electronic recording. Each of us truly enjoyed the opportunity to provide our own answers to these questions and talk about our individual experiences. It was a great end to the day and a great opportunity to connect with our members and attendees on a more personal level.

I'd like to say thank you, on behalf of CCRA and the Support Our Students Committee, to all those who sponsored students for this event. Also, thank you to those who volunteered their time at this event, and to our wonderful vendors and businesses who were present and donated to the raffle. Our Boot Camps wouldn't be successful without all of you, and I thank you from the bottom of my CCRA heart. I can't wait for the next one!!



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P R E S E N T S

CALIFORNIA ACTION TEAM TRAINING YOU'RE A LEADER TOO!

April 16 – April 17, 2016



By Kim Thayer, CCRA President-Elect

Your past and current CCRA leaders put together an awesome weekend of intense legislative training, seminars, followed up with hands-on mock situations one can find themselves in when tackling the legislation track that must be followed in order to create new legislation or to try to stop proposed legislation that can affect our career.

Personally, this is the one area that is my weak link, so to speak. I have been to NCRA's Boot Camp on behalf of CCRA and attended a CATT workshop weekend as a participant. This year I was fortunate to be on the other side, assisting a group to figure out the very complex puzzle of making a difference with legislation. I suppose I could say, "Third time is a charm," but instead I would like to give our very talented and well-spoken lobbyist all the credit, Ignacio Hernandez.

Ignacio has been CCRA's lobbyist for just over a year now and has just been wonderful to our association and very easy to work with. His down-to-earth teaching on The Capitol Landscape was so informative and easy to grasp. I watched all of our first-time attendees, and I could see they were "getting it."

The weekend was packed with so much information. Each attendee I personally spoke with could not get over how much they learned and how empowered they felt and maybe – just maybe – they were actually capable of stepping up and being a voice on behalf of CCRA to our local legislatures. CCRA did a wonderful job at growing up some new leaders on behalf of our profession.

The CATT attendees were treated to a special guest, Senator Tony Mendoza, California State Senate for the 32 District, who is carrying SB 270 (Mendoza) bill on behalf of CCRA. He took time out with his family on Sunday and came and spoke about his bill and how he envisions it will be presented and the effects of it. A huge shout out to

Senator Mendoza to take on that task of trying to make the freelance field a level playing field for all national and local firm owners.

We are all very busy in our careers. We all have different areas of the profession that interest us. One thing we all have in common in the court reporting profession is that we are a necessity. If we all work together, continue to learn, educate ourselves, step up and volunteer to help our career, we can stay strong and united.

I personally want to send out HUGE KUDDOS to Brooke Ryan, our fearless CCRA President/leader. The hours, effort, and heart Brooke put into this informative weekend was well received and appreciated by so many. Brooke did not do it alone, and so a special thank you for a successful weekend to the following:

- Sterling Strategic Management, Jerry Packer and Maria Lagunas;
- Ignacio Hernandez, our fun and witty lobbyist;
- Sabrina Lockhart, media relations/communications speaker;
- Christy Cannariato spoke to us about SB 270 (Mendoza) leveling the playing field for freelance reporters;
- Carlos Martinez spoke to us about AB 2629 (Hernandez) transcript increase bill rationale and strategy plan;
- Doreen Perkins spoke to us about the importance of preparing and researching court reporter issues;
- Gary Cramer, our historian and very knowledgeable past president;
- Kimberly Rosenberger, who discussed grassroots lobbying;
- Lesia Mervin, who so eloquently wrapped up our weekend to a very tired group.
- To all of our role-playing presenters, all I can say is we had way too much fun!

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CAPTIONING FOR THE NFL TODAY SHOW

By Debra Bollman, CART/Captioning, CCRA Board Member

Are you ready for some football? I know! I know! It's not football season. But for NFL fans out there, it's always football season. And the NFL Draft is just around the corner.

Have any of you heard of a little show on CBS called the NFL Today Show? Lucky me, I get to caption the show directly for the CBS producers.

If you're not familiar with the NFL Today Show, let me set the scene: There are five co-hosts -- James Brown, Tony Gonzales, Boomer Esiason, Bill Cowher and Bart Scott -- along with a number of special guests that visit weekly. It's ultrafast-paced, like superfast, and they literally talk about every single player in the NFL (feels like that anyway).

Do you have any idea how many active players are in the NFL, let alone the number of past players and coaches that are mentioned? Me either. But take my word for it, it's a lot -- a whole lot. I'm getting tired as I write this just thinking about Sunday mornings.

So let's talk about the joys of preparation: Preparation is key to any real-time writing, as we all know. But imagine the daunting task of having no clue who they're going to mention in the show. And the only way to have a quality product is building and building and building your dictionary. Just when you think you've got it, the NFL draft hits, and there are a total of 256 more draft slots and 256 more names to know. Guess whose dictionary is about to grow? Mine!

Each year in preparation for the following season, I Google the NFL draftees and find several lists to choose from, but I prefer to use either ESPN or CBS Sports. After all, they are our clients. I then print the list and the fun begins. It takes a couple of hours to get through all of those names, but those couple of hours will pay off huge when the season rolls around. I'm sure I'll still fumble here and there (pun intended) with pronunciations, but at least I'll have a huge head start.

In closing, in case you're wondering, my NFL dictionary consists of 4418 entries, and I have an additional generic Football dictionary with another 9918 terms and names entered. These don't include any of my college football dictionaries, which is a whole other article in itself. Let's just say someone's been doing her homework...

Guess what I've got to get back to? Dictionary building...til next time!

MY TIME AT 2016 CATT

By Diana Van Dyke, LASC Official,
LACCRA Treasurer and Public Outreach
Committee Chair

My time at CCRA's 2016 CATT training in Anaheim was an unmitigated combination of education, fun, and humility. While making new court reporter friends and reconnecting with others, I was able to learn from legends in our field and many of our best and brightest representatives.

I came away from the weekend exhausted but also an invigorating sense that we have a LOT going on. But, thankfully, we also have the tools and the drive to succeed! Think you can't do this? You CAN!



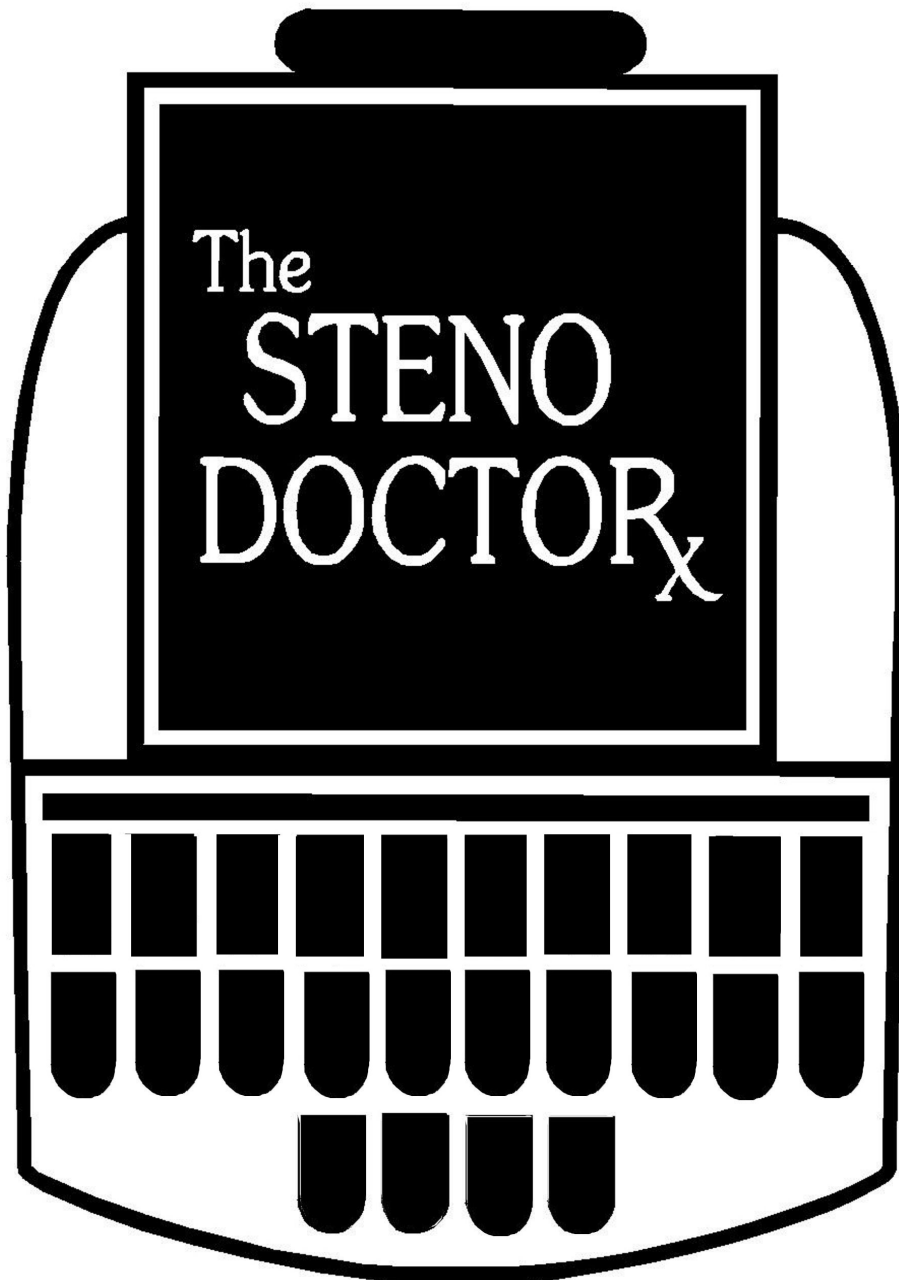
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Application and essay deadline is May 27, 2016.

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GUIDELINES FOR RESPECTFUL ATTORNEY-REPORTER RELATIONSHIPS

By Ana Fatima Costa, RPR, CSR

A litigator schedules a two-hour deposition beginning at 4:00 p.m. The court reporter arrives at 3:30. Counsel agree at 6:00 to continue for another hour.

At 7:00, the witness' attorney asks, "How much longer?"

The questioner answers, "Just one more hour."

The reporter requests a short break to cancel her 7:30 p.m. dinner commitment.

"Just one more hour" is repeated until the deposition ends at 3:30 a.m. The exhausted reporter informs the reporting firm that they need to cover her 9:00 a.m. deposition. They scramble to find a replacement.

Why didn't the stenographer stop this marathon?

Court reporters strive to meet clients' needs, often sacrificing their own, even in grueling circumstances like the above **true** story.

Most attorneys are respectful of court reporters, but some transform into "alpha" personalities upon entering the deposition room. In their zeal to represent their clients, attorneys may forget to empathize with the human being charged with diligently protecting the record.

Writing shorthand at above 200 words per minute on a steno machine may appear easy, but in reality it is an intense mind/body experience akin to playing a symphony. No matter what transpires inside (and outside) the room, reporters maintain constant focus, always mindful of the record. Without proper consideration of their basic human needs, the record's accuracy may suffer.

In January 2015, The Bar Association of San Francisco published an article by attorney Albert J. Boro Jr., a member of its Legal Ethics Committee, titled *New Civility Guidelines for Professional Conduct*, excerpted here:

"In June 2014, the federal courts of the Northern District of California adopted 'Guidelines for Professional Conduct,' also called 'Civility Guidelines.'

The Guidelines describe an attorney's 'duty of professionalism' ... They were drafted with input from members of the bar to address a perceived 'decline in civility in federal litigation,

especially on the civil side.' (Email from L. Fuller, Media Liaison for N.D. Cal., quoting Chief Judge Claudia Wilken, dated Nov. 26, 2014.) *The Civility Guidelines are a reaffirmation of the importance of 'professionalism' by promoting zealous representation performed with candor, respect, empathy, and courtesy to opposing counsel and the parties."*

Yet, a thorough reading of the Civility Guidelines provided no mention of a "duty of professionalism" toward reporters.

The following guidelines will help foster respectful attorney-reporter relationships:

1. Advise the court reporting firm if you will need a rough draft, real-time, or expedited transcript. Expect to pay extra for these additional services.
2. Greet reporters with the same courtesy you extend counsel and the witness. Provide your business card and a copy of the Notice of Deposition.
3. Speak clearly and mindfully. Avoid mumbling or talking over one another. Slow down when reading documents. Allow the reporter time to mark exhibits.
4. Break every two hours. Regular rest periods are particularly important in fast-paced depositions and those containing complex terminology.
5. Consider reporters' needs before deciding to work through lunch. Include them when offering food to everyone in the room. Ask if a 30-minute break will suffice.
6. View reporters' interruptions for clarification of the record as confirmation that they are fulfilling their legal and ethical duty to produce an impartial, verbatim transcript.
7. If you anticipate that a deposition will go longer than expected, ask the reporter if s/he is able to continue, and for how long.
8. Clearly state your transcript order and when you need it.
9. "Please" and "thank you" are the benchmarks of civility.

Attorneys and court reporters are equal partners, doing their

GUIDELINES FOR RESPECTFUL...
CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



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GUIDELINES FOR RESPECTFUL...
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best to meet their respective obligations. Clear, respectful communication will ensure everyone's needs are met.



ANA FATIMA COSTA, RPR, CSR uses the knowledge she gained from her 35-year reporting career to support court reporting students and CSRs while also educating the legal profession about our crucial role as guardians of the record. Her reporter-of-record internships at mock depositions and mock trials provide opportunities to speak up, mark exhibits and produce rough draft or final transcripts. She shares transformative coaching tools that help students and reporters release anxiety and obstacles to their success and happiness.

Ana's e-book, *0 - 225: Your Guide to Writing Mastery*, was published in October 2015. Download your copy here: anafatimacosta.leadpages.co/0-225-writing-mastery and to schedule a 15-minute complimentary Steno Mastery Strategy Session. You can reach her at afccoaching@gmail.com.



INFORMATION ON OFFICIALS IN CALIFORNIA

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ByKaren Kronquest, Board Member

Isn't it great to have information at your fingertips? In the process of updating its website, CCRA is adding features to better help our members. One of those is sharing information about the reporters in the courts throughout the state.

As an official reporter, I have often been curious about and needed to know what other reporters are doing. Almost every time I make requests of court management on behalf of my coworkers, I am asked if reporters in other courts receive such benefits. I could call every court and ask the reporters, but wouldn't it be great if I could get the information I need from one source?

CCRA is collecting data from every court in California regarding its court reporters. There will be a spreadsheet to be used as a quick reference with links for additional information. Every county will be listed and information such as salary, realtime differential, folio rate, line numbers used, and training practices will be available at a glance.

It is taking a while to collect the information. A questionnaire was sent out to representatives at every court, but many have not responded yet. Fortunately, CCRA will keep the information updated as we receive it. Information is power. The next time I ask for something to benefit my reporting coworkers, I'll be able to have the information I need at my request with how other courts do it. Another valuable tool that CCRA will be providing to its members as you start your negotiations with court management!

CSR SPOTLIGHT: DOREEN PERKINS



When you think of this edition's CSR Spotlight, Doreen Perkins, think hummingbird. Hummingbirds have one of the fastest metabolisms on the planet and appear to be in constant motion. There is definitely little of the sitting around mentality found in Doreen.

Doreen's first career choice was to be a brain surgeon. "I am not very good at science, so I picked court reporting. True story." And so the legend is born. Doreen was first introduced to the field of court reporting by her grandparents, who described the work of her second cousin, a freelance reporter, suggesting that Doreen would also be a good reporter. Like many people who are told they would be a good court reporter, she had to do her research to even find out what a court reporter was and what schools were available. Doreen jumped into the career, ultimately graduating from Fresno School of Court Reporting, currently known as Sierra Valley.

She began her career in court in San Luis Obispo in 1980 as a pro tem reporter and within a year was hired full-time by Fresno Superior Court where she remains to this day. Currently in a criminal trial department, over the years Doreen has reported every kind of proceeding heard in a California courtroom, from complex civil litigation to death penalty cases.

The changes to the profession in the 30-plus years of Doreen's career are truly astounding. "When I started reporting, I would dictate from my paper notes into a Stenorette reel-to-reel Dictaphone and employ typists that used carbon paper for the copies," she remembers. Then along came the first "portable" computer, the Baron OZ with its 5 megabyte hard disk. "It took a dolly to haul it around," noted Doreen, "but I was happy to have it because it made my job so much easier." She added, "Now we have laptops with multiple terabytes, cloud storage, and are soon going to be working in a paperless environment, delivering e-filed transcripts via YesLaw." All this in one person's working career!

Doreen credits the computer as the best thing to have happened to the court reporting profession. These technological advances have enabled realtime reporting, a

key litigation support tool for attorneys and judges alike. It also allowed the advent of captioning and CART, services that allow the hearing impaired to more fully participate in the activities we all take for granted, from enjoying a television program to participating in a discussion in a classroom. "Instant access to the spoken word has become the touchstone of our profession," Doreen asserted. "In today's instant gratification age, it's not simply capturing the record for future appeals, but it's the simultaneous translation for immediate use that is the mark of court reporting today," she noted.

When asked about the best part of her job, Doreen responded enthusiastically, "I love what I'm doing. I love being a court reporter." She added, "I also enjoy mentoring and helping students, new reporters, as well as seasoned reporters that have come into court from the freelance arena."

Segueing into the worst part of her job, Doreen notes the frustration resulting from court reporters being laid off from civil and family law courts, as well as a reduction of hours for those reporters who remained. "The constant battle against electronic recording devices is also frustrating," she said, explaining, "courts looking to increase efficiencies are wooed by recording equipment vendors who promise vast savings. What they fail to account for is who is going to prepare the transcript and who will pay for the transcription?" She continued, "Court reporters pay for their own equipment and supplies, including all upgrades of equipment. How long before any recording equipment installed would be outdated and have to be replaced at taxpayer cost," she asked. If she could change one thing about reporting, she would reverse the decision to lay off reporters in civil and family law courtrooms. "That ill-conceived decision resulted in a two-tier justice system, one for the rich and one for the poor, meaning the rich can afford to hire their own reporter to cover their case and the poor cannot," she asserts.

We asked Doreen what she found most challenging about court reporting, and she answered, "I would probably answer this differently than most because when I hear the word 'challenge,' it makes me sit up straight and think, how can I be a better reporter? What can I do to enhance our profession? It is of utmost importance that reporters learn to rise to the challenge and make sure they are on the leading edge. I find it difficult and a disservice to our profession when

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I see court reporters that are using antiquated equipment, old software, or none at all. On another note, sometimes my patience is tested by fast-talking, mumbling, newbie attorneys, but it's nothing I can't handle."

Doreen advocates trade association membership. She feels that one of the most rewarding moments in her career was being nominated to the board of the California Court Reporters Association (CCRA). "I had no idea why they wanted me. I would attend their conventions yearly and look up at the podium at the business meeting and wonder how they became so knowledgeable in our profession. Once on the board I found out how: It's by becoming actively involved in CCRA, which enabled me to associate with the best reporters in California and be sent to superb training that not only helped me at the state level, but also at the local level."

Doreen's proudest moment as a court reporter occurred just recently, after 36 years in the profession. She recounts, "I have been conducting a pilot project for the California Court Reporters Association in Fresno on e-filing of reporter's transcripts. Planning and research for the project began in 2008, and in June of 2014, the pilot project officially began. In December of 2015, I was asked to make a presentation to Supreme Court Justice Cuéllar on our e-filing pilot project. Justice Cuéllar thought it was fantastic and asked me if I would make a presentation to all of the Supreme Court Justices and staff. Administrative Presiding Justice Brad Hill of the Fifth District Court of Appeal was also in attendance. He thought the project and presentation was so impressive that he asked me to present to all of the Justices of the Fifth Appellate District, which I did in January 2016." Her passion for the industry is evident when she notes, "I feel that this is my pinnacle contribution to the court reporting profession. It is necessary that we keep reinventing ourselves to stay relevant. I believe that this is a way to do it."

When asked what she wished other people knew about court reporting, Doreen answered, "Reporters are highly educated, trained, professionally certified individuals and utilize a great deal of computerized technology. It can be stressful but financially rewarding. Reporters must be on top of their game every day. A reporter's job, as guardian of the record, cannot be taken lightly and constantly requires a high degree of accuracy." She used these three words to describe the profession: Exciting, Innovative and Educational, adding a humorous alternative of "Crime does pay."

We asked this very serious reporter who constantly strives for excellence to tell us some things that people would be surprised to know about her, to which she replied: "I have no artistic talent, and my stick figures look like kindling. I am a fabulous cook and seamstress. I am an avid Tea Rose gardener and have approximately 70 different varieties." Her favorite travel location is Akumal Beach, Playa del Carmen,

Mexico, swimming with sea turtles, and on her "bucket list" is paragliding, paramotoring, base and bungee jumping.

Doreen has this perspective to share with people thinking about the career: "Court reporting has been a great career for me, and I would encourage others to become court reporters. It is a difficult job that not everyone can do, but it is an interesting and fun job. Every day I hear something new. This is a career that offers full-time work or flexibility, if you choose." She added, "The one difficulty that many have is change. If you do not like change, you will not like court reporting. This career requires you to adapt to new technology and stay on the cutting edge."

It's no surprise that this excellence-driven reporter defines a successful court reporter as one who strives on a daily basis to be the very best they can be. "NCRA offers a variety of certifications, above the base RPR certificate, that reporters should work towards obtaining. Additional certifications allow you to stand out," she advises. "You must attend conventions and continuing education seminars, stay on top of new technology, and stay abreast of all rule and regulation changes governing the court reporting profession." She added, "It is also important to give back, whether that is locally at a court reporting school, local reporter association, or at the state or national level." With that perspective, it is no surprise that Doreen is a Registered Merit Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter, Registered Diplomate Reporter and a Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters.

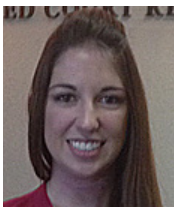
With so many active years under her belt, we asked Doreen what she thinks will change about court reporting over the next five years. She is confident that the next big change in court reporting will be the elimination of a paper record in favor of e-filed transcripts. She explained, "The pilot project I am currently conducting in Fresno, in conjunction with the California Court Reporters Association, is testing just that. This is an era of going paperless, and it's time that the reporters jump on board. I have always thought of my paper transcripts as being superb, but the electronic ones are superior. It gives the end users tools that our paper transcripts cannot."

And no court reporter spotlight is complete without finding out the most unusual or interesting job in their career, and here is Doreen's tale: "I reported a case of a very superstitious Hmong litigant who tried to sacrifice a live chicken in the middle of court proceedings to scare away the evil spirits because of the court's interference in his family's life," she explained. "Quick action by the deputy saved us all from a grisly and bloody scene and kept the litigant from voodooing us."

Thanks to this super-charged go-getter for sharing her thoughts on what it takes to be successful and giving us her prediction on the future of the court reporting industry.



CRB TOWN HALL MEETINGS



By Amanda Scott

Recently the Court Reporters Board was asked to address the dreaded So Cal Stip, and particularly whether the duty of a CSR to follow Code can be waived, and if we are then subject to discipline for not abiding by the Code and following the stip entered into by counsel. The CRB thought that in order to take action, they would need to hear how the So Cal Stip harms consumers, and what problems, if any, had been occurring, so two town hall meetings were scheduled so they could hear from anyone who wished to come speak.

CCRA was present for both meetings, the first of which was held in Sacramento on February 6, 2016, and the second in Los Angeles on March 10th. Surprisingly there were fewer people present at the southern California meeting, although that is where the stip is more prevalent. There were no attorneys or judges who came to speak at that second meeting. Strong arguments were made at both meetings, pointing out that the original could be lost, altered, and ultimately not accepted by judges if no longer sealed, as

well as there being potential HIPAA violations with exhibits when they are not sealed and it becomes unknown who is getting copies. If a copy is ordered later, a court reporting agency would likely not have an errata sheet to provide if the original has been stipulated away. These are just some of the many valid concerns that were raised, and that we all know and have experienced ourselves.

Ultimately the CRB has decided not to take action, and to instead discuss education options with staff for going forward. The CRB stands by the 1996 legal opinion posted on its website, which cites to Section 2021, stating the board cannot discipline a reporter as acting contrary to law in failing to follow a stipulation entered into by counsel, as long as the reporter is not a party to the stipulation themselves. If the CSR does stipulate to waiving their duties, it is deemed "unprofessional conduct" to then refuse to follow the stipulation they entered into.

So for now as reporters we need to continue to educate attorneys whenever possible, and count on CCRA to continue to keep you informed!

LET'S TALK: IPAD APPS

By Cali CSR

There are so many things that we use iPads for these days, right? If you're like me, you probably use it to check emails and social media, prop it up on your counter as you're trying out that new recipe that you pinned when you should have been proofreading your transcript. But guess what? There are so many cool apps on that very iPad that can be used for our profession.

Being a newer reporter, I was apprehensive about purchasing an iPad, and guess what? Amazon is a wonderful thing! I found an iPad at a reasonable price that is compatible with the CaseViewNet app.

Let me stop right there. CaseViewNet app, I had no idea what this was until I decided to take the plunge into realtime, (it's not that bad). So let's start with the CaseViewNet app because there are so many beneficial apps on the iPad for our work, I think it's important to ease newbies into this. The link below provides even further information:

<http://www.stenograph.com/marcom/Download-page/caseviewnet.html>

The CaseViewNet app on the iPad provides: full refresh of edits (Case CATalyst with CaseViewNet license only), line marking, word and phrase searching, automatic transcript following, and a save email feature for your clients! Let me just testify how great it is to email that client their rough draft before I even leave the job. So let's break all of that down.

Full refresh of edits: I edit my work as I'm writing on the job. So whether it's editing during realtime or it is editing during a break, when that edit takes place and that iPad is still connected to your realtime, the client will get the updated edit. But guess what? Now you're not having to go home and edit that correction through all hours of the night to get the client a more readable rough draft. You just did it.

Line marking: This is literally the client highlighting with their finger on the iPad while you're writing in realtime. So, let's say they want to go back to a question or an answer, they take

their finger, highlight whatever they want to, and they have a particular section highlighted for quick reference later. But guess what? They don't lose that when they email this draft to themselves at the end of the day! Stenograph will give you more explanation on ensuring that goes smoothly for your client with the link below:

<http://www.stenographsolutions.com/solution/index.php?View=entry&EntryID=87>



Word and phrase searching: I'm sure you've used this before when looking for keywords in your transcript. It's the same concept. If the client remembers only a word or phrase, he or she can hit the "search" button on the toolbar, on the iPad, type in the word, and it lists what page and line numbers it appears in and each and every instance it appears in the transcript. But guess what? This is saving you time and hassle because they're not calling or emailing you to find this for them!

So now that we've talked about what the CaseViewNet app can do, let's talk about how to do it.

First things first, call Stenograph and get your CaseViewNet up and running on your laptop.

<http://www.stenograph.com/pages.aspx?docid=807>

Next, go to your iPad app store and get your Caseview app downloaded. <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/icvnet/id541142890?mt=8>

Then, figure out what wifi you'll be connecting to.

Last, the NCRA has a great checklist to run through when you're getting this all set up. I've included the link here. Follow this checklist, print it out and take it with you the first few times you use your iPad to provide realtime to your client.

<http://www.ncra.org/files/techcon/techcon1109a.pdf>

I hope that you find this article useful, and that you keep posted for more discussion on apps shorthand reporters can use on the iPad.

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Jan Schmitt, RPR, CSR, CCR
Schmitt Reporting & Video, Inc.

What does my firm love about the Diamante?

"We want our reporters to use the Diamante because it reflects the high standards at YOM. The touch and reliability are second to none."

Cheryl A. Mangio, CMRS, CRR, RMR, CCR
Yamaguchi Obien Mangio (YOM) Reporting & Video



What do I love about my Diamante?

"Over the past 50 years, the one constant in my court reporting career has been using Stenograph writers, and without doubt, the Diamante is the finest yet. My writing differs from morning to afternoon, and the new profile settings let me adjust the writer on the fly to handle the changes. No matter what I throw at it, it just works!"

Rick Greenspan, FAPR, RMR, CRR, FPR
U.S. Legal Support

What does my firm love about the Diamante?

"The reporters at Wood & Randall love the new Diamante because of its light touch, its great audio backup, and how quick and easy it is to set up with or without being hooked up to a laptop."

Christine Randall, CSR, RPR
Wood & Randall—Owner and President



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WHAT IS AB 1197 (BONILLA)?



By Kim Thayer, CCRA President Elect

Note: The opinions expressed in this article are solely those of the author.

A new law, Assembly Bill 1197, authored by Assemblyperson Susan Bonilla, imposes new obligations on legal professionals who prepare Notices of Deposition. This bill became effective January 1, 2016.

CCRA has been asked what does this mean for the freelance court reporter? It simply requires that the legal professional preparing the Notice of Deposition include in that notice certain disclosures, if applicable:

- Whether there exists a contract between the attorney's party-client and the reporter or reporting firm being hired to report the deposition; or
- If that is unknown, whether the attorney's party-client has instructed the attorney to use a particular reporter or reporting firm.

How will AB 1197 be enforced? A failure of a notice of deposition to comply with this new law could prompt an objection to the notice under current law. The statute governing such objections is CCP Section 2025.410.

What problem does AB 1197 address? The arrangements that may be made by court reporting entities that could be seen to undermine the impartiality of the freelance court reporter. Some of these arrangements involve financial incentives offered by the court reporting entity and others, which questions the actual bias by the reporting firm having an ongoing financial relationship with a party to litigation.

Why did CCRA not jump up and down and send out bulletins? To be frank, it is really not an effective way of

accomplishing much. It is an effort, and we do applaud that. Personally, as a deposition reporter and firm owner, I know for a fact that most attorneys pay very little attention to deposition notices. How many of you freelance reporters have heard the question posed to the witness, "Did you review your Notice of Deposition and bring with you the requested documents?" The Witness: "No, I have never seen this."

Unfortunately, attorneys pay little attention to the wording in those deposition notices and I doubt many attorneys will notice that sentence is added and/or even understand the reason for it being in the notice; therefore, no objections will be made.

Obviously, most of the freelance reporters that are attending on behalf of their firm to report a deposition have no knowledge of any special arrangements; therefore, the unknowing freelance reporter sits there being questioned by the attending attorneys. Not real fair or effective.

During the process, the Author did listen to CCRA's concerns/objections to the bill as originally presented as unworkable, and that she accepted our amendments; in particular, the 3-day advance notice requirement to protect independent contractors from cancelled depositions. We remain somewhat concerned for the unintended consequences from this law in the event a trial judge, unversed in anti-contracting concerns, rules unfavorably to court reporters on a motion to compel and is upheld on appeal; however, CCRA feels it's bad form to oppose a sister organization's legislation.

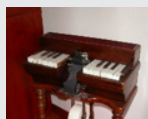
But with all of that said, please note that this is a new law that has passed. I will continue to urge each of you to educate yourselves regarding these issues and then educate your attorney clients. That is our best approach to protecting our court reporting field.

WHAT IS OUR HISTORY THAT MAKES HISTORY? EVOLUTION OF SHORTHAND MACHINES



By: Steven Kosmata, Secretary/Treasurer, CCRA

We should never forget our roots or how we got to where we are today. In this pictorial reflection of our early years of recording history, I want to demonstrate how we preserved the spoken word for the history books and mankind via modern stenograph machines at the time. Believe it or not in a couple of instances, these machines are still preserving the spoken word today.

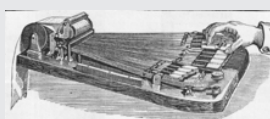


1863

Michela Shorthand Machine – ITALY

Inventor: Antonio Michela Zucco

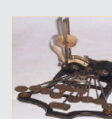
The world's first successful chorded shorthand machine. His first prototype was built in 1851. It has been used continuously in the Italian Senate since 1880.



1875

The Stenographic Machine – FRANCE

Little is known of this recently-unearthed machine. Its 12 black keys printed dashes, and its 12 white keys printed dots. "Supplementary signs" could be added to any stroke using a key stroked with the wrist.



1879

Bartholomew Stenograph – USA

Inventor: Miles M. Bartholomew

First practical English-language shorthand machine, its chorded keyboard used dot/dash codes to form one letter at a time. Top writing speed was about 150 wpm.



1886

Anderson Shorthand Typewriter

Inventor: George Kerr Anderson

First word-at-a-stroke shorthand machine, this is the first chorded keyboard that printed letters, not codes, and was designed to write a sound in each stroke.



1897

The Stenotyper – ENGLAND

Earliest English-language device outside of America, this 3-pound machine, made in Germany, produced chorded codes of dots and dashes. It could be used in English, French, German, Latin, and Hebrew, with a top speed of 170 wpm.



1904

Stenophile Bivort – FRANCE

Charles Bivort invented this device for secretarial use. Little is known of its longevity.



1907

Kehoe Stenographic Machine

Inventor: William J. Kehoe

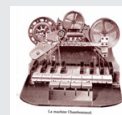
Last of the mainstream coded machines, this improvement on the Bartholomew machine claimed ability to write at 150 wpm.



1908

Grandjean – FRANCE

Madame Marc Grandjean invented this ruggedly-built French-language device. In continuous use since 1910, mass production began in 1923. The 1994 TempoSupra, 2003 Nova, and 2008 Reva are computerized.



1911

Chambonnaud Silbetype – FRANCE

Professor M.Chambonnaud invented this revolutionary device with the goal that its output could be read by anyone, not only the user. It was used in seven languages.

We are forever thankful for the creative minds in realizing coding and chording our spoken word for historical preservation was of utmost importance and a high priority, which continues today in law offices, courtrooms, and now with CART/ Captioning all around the world.

CCRA would like to thank Mr. Tursi for allowing us to partially reprint his presentation at the Intersteno Congress on July 15, 2013, in Ghent, Belgium. You can visit his museum online @ GalleryofShorthand.org or on Facebook or in person at: The Gallery of Shorthand, Alfonse M. D'Amato Federal Courthouse, US District Court, 100 Federal Plaza, Central Islip, New York 11722; (631) 712-6108. Mr. Tursi can be contacted for more information at: DomTursi@email.com