



CCRA *online*

September 2007

Mark Geragos, Esq.
Keynote Speaker at the
CCRA 97th Annual Convention
October 6-8, 2007

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Cover: Mark Geragos, Esq., "Attorney to the Stars," Saturday Keynote Speaker at the CCRA 97th Annual Convention, October 6-8, 2007.

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CCRA Online

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CCRA MISSION STATEMENT

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

Officials – Ready! Set! Go! – Be Prepared...

What's on the horizon for official reporters? Well, there are potentially many changes, not the least of which is the E-filing of your transcripts with the courts and appellate courts. The Administrative Office of the Courts (Judicial Council) has developed a long-range strategic plan, called the California Case Management System (CCMS), which calls for E-filing. Many of you are familiar with the CCMS-V3, as this portion of the plan is under implementation in your county. The AOC is striving for full implementation of this plan by end of calendar year 2012. You may find the E-filing project information at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/efiling

Is this really something to worry about yet?

As official reporters whose income is dependent on selling transcripts, how can we best prepare for the AOC's demand to file our original transcripts electronically? How can we best prepare to save our copy charges? Some of you may ask, "Is this really something to worry about yet? There is nothing specific to E-filing our transcripts in the CCMS." I reply, "Why take a chance that there won't be the demand by the AOC for the filing of your transcripts electronically? Let's prepare for the worst and hope for the best." Remember when CCRA was represented by Tom Pringle on the Reporting of the Record Task Force? One of the central objectives of that task force, which was organized by the AOC, was the electronic filing of transcripts. So we all know this idea of E-filing transcripts is not a fairy tale. You may find the Reporting of the Record Task Force report at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/jc/documents/reports/0205item7.pdf

Let's not be left behind...

Let's not be left behind as the federal reporters were when they were required to file their transcripts electronically. We can prepare for the future and prepare in a way that, hopefully, will allow for the retention of your transcripts and your copies and also meeting the demands of the AOC. We cannot, however, prepare unless official reporters commit to taking the next step.

So what's the next step? How about creating a secure transcript repository for your transcripts, thereby making them accessible to any potential end user? This type of transcript repository would focus on the official reporter maintaining control over the transcript: creating your own account that would allow you to manage how much each page of transcript would be billed at; allowing the end user to pay for the transcripts on-line; archival functionality of your transcripts;

unlimited transcript uploading; allowing a press pass for those high profile cases you may work on, and digitally signing that electronic transcript.

What would you say if I told you this transcript repository is already functioning and just waiting for each of you to start the process of setting up your account?

It's an exciting opportunity for official reporters. Get started today on this project. Drop me an e-mail at realtimecs@calweb.com, or call me at 916.202.6714, or come to our convention in Los Angeles October 6-8 to learn more about this opportunity.

It's an exciting opportunity...

It's times like this where I wish I were an official reporter – embracing important and functional technology is what I love; I hope you do too.



*Sandy Bunch
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CSR, RMR, CRR*



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SmartCAT

Job Menu	Dictionary
Realtime	Import Notes
Files in Work Directory	Style Sheet
Help!	Quick Start Guide
Exit	

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(Come see SmartCAT for Windows w/Bonus features... but only if you want to use them)



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By Doreen Perkins, CCRA Past President

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

These briefs are for you freelancers that find yourself in a courtroom and reporting a jury trial. Jury selection can be difficult to report, but if you have a few brief forms for some of the lingo, and a way to designate the jurors, it will make your life much easier. Enter the juror designations below beforehand so, for example, when you strike "PRUPB" it will automatically be setup for colloquy, colon, and auto cap first word after colon.

Juror Designations: (You can strike steno stroke once or twice – Your Preference)

Prospective Juror Number 1:.....	PRUPB	Beyond a reasonable doubt.....	YARLD
Prospective Juror Number 2:.....	PRAO	Challenge	KHAJ
Prospective Juror Number 3:.....	PRAO*E	Challenge for cause.....	KHAUS
Prospective Juror Number 4:.....	PROUR	Challenges for cause.....	KHAUSZ
Prospective Juror Number 5:.....	PRAOEUF	Fair and impartial.....	FAIRM
Prospective Juror Number 6:.....	PR*EUBGS	Friends or family	FOF
Prospective Juror Number 7:.....	PREF	Jury Assembly Room.....	JARM
Prospective Juror Number 8:.....	PRA*EUT	Jury Commissioner.....	J-K
Prospective Juror Number 9:.....	PRAOEUPB	Jury Commissioner's Office.....	J-KZ
Prospective Juror Number 10:.....	PREPB	Jury Office	JOFS
Prospective Juror Number 11:.....	PHREF		
Prospective Juror Number 12:.....	PREL		
Prospective Juror Number 13:.....	PREURPB		
Prospective Juror Number 14:.....	PROURPB		
Prospective Juror Number 15:.....	PRAOEPB		
Prospective Juror Number 16:.....	PRAOEGBS		
Prospective Juror Number 17:.....	PRAOEFS		
Prospective Juror Number 18:.....	PRAEUPB		



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Adding ccra@omgs.com to your address book will keep your *CCRA Online* from being marked as SPAM

Court Reporters Board – Continuing Education

By Sheri Turner, CSR, RPR, CCRA Vice President – Freelance, Depo Advisory Chair

In July I attended the meeting in Sacramento for the Court Reporters Board (CRB) Continuing Competency Task Force. During the meeting the name of the task force was changed to the Continuing Education Task Force. The CRB identified in their strategic plan the goal of implementing a continuing competency requirement for licensure renewal. As “continuing competency” may involve some measure of skills retesting, it was decided that the first priority of business is continuing education as part of competency – hence the name change of the task force to reflect the true purpose.

Under the umbrage of the Department of Consumer Affairs, and with the emphasis on consumer protection, the CRB feels that reporters, like many other professionals licensed by the State of California, should be required to complete continuing education for license renewal. The first step toward that goal would be legislation requiring continuing education in a broad sense and giving the CRB authority for approval of that education requisite to license renewal, as they now have authority for initial licensure of reporters. The second step of this process would be developing a regulation to specify the details of the requirement.

A requirement of six hours of education per year

Some ideas discussed for education criteria included a requirement of six hours of education per year, with four of those hours being specifically regarding California laws and ethics and reporting technology, with the other two hours being elective, if you will, on those topics or other approved subject matter. In conjunction with this education requirement, the

CRB would implement an “inactive” license status category for nonpracticing reporters who wish to maintain their CSR license. Those in an inactive status would be exempt from education requirements during their inactivity.

Because of the time frames involved in getting legislation enacted and then going through the process of public notice, comment and input on the regulation, the soonest possible time these requirements might take effect would be January 1, 2009.

We would be on a level with other professions

The CCRA board, along with other associations, is supporting the efforts of the CRB in this regard by helping to provide backup documentation and support for the legislative process. We feel that a requirement of continuing education would benefit the reporting industry in California in numerous ways. It would provide education to reporters who are not otherwise inclined to stay up on the laws, thereby reducing problems in the reporting community and disciplinary actions by the CRB. We would be on a level with other professions -- such as attorneys, doctors, real estate brokers, tax preparers, and a multitude of others, including paralegals -- that are required to stay current in their field for the protection of the public, increasing our value as a profession. We would most likely enjoy increased association membership and less apathy from reporters in the state, increasing our strength in numbers. These are only a few of the benefits of having more knowledgeable, professional, and competent reporters in our state.



Fresno Bee - 8/12/07

Reprinted from the Fresno Bee

COURT REPORTER HONOR: Lesia Mervin, court reporter for Tulare County Superior Court Judge Joseph Kalashian, will be installed Oct. 7 in Los Angeles as president of the California Court Reporters Association.

Kalashian will swear her in.

The 1,500-member organization lobbies in Sacramento on behalf of court reporters.

Mervin has been a court reporter for 28 years and has the chops to prove it. She won a state contest for speed stenography at 270 words a minute. In national competition, she won the silver medal in “real time” transcription.



“We constantly hear we’re going to be replaced by digital recorders,” Mervin said. “I was told that 28 years ago.”



Judith W. Gillespie, CSR, RPR

An escapee from the field of teaching high school and college English (M.A. in English) for ten years, I changed careers to court reporting 30 years ago (CA and Utah CSR, RPR) and have loved every minute of it -- well, almost. I have owned Gillespie Reporting & Document Management in Riverside, California for 26 of those years and have enjoyed working with reporters and clients in that capacity. An active reporter still, public hearings and meetings continue to challenge me.

I have served as a board member and president of Inland Counties Court Reporters Association, as a board member of Baron Users Group (now known as STAR), and am a current member of the Technical Evaluation Committee for the Court Reporters Board. I'm also a member of CCRA and NCRA and have presented seminars for local and state conventions.

In the past decade, because of how much my local community has given to me, I have felt it important to give back and have been an officer and/or board member of a number of local organizations, including Riverside/San Bernardino Counties Community Foundation, Riverside Community Hospital 2000 Foundation, among others.

My two grown children have blessed me with five grandchildren, and I travel extensively with my university professor husband, who leads study tours to the Middle East and other areas.



Kelly M. Roemer, CSR, RPR

Kelly Roemer comes to us with 23 years of experience as a freelance deposition reporter. After attaining her CSR and RPR in 1984, Kelly freelanced for several firms while she and her husband raised their three children. Throughout her career, Kelly has worked in many different areas of litigation. The past 11 years have been focused on construction defect cases and asbestos litigation while working for Aiken & Welch Court Reporters based in Oakland, CA.

Kelly is LiveNote certified and has worked on many cases involving realtime hookups. Kelly is also in the process of attaining her CMRS, Certified Manager of Reporting Services, through the National Court Reporters Association.

As of November 1, 2006, Kelly, along with two partners, has been managing Aiken & Welch Court Reporters. She is currently working into an ownership position.

Kelly is currently a member of the Deposition Advisory Committee through the California Court Reporters Association and is an active member of the National Court Reporters Association.

Her hobbies include spending time with her family and friends, gardening and her 24-Hour Fitness gym membership.



Long-Term Care – Are You Prepared?

By Peter Burford, CCRA's Insurance Expert

You spend a working lifetime, getting up early, going to the office or court, saving and accumulating your retirement income, and then, A STROKE! You're left unable to fend for yourself, let alone work, and need to hire others just to help you take a bath, get dressed, or prepare your meals. Instead of your hard-earned retirement investments providing for travel or walks down the golfing fairways, you are spending your retirement dollars on LONG -TERM CARE.

More than 12 million Americans need long-term care, and almost 5 million of those are working age adults.

I will wager that you are not considering the prospect you might need nursing home or skilled home health care. Logic suggests that since you insure your home against fire and your car against an accident -- and never complain if that money is wasted -- why not insure against one of the most expensive realities of life: long-term care? As our lives lengthen and new treatments are developed, you -- or your parents -- are more likely to require some type of senior care.

With a little planning, you can buy long-term care insurance -- either for yourself, or as an annual gift for your now-healthy parents. If not, you may become one of the 7 million Americans who, according to the National Council on the Aging, now provide or manage care for a friend or relative aged 55 or older and not living with them.

Long-term care insurance is a product that catches the attention of seniors, but the ideal time to buy it is actually when you are young and in good health. Premium costs are lower and you are less likely to have a pre-existing condition that disqualifies you. In our society that values a youthful appearance, we seem unwilling to recognize these expensive facts of life. Denial can be hazardous to your financial future!

The costs of long-term care are staggering

The costs of long-term care are staggering today and will soar higher in the coming years as more and more baby boomers retire. Even the GenXers won't escape the impact. Your parents will either spend your inheritance on nursing home care, or you may find yourself taking care of your elderly parents out of your own retirement funds.


In fact, the U. S. General Accounting Office says that nearly 40% of people age 65 now will spend some time in a nursing home. According to the MetLife Mature Market Institute, the average private room in a nursing home cost more than

\$66,000 a year in 2003. At an average of \$18 an hour, 24-hour home care can cost much more. If inflation occurs at a 5% annual rate, that cost could be as much as \$175,000 annually 20 years from now.

Those costs can add up quickly

Those costs can add up quickly, and Medicare does NOT cover them -- except for a few days in a skilled nursing facility after a hospital stay.

No Medicare supplement policy covers custodial nursing care. Yes, state Medicaid programs cover nursing care for the indigent, but that means almost all assets and income must be spent down before the state will pick up the tab.



Need Health Insurance?

Consider this CCRA Membership Benefit

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

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

IME Transcripts

By Sheri L. Turner, CSR, RPR, CCRA Vice President – Freelance, Depo Advisory Chair

Recently a question was posed on our Ask a Reporter web site feature regarding transcripts from reported Independent Medical Examinations and if they are handled the same way, from the reporter's perspective, as deposition transcripts. I thought I would share with you the answer that was given to a nonreporter asking the question whether or not a reporter is required to make available to all parties the IME transcript:

Thank you for using the Ask a Reporter feature of the CCRA Web site. We are an association representing reporters throughout the state of California. Our services are to provide industry information to our members. We do not provide legal advice or code interpretation, but I will answer your question this way:

California Code of Civil Procedure 2032.510 states that regarding an IME, a party or party's representative is allowed to be present at the examination or to have the examination recorded stenographically or by audiotape. The code goes on to further state the responsibilities regarding the report generated by the examiner from the IME but is silent as to any transcription of stenographic recording of the examination.

For this reason, I do know that reporters' practices vary throughout the state on how to handle this situation. This situation is not governed by the same code sections regarding transcript production and distribution of a deposition. Most reporters consider that the transcript of an IME is work product for the attorney requesting the reporter's services, as it is not required but allowed that an IME be reported, and because any attorney in the case may request that it be reported. I think some attorneys who have the IME reported provide the transcript to opposing counsel along with the report. I think some reporters ask the requesting attorney if they should contact the other parties to see if they want a copy of the transcription.

So the short answer to your question is that no, a reporter does not have to make equally available an IME transcript to all parties the same as a deposition transcript, which is addressed in CCP 2025.510(d). The availability and distribution of an IME transcript (not the examiner's report) is something that should be worked out between the noticing attorney and the reporter, and presumably with other counsel.

There are other situations where reporters are hired to report various meetings, arbitrations, and other types of events where a reporter is not required but is requested to produce a transcript for work product of the attorney or other requesting entity.

I hope this information and opinion is helpful. Please do not construe this as legal advice in any way, shape, or form.



Another Benefit for CCRA Members

Pengad is now offering CCRA members preferential pricing! You will receive Pengad's lowest catalog price on most stock items you buy. For example, the published price for one case of regular steno pad paper is \$45.19. However, as a CCRA member you would automatically receive the "end column" case price of \$37.96, even if you buy only one case!

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NCRA Board Approves “Audiosync” Guidelines

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

Last year NCRA approved the formation of a task force to create guidelines regarding the use of audiosync, as we like to call it here in California, and Backup Audio Media as NCRA refers to it. It was both an honor and a pleasure for me to be selected as a member of this task force. I had the pleasure of working with three other colleagues on this task force: Chair, SueLynn Morgan from Oklahoma and the current vice president of NCRA; Adam Miller, NCRA board member, and Donna Collins, a past board member of NCRA. After much research and discussion on this topic, the task force promulgated the guidelines set forth below. After approval by the NCRA Committee on Professional Ethics, the NCRA board approved these guidelines at their board meeting in Texas this month.

Section VII

Backup Audio Media

Due to the complexities that may arise from the use of different forms of backup audio media, whether analog or digital, NCRA has developed guidelines to aid the court reporter in the use of this technology.

The latest innovation involves technology that has been developed for computer-aided translation (CAT) software, which allows for the simultaneous digital audio recording of judicial proceedings, often referred to as “audio synchronization,” and more commonly known as “backup audio media.”

When using any backup audio medium, the court reporter must comply with any applicable local, state and federal rules and/or laws to ensure the integrity of the record. The court reporter’s duties and responsibilities do not change regarding preservation of the official record and in any respect with regard to: reading back from the stenographic notes (no playback of the recording in lieu of readback); interrupting the proceedings due to the speed of the testimony, unintelligible, and/or simultaneous speakers, etc.

Judicial court reporters frequently use the term “work product” when referring to their backup recordings. “Work product” may be defined as a backup recording made by a court reporter at their discretion, and not otherwise ordered for preservation by any federal, state or local law and/or rule, and is the personal property of the court reporter. There is no public entitlement to these recordings.

The following guidelines address the release of backup audio media.

A. Guidelines for Providing Backup Audio Media at the Request of an Attorney or Party to a Proceeding

1. If the backup audio media is made available to any party in a case, it is the responsibility of the reporter to ensure that no confidential or off-the-record discussions are contained in the released recording.
2. A reporting firm/agency may not require that a reporter produce the backup audio media (unless ordered to do so by a court).

3. If the reporter decides to release the backup audio media, the reporter shall release a copy and not the original (unless ordered otherwise by a court).

4. If the reporter makes available a copy of the backup audio media to one party, the same offer must be made to the other party(ies) to the proceeding.

5. Reporters should check all applicable local, state and federal laws, rules and regulations to ensure that creating a backup audio media is in compliance with those laws, rules and regulations.

6. If a reporter uses backup audio media, it should be preserved upon request by any party to the proceeding for the same period of time for which the reporter’s notes are preserved. The reporter may request that the party seek a court order before making it available.

B. Guidelines for Offering Backup Audio Media to Parties as a Value-Added Service

1. If the reporter or member offers backup audio media as a value-added service, all parties should be advised prior to the start of the proceeding.

2. If the backup audio media is provided as a value-added service, it is the responsibility of the reporter to ensure that such sound recording technique does not distort the oral proceedings and that no confidential or off-the-record discussions are contained in the released recording.

3. If a reporter or member offers backup audio media as a value-added service, the reporter shall provide a copy to the requesting parties and preserve the original.

4. If the reporter or member makes available a copy of the backup audio media to one party, the same offer must be made to the other party(ies) to the proceeding.

5. Reporters and members should check all applicable local, state and federal laws, rules and regulations to ensure that creating a backup audio media is in compliance with those laws, rules and regulations.



Case CATalyst Tips

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

Beginning with CATalyst 7.0, a feature has been built into the software that allows users to digitally sign and encrypt a transcript within the software. Instructions to do so are below.

The first thing you will need is a digital signature for your computer.

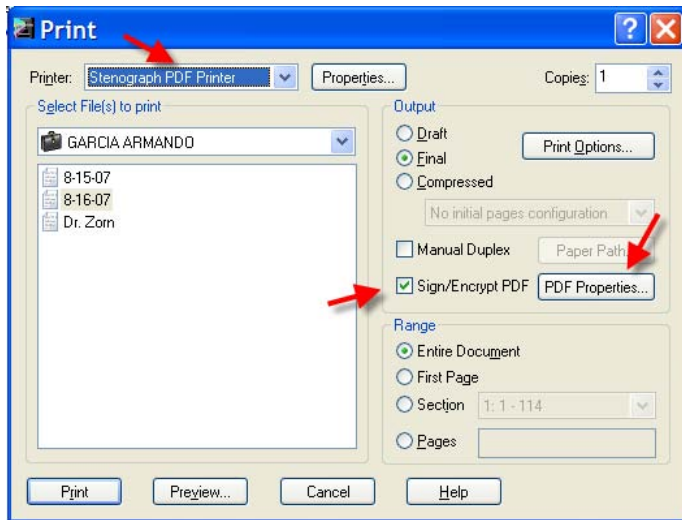
They are available through many Web sites. CCRA has been in the forefront of this technology, urging our members to be ahead of the curve and stay on the cutting edge of technology. If you have not already obtained a digital signature, the resources necessary to obtain one will be available at the annual convention in Los Angeles October 6-8. There will be technology seminars explaining this process. Bring your computer and you will be able to obtain your digital signature onsite.



Open print screen to print a file.

Choose printer: Stenograph PDF Printer.

Check the box that says Sign/Encrypt PDF. (This option will only be available if you have a digital signature on your computer.)



Select PDF Properties.

This is where you will make the entries that are necessary for sending a digital signature.



Certificate:

Select the name of the digital signature certificate you are using. Any digital signatures already available on your computer system will display in the drop-down box.

Reason for Signing:

You may include a reason for signing with a digital signature here. Type or select from the drop-down box the reason for the digital signature.

Your Location:

You may include your location.

Encryption Options:

Password: (optional)

You decide if password protection is necessary for your file. Use a password to restrict the printing and copying of text, depending on the options you check.

Allow Printing:

Check this box to allow printing by the receiver of the PDF file. Uncheck this box to restrict printing.

Allow Copying (of text and graphics):

Check this box to allow the text and graphics to be copied by the receiver of the PDF file. Uncheck this box to restrict copying.

Continued on page 12

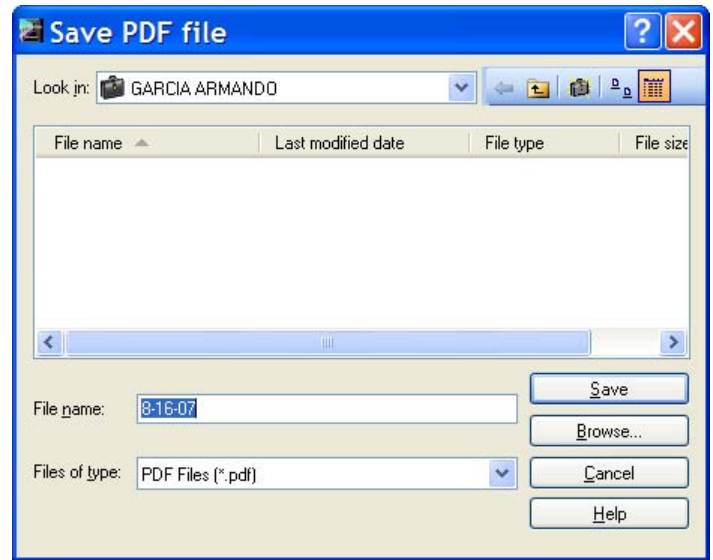
Select Print:

The Save for PDF File dialog box will display.

Select the location where you want to send the PDF files.

Press Enter or Save.

The Print dialog box will close when PDF printing is complete.



Now your digitally signed PDF file is ready for distribution.



Punctuation Points

Heights

By Margie Wakeman-Wells

When the words feet and/or inches are said with a height measurement, they are written out. Whether or not you use figures or words for the actual height is a matter of style and the nature of the sentence in which the numbers are used.

Either way, there is no punctuation between the two measurements.

He is five feet eleven inches.
She is six feet one inch.

If there are several other figures -- i.e., describing weight, age, et cetera -- the height is probably best put into figures also, for the sake of consistency.

He is 31, weighs 230, 5 feet 11 inches, and has dark hair.
She is 6 feet 1 inch and weighs 140 to 145 pounds and is 42 years old.

When the words feet and inches are not said, it is probably best to write out the two numbers in words as the two numbers side by side look weird. There is still no punctuation between them.

He is five eleven.
She is six one.



If you feel from the context that you absolutely must use figures for these, then use a hyphen between the two figures.

He is 31, weighs 230 pounds, 5-11, and has dark hair.
She is 6-1 and weighs 140 to 145 pounds and is 42 years old.




Windows Key Keyboard Shortcuts

On your keyboard, usually to the left of the spacebar you find the Windows “logo” key. While pressing that Windows key in conjunction with other keys, results in a shortcut for many functions.

1.  Windows Key +  E

Opens a new **Explorer Window**. Probably one of the hottest **Windows keyboard shortcuts**. This one gets a lot of hoorahs!

2.  Windows Key



Displays the **Start Menu**.

3.  Windows Key +  D

Minimizes all windows and shows the **Desktop**.

4.  Windows Key +  D

Opens all windows and takes you right back to where you were.

5.  Windows Key +  F

Displays the **F**ind all files dialog box.

6.  Windows Key +  L



Lock your Windows XP computer.

7.  Windows Key +  M



Minimizes all open windows.

8.  Windows Key +  Shift +  M

Restores all previously open windows to how they were before you **Minimized** them.

9.  Windows Key +  R



Displays the **R**un command.

10.  Windows Key +  F1



Displays the **Windows H**elp menu.

11.  Windows Key +  Pause/Break

Displays the **S**ystems **P**roperties dialog box.

12.  Windows Key +  Tab

Cycle through the buttons on the **T**ask **B**ar.

13.  Alt +  Tab

Toggle (switch) between open windows.



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Gain Advantage With Real-Time Transcripts

By Damian Capozzola, Legal Tech Newsletter

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Depositions in civil litigation serve multiple purposes. Simply gathering information would certainly be one of them. Creating a cross-examination script for trial, or laying the foundation for traps to spring would be others. Also: extracting the admissions for a winning summary judgment motion, shredding the opposing expert to enhance the settlement value of the case for one's client and perhaps even forcing one's client to acknowledge the warts in one's own case. And if one thousand litigators were polled, one would probably hear as many different opinions on the various purposes of depositions and the relative importance of those purposes.

But one thing that all litigators should agree on is that real-time transcription and deposition transcript management applications can be significant tools for accomplishing whatever goals one has in a given deposition. One such product (and perhaps the most widely used product) is [LiveNote](#), which can be a useful tool during the deposition, immediately after the deposition, in motions practice and at trial.

During the Deposition

Notwithstanding the oceans of ink spilled in bar journals decrying the state of the profession and calling for a return to civility, any litigator who frequently takes depositions will, from time to time, encounter obstructionist opposing counsel who flout the rules and deliberately defend with repeated speaking objections and subtle (or blatant) witness coaching. A crafty (or well-trained) witness can exacerbate the situation by picking up on the objections and tailoring his or her answers to match. Junior attorneys are especially ripe targets for this kind of unprofessional behavior, which frequently includes statements such as:

"I object -- that question blatantly mischaracterizes the prior testimony. What the witness actually said was"
"You asked me that already, a bunch of times. You asked it two hours ago and you asked it 10 minutes ago. I'm done repeating myself."

Unprofessional or not, the fact of the matter is that such behavior can frequently be effective at knocking off the rhythm of the questioning attorney. Asking the court reporter to stop and find questions and answers from 10 minutes ago, let alone two hours ago, disrupts testimony, kills momentum and spontaneity, and chews up what may be precious time. But if the questioning attorney has a real-time transcript available at his or her fingertips, which is perhaps the most fundamental thing that LiveNote offers, the questioning attorney can quickly obtain the upper hand in such situations by term-searching the transcript for the critical pieces

of testimony. Information is power, and one might imagine responses such as:

"First, counsel, your speaking objections are improper. Second, you are wrong. What the witness said was '[Quote].' With that testimony in mind, Mr./Ms. Witness, can you please answer the current question, which is...."
"Mr./Ms. Witness, please understand that you are here today to answer my questions. Unless your lawyer instructs you not to answer, you are required to provide truthful answers. That said, for your information what I asked you two hours ago was ['X'] and what I asked you 10 minutes ago was ['Y']. I'm now asking you a slightly different question, which is ['Z']. Can you please answer?"

The author's experience has been that it only takes two or three such exchanges for the defending attorney and/or the deponent to abandon that kind of gamesmanship. And controversial questions and answers that the deposing attorney anticipates referring back to later can be marked for quick reference with a simple tap of the space bar.

Relatedly, a deposing attorney with LiveNote capability can term-search not just the current transcript, but all transcripts previously taken in the case (provided they have been loaded onto the deposing attorney's computer). This can be extremely useful when a deponent coughs up an answer that opens the door to an unexpected area of inquiry that had been addressed by previous deponents. A few quick term-searches can give the deposing attorney the precise questions and answers from the previous depositions so that the questions in the current deposition can match up verbatim. In addition, and in subsequent motions practice or at trial, there will not be any wiggle room in the questions for the other side to use to try to explain away the damaging discrepancies in the answers.

Immediately After the Deposition

The best time to draft a deposition summary for the file and to circulate to team members is on an airplane or in your office (with phone and e-mail off) immediately after the deposition while memories of intangible elements of the deposition are still fresh. With a good real-time reporter, the transcription integrity of a rough real-time transcript available as soon as the deposition ends will be somewhere between 95 percent and 99 percent accurate. This is more than sufficient for working purposes where the goal is to digest and transmit information quickly. The deposition transcript can be reviewed for key issues that would otherwise be overlooked when

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trying to summarize seven hours of contentious deposition testimony from memory. Exact quotes can be examined and pressure-tested to verify that one really obtained the favorable testimony one remembered before reporting on that success to colleagues and clients, and lengthy portions of testimony can be easily cut and pasted into e-mails to circulate immediately. All of this is very useful, especially in active litigation matters where a series of depositions may be double or triple tracked for weeks in a row in locations across the country. In such situations the need to quickly share accurate information to team members is paramount, and the immediate availability of rough real-time LiveNote transcripts greatly helps litigators meet that need.

Defining Motions

In motions practice, especially dispositive motions practice, the devil is in the details. Jaded judges and their cautious clerks are quick to look past counsel's characterizations of the evidence and examine the source material for themselves. So it is critical to support one's arguments with passages of deposition testimony that support the propositions asserted, each and every time, as months or years of good impressions can be undone by only one mischaracterization of evidence. Pulling the relevant deposition passages from the mountains of deposition transcripts that may have grown over the course of the case leading up to dispositive motions practice or motion in limine practice is almost always an excruciating, time-consuming task.

LiveNote offers two solutions. First, term-searching again comes in handy. It is possible to term-search the entire deposition database in a couple keystrokes, often turning up the important testimony in seconds. Second, LiveNote offers the litigation team members the ability to mark passages of testimony for coding by issue any small or large piece of deposition testimony. If applied consistently throughout the case by all members of the litigation team, reports of the coded testimony will provide a very rich and focused set of questions and answers bearing on whatever issue has been established to capture that information. Both of these techniques offer tremendous efficiency advantages when preparing the supporting deposition excerpts for motions. LiveNote also allows the user to immediately view exhibits referenced in depositions through highlighted links -- clicking on the exhibit number as it appears in the text of the deposition on the screen will pull up the exhibit itself for verification or analysis of whatever point is of concern. This can be a very valuable feature when multiplied over the dozens -- or even hundreds -- of times a litigator might want to check back to the underlying exhibits themselves when authoring an important motion.

Use LiveNote at Trial

The dynamics of a typical deposition allow for long delays or frequent breaks in testimony. The deposing attorney may take a few minutes to gather exhibits, collect thoughts and prepare to launch into a new line of questioning; similarly, the deponent may take a significant amount of time to read through an exhibit (whether the deposing attorney encourages the witness to "take all the time you need" or not). Periods of silence lasting three to five minutes or even more are common in deposition and frequently do not even appear in the written record. But the dynamics at trial are vastly different. In front of an irritated judge and jury, even one minute of silence while the questioning attorney fiddles with paper trying to locate the next question or exhibit, or while the court reporter tries to locate a piece of testimony from earlier in the day, seems like an eternity. The questioning attorney may even abandon the issue because the value of making the point is less than the value of favor and credibility being lost by the delay, resulting in otherwise valid trial points slipping through the cracks and never reaching the jury box.

Here again, LiveNote's term-searching and issue-coding capabilities can help. The questioning attorney (or more likely his or her second chair) can instantly term-search all the depositions and trial testimony in one's LiveNote database of depositions from the matter to find cross-examination material that may only have become important when the witness took the stand. Issue-coded excerpts may similarly provide the answers with sufficient time to convey the information to the jury before the moment is lost.

Finally, assuming the relevant depositions have been videotaped and synched with the transcripts, LiveNote offers the ability for the litigator reviewing depositions electronically to instantly view the video that corresponds with any portions of text with a few drags and mouse clicks. When offering at trial deposition testimony from witnesses who for whatever reason are not available in person, video testimony is much more compelling to the jury and offers intangibles (facial expressions, body language, etc.) not captured in the text of the transcript as it would otherwise be read back. It is important for the litigator offering videotaped deposition designations to know what intangibles may come with the offered testimony, and the ability to quickly view the corresponding video is another valuable time-saving feature.

Overall Impressions

LiveNote is certainly no more difficult to use than other applications that are now part of a litigator's daily life, such as Microsoft Excel or PowerPoint. The average litigator (even the technophobic ones) can quickly figure out the particular features and shortcuts to maximize the value of the appli-

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cation for his or her practice. One thing to watch for when using LiveNote is a connection issue that can interfere with the transmission of the transcript from the court reporter's transcription machine to the deposing attorneys' computer screen. Especially when taking depositions outside of large metropolitan areas, the litigator should double -- and triple -- check that capable reporters with appropriate equipment will be present, and the litigator is advised to arrive at the deposition sufficiently in advance to give the real-time transcription a test run and work out any bugs. Confusion over relatively simple issues like baud rates and input ports are easy enough to fix, but only if someone in the room can identify the problem. Additionally, deposing attorneys -- especially junior deposing attorneys -- should bear in mind that the real-time transcript is a means to an end (a successful deposition) and not an end in itself. Counsel should take care not to become mesmerized by the words cascading down the screen, or view LiveNote as a substitute for listening carefully to the deponent's answers and asking the appropriate follow-up questions.

Litigators who use LiveNote should also make an effort to stay current with its updates and take advantage of the new opportunities LiveNote either has recently started offering or will soon be offering. Among these capabilities are live streaming transcripts and video to colleagues back at the home office or elsewhere, and electronic images of all the deposition exhibits in the case that are hyperlinked to the respective deposition transcripts and travel with the attorneys and/or the court reporters for consistent use and citation throughout depositions in a case. Exhibits can also be hosted in a Web repository for remote viewing, as well. These developing aspects should make it even easier for multiple attorneys to share information and coordinate deposition strategies.

Damian Capozzola is a litigator in the commercial litigation and health care practices in the Los Angeles office of Epstein, Becker & Green, P.C. He has over 10 years of litigation experience in state and federal courts from Hawaii to Delaware, and he has published and lectured on expert witness issues and on using technology to maximize litigation success.



Great Technology!!

By Teresa Fletcher, CCRA Director

One of the most rewarding experiences you can have as a court reporter is providing your service to a hard-of-hearing individual by enabling them to participate in court proceedings.

The other day in my family law courtroom appeared a case ready for trial on dissolution of a 40-year marriage. After a brief chambers conference with counsel, my judge decided to do a settlement conference from the bench with the parties and all counsel present, and he requested my presence to provide realtime services for the respondent, who was hard of hearing.

The respondent sat just behind me reading from my screen

For the next hour and a half, the respondent sat just behind me reading from my screen, on which I had increased the font to 200 percent. As he sat there reading my screen, he wrote notes on Post-Its and passed them to his attorneys. The attorneys were able to express their client's opinions, concerns, and clarifications.

At the time of the lunch break, the respondent stood up and told my judge that at his previous court date, he just sat there

while proceedings were happening having no clue as to what was going on. However, this time, he knows what's going on and this young lady is so kind to do this. This is great!! My judge, without missing a beat, said, "This is new technology. It's great!" "Yes, it is," replied the respondent, "thank you."

Upon returning from lunch, counsel notified the Court that they are working things out, give them some time. Later that afternoon, the parties and all counsel appeared with a settlement and needed some clarification and assistance from the Court. Once again, the respondent pulled up his chair and we resumed our places -- me with my writer and computer; he with his Post-Its.

After a while, they were able to settle the case, take status, and a judgment will soon be prepared. After the proceedings, the respondent told me he would not have been able to settle this case without my assistance. My judge, again without missing a beat, replied, "Isn't this technology great!" And then he winked at me.

I, too, echo my judge's sentiments, we have great technology -- realtime and LiveNote -- let's use it every day. It's great job security.



What is Networking?

By Rose M. Goni, RMR, CSR, CCRA Director

I hear the word “networking” a lot these days. I have asked other reporters what their understanding of it is, and the responses have varied. I have more questions than answers but thought I’d share a few of my thoughts and experiences as a freelancer regarding the “network” phenomenon.

Working at home one day I got a last-minute call from a reporting firm in Northern California, which was apparently covering a job for a reporting firm in L.A., but the job was taking place in downtown Sacramento. Huh? My first thoughts are, “How many people are getting a slice of this pie? And who *exactly* is it I’m working for? Where will my transcript go? Who will pay me?” Uh, no thanks, pass. Way too complicated for this country girl.

And then the 64-thousand-dollar question, in my mind: What are all these people – whose offices don’t even reside in this area – doing controlling a job that is going on in Sacramento??? *Is this networking?*

Other times the jobs I get called on may actually be taking place some distance away. For example, I got a call from a firm in Southern California trying to cover a hearing in Susanville, my hometown, which is about three and a half hours north of where I live now. I thought at first they were “giving” me the job because they had somehow heard that I work in Susanville from time to time. And by “giving,” of course, I mean that they were asking me to cover it and I would bill it and produce it as I saw fit. But, no, the job would be billed for and I would be paid through them and they would be taking their cut. *Is this networking?*

It seems that gone are the days when your client has an out-of-town depo that you would find a reporter in whatever city the deposition was taking place in and you would “give” that job to that firm or reporter in that city. And you would hope that whomever you had given that job to would treat your client well, and then that of course would reflect well upon you for a good referral. Perhaps someday that firm would return the favor and have you cover one of their client’s jobs taking place in your neck of the woods. But you wouldn’t expect any “cut” of the transcript coming back to you. The job would be produced, billed, handled by the reporter who actually reported the job. End of story.

Nowadays, for example, Firm A will call Firm B, who calls me, the freelance reporter. Both Firm A and Firm B somehow both get a piece of the action, to my understanding. Perhaps Firm A will get 10 percent of the Original and 1, but Firm B gets the rest, and then I send my transcript in to Firm B for production -- I think? I forget who is doing the billing. *Where is all the money coming from to divvy up? What page rates are being charged that allow for so many people to get a piece of the action?*

My first reaction when offered jobs with these type scenarios is “No thanks.” It sounds really complicated, and, quite frankly, I’m more than a little concerned about what this means I’m going to be paid in the end. I prefer the KIS method of doing business (keep it simple!)

While discussing networking recently with a colleague a quote was pointed out to me from Ralph Waldo Emerson that seemed appropo: *“Nothing astonishes men so much as common sense and plain dealing.”*



Dump Cake

By Gerie A. Bunch, CSR, RPR, CCRA SOS Committee Chair

- 1 20 oz. can crushed pineapple
- 1 20 oz. can cherry pie filling
- 1 yellow cake mix
- 1 c. chopped pecans
- 1 cube butter, thinly sliced

Using an oblong baking dish, dump in the crushed pineapple and spread; then dump in the cherry pie filling and spread; dump in the yellow cake mix and spread evenly; sprinkle with chopped pecans and dot with thin slices of butter. Bake at 375 for 45 to 48 minutes. Serve warm with whipped cream.



Legislative Update

For information concerning this report or the information contained herein, you may contact California Court Reporters Association, Attn. Sandy Bunch VanderPol, CSR #3032, at 2400 22nd Street, Suite 110, Sacramento, California 95815 (916) 443-5090 or by e-mail at RealtimeCSR@calweb.com.

[AB 32](#) (Fuller [R]) Career technical education: work certification training.
Status: 06/01/2007-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE
Current Location: 06/01/2007-A 2 YEAR

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

[AB 159](#) (Jones [D]) Courts: judgeships.
Status: 08/20/2007-From APPR.: Not heard. Remains in APPR..
Current Location: 07/17/2007-S APPR.
Calendar Events: 08/22/07 9:30 a.m. - John L. Burton Hearing Room (4203) SEN APPROPRIATIONS

Summary: Existing law requires the Governor to submit to a designated agency of the State Bar of California the names of all potential appointees or nominees for a vacant judicial office for evaluation of their judicial qualifications. Existing law also requires the Governor, on or before March 1, 2007, and annually on or before each March 1 thereafter, to disclose aggregate statewide demographic data provided by all judicial applicants relative to ethnicity and gender. This bill would require the Governor to collect and release, on an aggregate statewide basis, demographic data provided by all judicial applicants relative to ethnicity, race, and gender and demographic data relative to ethnicity, race, and gender of all judicial appointments or nominations as provided by the judicial appointee or nominee. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

[AB 299](#) (Tran [R]) Maintenance of the codes.
Status: 07/27/2007-Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 130, Statutes of 2007
Current Location: 07/27/2007-A CHAPTERED

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

[AB 310](#) (Silva [R]) Maintenance of the codes.
Status: 07/12/2007-Read second time. To Consent Calendar.
Current Location: 07/12/2007-S CONSENT CALENDAR
Calendar Events: 08/27/07 343 SEN CONSENT CALENDAR

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

[AB 500](#) (Lieu [D]) Civil actions: telephonic appearances.
Status: 07/05/2007-Read second time. To third reading.
Current Location: 07/05/2007-S THIRD READING
Calendar Events: 08/27/07 97 SEN THIRD READING FILE

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

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also permit a court to require a particular call provider to be used for telephone appearances. The bill would require a court to publish notice providing the information necessary to appear by telephone at conferences and hearings. The bill would also specify the application of these provisions to probate proceedings.

[AB 582](#) (Evans [D]) Court transcription fees.

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

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

Summary: This bill is sponsored by SEIU with CCRA and COCRA actively working with SEIU. This bill would provide for an increase in the folio rates for transcripts prepared by the official court reporter and official reporter pro tempore. This bill would also create a statewide uniform transcript format.

[AB 863](#) (Davis [D]) Los Angeles County Superior Court employees.

Status: 07/05/2007-Read second time. To third reading.

Current Location: 07/05/2007-S THIRD READING

Calendar Events: 08/27/07 107 SEN THIRD READING FILE

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

[AB 1025](#) (Bass [D]) Professions and vocations: licensure.

Status: 08/20/2007-In committee: Hearing postponed by committee. (Refers to 7/23/2007 hearing)

Current Location: 07/10/2007-S APPR.

Calendar Events: 08/22/07 9:30 a.m. - John L. Burton Hearing Room (4203) SEN APPROPRIATIONS

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

[AB 1211](#) (Price [D]) Depositions: costs.

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

Current Location: 07/20/2007-A CHAPTERED

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

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[AJR 38](#) (Levine [D]) Training for Realtime Writers Act of 2007.

Status: 08/21/2007-Introduced. To print.

Current Location: 08/21/2007-A PRINT

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

[SB 145](#) (Corbett [D]) Court facilities.

Status: 07/18/2007-Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Current Location: 07/18/2007-A APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Existing law requires the Judicial Council, in consultation with the superior court of each county and the county, to enter into agreements concerning the transfer of responsibility for court facilities from that county to the Judicial Council. Transfer of responsibility may occur not earlier than July 1, 2004, and not later than June 30, 2007. This bill would extend the deadline for the transfer of responsibility for court facilities to December 31, 2008. The bill would require that any transfer agreement that has not been executed by June 30, 2008, contain a requirement that the county pay an additional amount annually, to be calculated pursuant to a specified method. The bill would provide that the county is not required to make the additional payment if the county has submitted a proposed county facilities payment in connection with court facilities. The bill would make related, conforming changes. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

[SB 649](#) (Committee on Judiciary) Trial court restructuring.

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

Current Location: 07/12/2007-S CHAPTERED

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

[SB 823](#) (Perata [D]) Private postsecondary education: California Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2007.

Status: 08/20/2007-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time. Amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Current Location: 08/20/2007-A APPR.

Calendar Events: 08/22/07 9 a.m. - ROOM 4202 ASM APPROPRIATIONS

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



AB 1211 – A Solid Foundation for Freelancers and Depo Firms

By Sheri Turner, CSR, RPR, CCRA Vice President – Freelance, Depo Advisory Chair

Exciting News! On July 22, 2007, Governor Schwarzenegger signed into law AB 1211 (Price), a bill cosponsored by CCRA and DRA, which will become effective on January 1, 2008. It is a great success on the part of CCRA, DRA, and our respective lobbyists to have this legislation passed so quickly. This bill will greatly aid in collection efforts, hopefully all but eliminating the need to go to small claims court to collect on an invoice, but giving plenty of ammunition if the need arises. The bill clarifies the responsibility of the attorney to pay the reporter for reporting services in a timely manner.

Here is the specific language of the new law for your reference:

Added to Code of Civil Procedure 2025.510:

(h) (1) The requesting attorney or party appearing in propria persona shall timely pay the deposition officer or the entity providing the services of the deposition officer for the transcription or copy of the transcription described in subdivision (b) or (c), and any other deposition products or services that are requested either orally or in writing.

(2) This subdivision shall apply unless responsibility for the payment is otherwise provided by law or unless the deposition officer or entity is notified in writing at the time the services or products are requested that the party or another identified person will be responsible for payment.

(3) This subdivision does not prohibit or supersede an agreement between an attorney and a party allocating responsibility for the payment of deposition costs to the party.

(i) For purposes of this section, "deposition product or service" means any product or service provided in connection with a deposition that qualifies as shorthand reporting, as described in Section 8017 of the Business and Professions Code, and any product or service derived from that shorthand reporting.

So now that we have this new code section, how do we use it to our advantage?

The first help in the language of this bill is "shall timely pay." Wouldn't it be great if all our invoices were paid in a timely manner? This is language that can be a definite benefit to us in our payment reminders. I might even consider printing an excerpt of this section on my rebills and reminder notices!

Section (1) of the new language specifies that the attorney of record or party in pro per, the one who is requesting the deposition services or a copy of the transcript or other product from the reporter, is responsible for paying for those

services. How many times when trying to collect from an attorney after several months do they come back with, "My client is responsible for paying that?" It may be that the attorney has a cost agreement or arrangement with their client. Most attorneys handle such agreement by collecting money to cover costs from their client, putting that money in a trust account, and then paying those expenses with the money they have collected. In my opinion, I really don't care what the source of the check is, as long as I get the check. If the client pays, great! If the insurance company pays, great! If the attorney pays, great! But some areas of the state have not had good success trying to collect in small claims court when the attorney tries to pass the buck after the fact. Now we have specific language to quote to the attorney, to the court, to whomever. How can any court rule against a collection effort with that kind of a language as a backup?

There may be some instances where there is an agreement or court order in place allocating discovery costs. Of course, in workers' comp cases the defense pays for the transcript for the applicant's attorney. Those situations are usually not the times we have a problem collecting.

If an attorney wants an alternate pay arrangement, the deposition officer must be notified in writing at the time the services or products are ordered. If it is a noticing attorney requesting a reporter for the deposition, then the firm is notified in advance of the deposition. If opposing counsel at the deposition notifies in writing when they order the copy, then the firm is notified in advance of providing the copy. It's not sufficient for an attorney to suggest there is some type of cost agreement or that there is some type of escrow or trust account set up. We need the name of a person from the responsible entity to contact and get written approval of paying costs.

What to do if and when you receive such a written notification?

It is the reporting firm's responsibility to establish their own best business practice for this situation. May the Depo Advisory Committee offer some of the following points for consideration:

It's up to the reporting firm to decide whether to accept the work and even do business with the "responsible person or entity." It might be prudent to require a deposit in advance of doing the work. It might be a workable solution to agree to send the transcript on a C.O.D. basis. Consider handling the situation with a responsible entity the same way you would handle services for an attorney or law firm that has no credit history with you.

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If it's the choice of the reporting agency to establish a credit-for-services agreement, then it's up to the agency to establish a financial relationship with the attorney's client, taking whatever steps they feel are necessary to do that. I would suggest in that case, the attorney take responsibility to provide to the reporting agency all contact information for the client that might be necessary for the agency to determine the creditworthiness of the client. Contact the responsible person/entity to obtain written approval of the agreement to pay reporting costs. I would encourage communication with the responsible person/entity to be written and that the reporting agency maintain adequate and accurate records of such communications, including any e-mail communications. You might consider registering the e-mail communication or, at the very least, requiring a return receipt and maintaining the e-mail thread. You might consider coming up with your own written payment agreement form, delineating the payment parameters, for the responsible person/entity to sign.

However it is decided to handle the situation when a written notification is given, at least now the depo firm will have the opportunity to decide. It's too late to decide to turn down

the work or make other arrangements when we are trying to collect from the attorney months and sometimes years after reporting services were provided.

For some added peace of mind:

This legislation was modeled after legislation passed two years ago in the state of New York. We have been told that the New York attorneys very rarely, if ever, avail themselves of the opportunity to notify the reporter and pass the cost through. So this is not a situation that we expect to happen often and consume a lot of time and worry on the part of agency owners. We just want to educate you about the law and give some suggestions for handling the situation.

Although I don't feel it is the reporter or firm's responsibility to educate attorneys about this new bill, we have this language now at our disposal to use how we deem necessary. Most agency owners know which clients are more likely to create problems with regard to payment. It is those clients who should be made aware of the new law so there are no surprises down the road as you establish a comfortable relationship and understanding as to what your payment expectations are and, now, what the law requires.



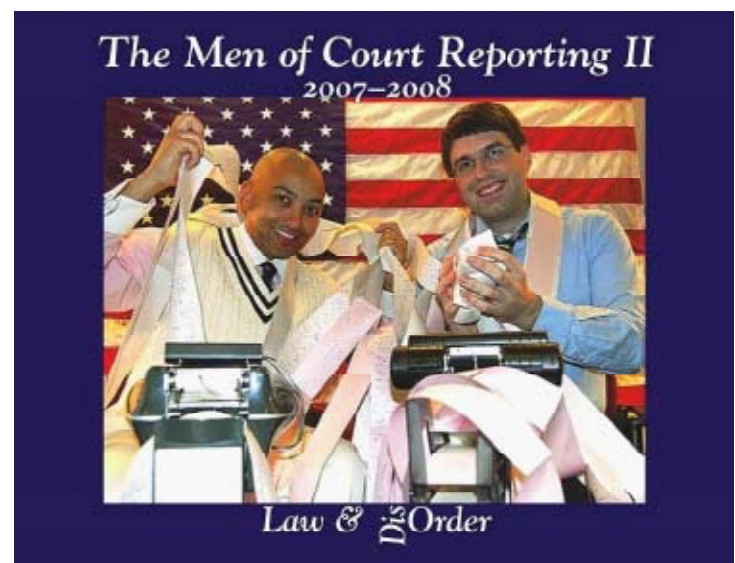
It's Rainin' Men!

The "Men of Court Reporting II, Law and DisOrder" Calendar is Here!

The "Men of Court Reporting II, Law and DisOrder" NCRA PAC Calendar has finally arrived, and it's better than ever! The votes have been cast, the photos taken, and here it is, awaiting delivery. Beginning in August 2007 and running through December 2008, this 17-month calendar is chock full of important dates, fun facts, and, of course, the "Men of Court Reporting" showcasing their talents and trades!

NCRA PAC (Political Action Committee) is a vehicle to raise funds to support elected officials who actively champion the court reporting and captioning professions on Capitol Hill. NCRA PAC is the profession's most influential tool for advocacy and federal representation.

For more information on the calendar, contact Laura Dennis at ldennis@ncrahq.org or call 800-272-NCRA!



NCSA Approves CCRA Resolutions at NCRA Convention

The National Committee of State Associations (NCSA), at its annual meeting in Dallas, met to discuss the resolutions submitted by various state associations throughout the country. CCRA submitted resolutions to be discussed, debated and voted upon at this NCSA Governing Board meeting. Two of CCRA's resolutions were passed by this body and will be submitted to the NCRA Board of Directors for consideration and action. These resolutions are pasted below.

CCRA has made it a priority over this past year to be visionary about our profession – where will we be in five or ten years; what services and products will we be offering; how will technology continue to play a part in our profession – and each of these resolutions is based on this vision.

The time is NOW to educate and train hands-on our profession on the technologies that currently exist and are in the development stages. The time is NOW to look into that crystal ball and attempt to define where technology will take us. These two resolutions will, hopefully, be adopted by the NCRA Board of Directors as a priority item and will culminate in you receiving the valuable training necessary to provide the technological services that will ensure our profession of realtime reporting far into the future.

Resolution Number: 07-03-CA

Resolution: Be it resolved that the NCRA Board of Directors develop a long-range strategic plan that proactively addresses current and future technology as relates to protecting the products and services provided by the NCRA member now and into the future. If the Board of Directors believes that in order to identify future technologies that relate to the profession would require the expertise of a consultant, be it resolved that the NCRA Board of Directors appropriate the necessary funds to implement this Resolution.

Rationale: In conforming with NCRA's Mission Statement, the rationale of the above-described Resolution is to protect and preserve the court reporting profession, and our products and services attendant thereto, now and into the future, by defining current and future technology as relates to the duties of the profession – “Guardian of the Record.” An example of potential goals and objectives could be: (1) Define the profession's products and services now and into the future, and the end users of these services and products; (2) Define technological trends in the industry currently and proactively; (3) Define our SWOT, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in regards to technology trends now and in the future; (4) Create a “Roadmap to Success” in the implementation of these technologies into our suite of services and products to our clients; (5) Educate NCRA members on such “Roadmap to Success.”

Governing Committee Recommendation: Adoption.

Vote of NCSA Body at Annual Meeting: Adoption

Resolution Number: 07-06-CA

Resolution: Be it resolved that the NCRA Board of Directors and/or the Council of the Academy of Professional Reporters (CAPR) develop a “Certified Technology Reporter” examination and/or program.

Rationale: The profession of court reporting has been evolving into that of an information manager – providing realtime troubleshooting to the end user, troubleshooting Web streaming text and video to the end user, providing transcript repositories in large cases (some small cases), digitally signing our electronic transcripts, and many more services. The current certifications offered by NCRA, such as the Certified Realtime Reporter, does not provide the assurance to the court and/or the firm owner that the reporter is competent to provide the latest cutting-edge technological services that some reporters and/or firms are, in fact, providing.

By creating a Certified Technology Reporter (CTR) designation or certification, would allow the individual reporter to promote their excellence in the technological aspects of reporting and would assure the firm owner hiring an independent contractor reporter that this reporter is well versed on the latest cutting-edge technological services. The CTR designation could also be promoted by a “court” reporter. This CTR designation could potentially warrant an increase in salary to both the official and freelancer reporter.

Governing Committee Recommendation: Adoption.

Vote of NCSA Body at Annual Meeting: Adoption



NCRA'S Annual Convention in Dallas

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

The convention in Dallas concludes with the passage of Direct Member Voting, Doug Friend voted to secretary/treasurer and Kathy DiLorenzo as our new president.

On a personal note, I attended many excellent seminars, not the least of which was a re-enactment of the Enron trial – touting the realtime reporter as the future of court reporting by demonstrating the integration of the court reporter's skills into the technological world of court reporting that we find ourselves in: realtime reporting; Web streaming realtime; bar coding and displaying exhibits and deposition testimony to the jury, and much more.

After this convention and after listening to the leaders of our profession and attending the many innovative seminars, it's ever apparent that the skill of realtime reporting and its adjunct services is what defines the future of our profession. I encourage each one of you to become a part of this amazing future, the foundation of which is realtime reporting!

It's important as your president that I pass on some excerpts of Kathy DiLorenzo's speech, your NCRA president. It's important that you take note of her words. Kathy addresses our profession at the national level, a level where many states do not have the luxury of an abundance of court reporting schools, an abundance of licensed CSRs and an abundance of competent realtime reporters as California does. It's important that you know that digital recording and/or electronic recording is used throughout this country in BOTH depositions and in court proceedings. It's important that you know that in many states throughout this country that there are no requirements for licensure. It's important that you know voice writers and/or steno mask reporters are a common method of reporting the verbatim record.

Below I have pasted a few passages from Kathy's inaugural speech. Please go to <http://ncraonline.org/Live/president.htm> to obtain the entirety of her speech.

Our superiority in the speech-to-text business rests



CCRA President Sandra Bunch VanderPol and DRA President Valerie Eames at the NCSA Information Exchange discussing the passage of AB1211(Price)

solely in the number of professionals that we can elevate to the level of realtime excellence. How do we proclaim that superiority when in 2007 less than 10 percent of our members hold a certification in realtime? Realtime made its place in our profession more than 25 years ago. I ask you, are we satisfied that 10% of our members are certified in the very skill that we claim to be our "superiority"?

NCRA is our Association. It is the body that represents each of us, that educates us, that certifies us, and that protects our interests on Capitol Hill. Will we watch as our ranks are reduced and services dwindle because we won't admit to ourselves that our profession no longer belongs to steno writers only? Or will we decide that it is we, the intelligence behind the machine, who are the stakeholders in the National Court Reporters Association?

Just for a moment, consider this scenario: Consider an Association that includes all speech-to-text providers, such as steno reporters, voicewriters, electronic reporting operators, videographers, scopists, transcriptionists, programmers, language translation experts, speech recognition experts, and

Continued on page 25



California contingent of conventioners



LaVette Webb and Linda Cohen with their mentor Debby Steinman

hardware and software vendors of all methods and all supporting technology. Imagine that the highest-paid practitioner is the realtime specialist, who commands respect in the industry for their ability to translate speech to text with the highest levels of accuracy.

Imagine that the second-tier practitioner is the non-realtime specialist who can capture speech and convert it to text by providing a quality deliverable based on knowledge, experience and exceptional skill; a specialist whose qualifications will give them bargaining power over the worker off the street who has a piece of equipment and a few months of technical training behind them. Every specialist, no matter the method, will be certified by the same validated competency exam in order that all will compete on equal footing.

Just imagine an Association now with not 23,000 members, but, say 50 or 60,000 members, or more; an Association with resources that permit us to advocate more closely and on a much larger scale with our clients and consumers; an Association which speaks as the authority on all methods of speech to text; and we can tell our clients, yes, there



Dallas Erwood and Reesa Parker

is no higher level service than a certified realtime specialist; and yes, this electronic recording device will work here, but absolutely not here!

This new association will not EVER be afraid of the technology that will come along, because the developers of newer and better systems will be part of our own team, and because we'll know that we're adapting people to the changing technology and not just sitting around waiting for the technology to put the people out of business.



Debby Steinman, Sandy Bunch VanderPol and Robin Casey



Congratulations to our Hollywood Trivia Winners!

Dorothy Ayers, Saugus; Jayne Hicks, Rancho Mirage; and Helyn Johnson, Madera; have each won a CD of the movie they correctly identified in the CCRA Convention promotion called Hollywood Trivia. In addition, 30 more folks won free drink tickets for the Saturday and Sunday night receptions at the Convention.

Are you getting the Hollywood Trivia emails? If not, please add ccra@omgs.com to your address book. We have five more trivia questions to go, and all you have to do is be the 15th person to correctly reply to the email with the right answer.

This game is just the beginning of the fun planned for the 97th annual CCRA convention to be held October 6-8, 2007 at the downtown Los Angeles Marriott Hotel. See the program information beginning on page six and register now at www.cal-ccra.org.

The Silent Auction

The Silent Auction - back by popular demand and not to be missed at our Hollywood in Reel Time Convention! You are invited to come and browse a wide array of items generously donated by fellow reporters, as well as vendors we all turn to for our specialized needs. Whether you want to indulge yourself with a one-of-a-kind treasure, or pick up work-related tools, you'll find it here.

It's not too late to participate in this wonderful event. Any donations will be greatly appreciated and will add to the fun and excitement. Of course, everyone who donates will get recognition for their contributions and for supporting CCRA in its constant pursuit to protect our great profession and keep it strong.

Please contact Iris Smith at iris.smith@comcast.net, or (916) 276-6706 with your donations.

Join CCRA for Hollywood in Reel Time!



TurboCAT

- Job Menu
- Realtime
- Utility Menu
- [F10] Exit
- Dictionary Menu
- Litigation Support
- CAPticator Online
- [F1] Help!

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SmartCAT

- Job Menu
- Realtime
- Files in Work Directory
- Help!
- Dictionary
- Import Notes
- Style Sheet
- Quick Start Guide
- Exit

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california court reporters association

Win a New Stenograph

e'lan *Mira*



at the
CCRA Live Auction!

Sunday, October 7

at the

Cocktail Reception at 6:30 pm

Be the highest bidder during the Live Auction on October 7 at CCRA's 97th Annual Convention, and you'll take home this exciting new Stenograph e'lan Mira A3*!

The élan Mira A3 (Patent Pending) is like writing on air! Featuring AudioSync™ OTG - on the go!

The e'lan Mira A3 features:

- AudioSync™ OTG - on the go!
- Large color display lets you see things your way!
- Triple protection of your valuable steno notes
- AccuDial
- Ports for today and tomorrow
- Headphone and microphone jacks built in
- EasyLock T2 Tripod



Stenograph

*Highest bidder may choose a Stentura ("paper version") instead

2007 convention



CCRA 97th Annual Convention - Hollywood in Reel Time

Technology, and the products and services derived from Technology, is the focus of many seminars at this year's annual convention. Our profession has survived as a result of technology – be a leader by committing to educating yourself about the technology that will lead you into the future. Along with the many technology-based seminars, you can choose from a variety of topic areas. You won't want to miss the social events and the networking with your many colleagues! Don't hesitate – send in your registration now. I look forward to meeting and talking with every one of you in LA.

Sandy Bunch VanderPol
CCRA President



Premiere Events!

Friday, October 5, 2007

8 – 10 p.m.

President's Reception

(See onsite program for Suite number)

Saturday, October 6, 2007

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

Wake-Up Walk

Get the day, and your heart, started the right way. Do it!

Coach: Carolyn Joy Dasher

8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Registration

9 a.m. - 12 Noon

BREAKOUT SESSIONS – .3 CEUs*

Vendors Are Here To Help You

[Note: Bring Your Own Equipment]

ProCat

Under Bob's leadership, ProCat has become a leading provider of CAT, CART, and Captioning Software within the court reporting industry and has been instrumental in developing many of the industry's "firsts." Bring your questions to Bob!

Speaker: Bob Bakva

Eclipse

Learn timesaving tips and techniques and get the most out of your software. This is a session to get your bothersome questions answered! We will have the answers!

Speaker: Wil Wilcox

StenoCAT

You will hear the details on getting the most from your software. Find out the techniques that will save you time and make you more profitable.

Speaker: Tim Brunk

Case Catalyst Hands-On Workshop

This workshop is all about solving problems! Learn all the editing and realtime shortcuts Case Catalyst has to offer.

Speaker: Sandi Starbuck

9 a.m – 1 p.m.

Speed Contest

See separate registration on form

12 Noon – 5:30 p.m.

Vendor Area Open

Lunch on your own

1 – 2:30 p.m.

GENERAL SESSION – KEYNOTE SPEAKER .15 CEUs*

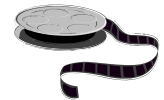
Hollywood Cases

Hear the insider scoop on cases that make the headlines including the recent Scott Peterson trial from the "attorney to the stars."

Speaker: Mark Geragos, Esq.

2 – 3 p.m.

Break with Vendors



Continued on page 29

CCRA 97th Annual Convention - Hollywood in Reel Time

3 – 4 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS .10 CEUs*

Ergonomics For Court Reporters; Preventing Discomfort, Pain and Stress Injuries

You will learn the true causes of repetitive stress and potentially life-changing solutions to apply immediately. Low risk techniques of stenotyping, keyboarding, sitting, and lifting will be practiced. Key task-specific stretches found to relieve neck, wrist and shoulder tension will help you gain control of how you feel on and off the job.

Speaker: Dennis Downing

Tech – Microsoft Vista

Get an overview of Microsoft's latest operating system. Topics will include Windows Firewall, Spyware Defender and User Account Control as well as how to find COM ports and how various CAT systems run with Vista. Learn what to buy when you upgrade your system.

Speaker: Jason Perez

When Not To Punctuate

We spend a lot of time learning where to put punctuation. In this seminar, we will explore where punctuation is not correct and should not be used. Learn tips on keeping your transcripts "punctuation free."

Speaker: Margie Wakeman-Wells

4 – 4:30 p.m.

Break with Vendors

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS / .10 CEUs*

Tech – Windows XPerience

This is a "back to basics" Windows seminar covering customizing Windows main screen, using the Windows key and system tray and other keyboard shortcuts built into Windows. You'll learn how to make your own Windows shortcuts to save time and be more productive.

Speaker: Candis Bradshaw

Glamour Session – Makeup Artist For Star Reporters

Look like a star! This noted makeup artist has worked for KCBS, the Academy Awards show and many leading stars of Hollywood. Learn how to save money on makeup as you use it to look younger and more glamorous.

Speaker: Barbara Behr

Economic Tax Update

A noted accounting and tax consultant will offer a full range of financial information and advice with a revolutionary approach. Save money like the stars – stay ahead of the game! Come hear Phil tell you how.

Speaker: Phil Liberatore

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Poolside No-Host Cocktail Reception

Sponsored by Phil Liberatore

Entertainment provided by Adam Alvarado & Company
CCRA Members and Guests are free to make dinner plans of personal choice.

Sunday, October 7, 2007

6 – 7 a.m.

FUN RUN / WALK FOR PACCRA

Exercise and support a great cause all at the same time. See separate registration form.

Coach: Jim Partridge

7:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Registration

7:30 – 8 a.m.

Continental Breakfast with Vendors

8 – 9:30 a.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS / .15 CEUs*

Digital Signatures

When President Clinton signed E-SIGN in 2000, a new era was ushered in – an era where a digital signature was as legally binding as a pen-and-paper signature. Learn everything you need to know to use digital signatures effectively.

Speaker: Candis Bradshaw

The Ethics of Using "Audiosync"

Learn how to ensure the integrity of the record when using audiosync. Should there be audiosync guidelines that govern the extent of its use? Should .wav file be provided to parties as a value-added service? During this session, we will discuss your experiences and concerns about the latest technology.

Panelists: Sandy Bunch VanderPol, Lesia Mervin, Yvonne Fenner, and Judy Gillespie

Realtime Broadcast Captioning in 2007... Just The Facts, Part I

Learn all you need to know about this career move, including the knowledge and skills that you'll need to qualify as a captioner and to succeed in the business. You'll get an idea of how a captioner's work day differs from that of a judicial reporter. We'll discuss both the positives and the negatives of working from home as a remote captioner, as well as considerations in deciding whether you want to be an employee or an independent contractor. If you're convinced that you want to be a captioner, you will leave this seminar with a clear direction of how to reach your goal.

Speaker: Kathy DiLorenzo, NCRA 2008 President

[NOTE: This is a lecture seminar; you do not need to bring equipment.]

Continued on page 30



CCRA 97th Annual Convention - Hollywood in Reel Time

9:30 – 10 a.m.

Break with Vendors

9:30 – 10:45 a.m.

APPRENTICE TRACK

All the Court's a Stage

Presenting all the roles and scenes that are played out in a courtroom that you don't learn in school. All aspects of court proceedings and reporter responsibilities will be covered so that you can shine with confidence in the role of an official or pro tem reporter.

Speakers Debby Steinman, Sheri Turner

10 – 11:30 am

BREAKOUT SESSIONS / .15 CEUs*

Tech – Gadgets for the Reporter

Techno-gadgets help make our jobs easier ... and can wow our clients too. Come to this seminar to learn about all sorts of neat gadgets – from digital recorders to small scanners to microphones to wireless technology galore – that will bring some techno-zeal into your life!

Speaker: Candis Bradshaw

Faster & Faster

In a seminar based on his popular JCR article, Jason Meadors, RPR, CRR, guides us through the increasingly fast-paced and high-demand world of deposition and court reporting, with humorous commentary on the phenomenon, while troubleshooting situations, exploring solutions, and reasserting our mission.

Speaker: Jason Meadors

Captioning ... Just The Facts, Part II

See Part I at 8 a.m.

Speaker: Kathy DiLorenzo, NCRA 2008 President

10:45 a.m. - Noon

APPRENTICE TRACK

The Depo World - From the Director's Chair

Presenting all the roles and scenes that are played out in a courtroom that you don't learn in school. All aspects of court proceedings and reporter responsibilities will be covered so that you can shine with confidence in the role of an official or pro tem reporter.

Speakers Debby Steinman, Sheri Turner

11:30 - 12 Noon

Break with Vendors



12 Noon – 2 p.m.

**Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon
Sandy Bunch VanderPol and Lesia Mervin**

Luncheon Speaker:

Assembly Member Curren D. Price

Assembly Member Price was elected to the California State Assembly in 2006. He serves as the Chair of the Assembly Elections and Redistricting Committee and as a member to the following committees: Business and Professions, Governmental Organizations, and Jobs, Economic Development and Professions.



NCRA Report

Kathy DiLorenzo, NCRA 2008 President

Installation of Officers

Distinguished Service Award

2 – 3:30 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS / .15 CEUs*

Reporting and Delivering the Scott/Laci Peterson Trial Transcript

Real time delivery to the bench, daily transcript delivery to the court and counsel, using the internet for transcript delivery; let's get organized! All that and dealing with the media in high profile cases.

Speakers: Laron Johnson

Stenomask vs. Stenograph

Jason Meadors, RPR, CRR, discusses his past as a voice reporter in the Marines, provides an overview of the history and realities of voice reporting technology, and addresses questions and concerns about the rapidly changing face of court reporting and captioning.

Speaker: Jason Meadors

STENO STREFFP/Z – A Yoga Workshop

Learn the principals of movement and alignment and basic yoga posture to enhance your physical, emotional and intellectual strength.

Instructor: Terry Littlefield

2 – 3 p.m.

APPRENTICE TRACK

Mock CSR

Speakers: Debby Steinman, Ned Branch

3:30 – 4 p.m.

Break with Vendors

Continued on page 31

CCRA 97th Annual Convention - Hollywood in Reel Time

3 - 5:30 p.m.

APPRENTICE TRACK

Mock Written Exam and Review

Speaker: Maggie Wakeman Wells

4 - 5:30 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS / .15 CEUs*

Freelancers and Firm Owners Talk It Out

An information exchange for freelance reporters and firm owners, along with an explanation of AB 1211, a new law affecting firms and freelancers.

Topics: Networking with firms; marketing; privacy issues; Who signs certificate pages, CRB's new Professional Standards and more. The last half hour will be a NCRA Town Hall Meeting. **

Facilitator: Sandy Bunch VanderPol

Panelists: Sheri Turner, Rose Goni-Davis, Natie Alvarado, Judy Gillespie, Kelly Roemer, Lynden Glover and Bill Greenley

Officials Talk It Out

This could be the most valuable 90 minutes of your conference experience. The information exchange format will cut to the real issues including a review of AB 582 regarding transcript fees. The last half hour will be a NCRA Town Hall Meeting. **

Panelists: Lesia Mervin, Renee Grove, Jim Partridge, Teresa Fletcher and Tom Pringle

NCRA's Town Hall Meeting

** Freelancers and Officials will meet together for CCRA presentation of NCRA's "first" Town Hall Meeting with NCRA 2008 President Kathy DiLorenzo.

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

No-Host Cocktail Reception

Sponsored by LACCRA

Silent Auction*

Monday October 8, 2007

6 - 7 a.m.

Wake-Up Power Walk

7:30 - 10 a.m.

Registration Open

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast



The planners and sponsors reserve the right to substitute speakers without penalty due to unforeseen and/or unavoidable circumstances. The planners and sponsors of this function claim no liability for the acts of any suppliers to this event nor for the safety of any attendee while in transit to or from this event.

8:30 - 10 a.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS / .15 CEUs*

Transcript Repositories

You'll discuss how transcript repositories work for official, freelance and firm owners, large and small. Hear the state-of-the-art functionalities on repositories and how to market them to the end user as well as what it takes to administer a repository.

Facilitator: Sandy Bunch VanderPol

Panelists: Tom Lange, Jason Primuth, Bill Greenley, Laron Johnson and Mason Farmani

The ABC's of Making Money: Taking Control of Your Financial Future Starting Today

This session will provide sound financial concepts in "everyday" language. You will be empowered to make changes in how you view money... and how you use money!

Speaker: Tony Bastiaans

Are You Living Life To The Fullest or Selling Out?

Is your job consuming the majority of your time? Do you keep putting off that vacation because you're so busy working? Because you want to make more money and don't want to miss out on the next death penalty case? Because you want to report the next O&4 deposition? Because, because, because...? Consider the possibility of working 50 percent less and still be making as much, if not more, money. Learn how you can direct your life forward instead of reacting to what life throws your way. What would life be like for you then? In this seminar, we'll discuss those topics and more. Learn how you can create your life to go the way you want it to go instead of reacting to what life throws at you.

Speaker: Diane Saunar

10 - 10:30 a.m.

Session Break

10:30 - 12 Noon

GENERAL SESSION / .15 CEUs*

The Magic to Balancing Stress

Dan will inspire us to infuse humor, creativeness and playfulness into our professional and personal lives thereby experiencing less stress and illness while increasing productivity! WOW! And, all attendees present at this closing session will receive passes to the world-famous Magic Castle located in the Hollywood Hills!

Speaker: Dan Jordan

12 Noon

Drawing to Benefit Student Scholarship Fund

Chairman: Gerie Bunch

PACCRA Drawing*

Chairman: Jim Partridge

*Auction and Drawing items must be picked up immediately.



Details! Details!

Hotel Information

Surrounded by popular venues for business, sports, arts and entertainment, the upscale Marriott Downtown Los Angeles is situated at the hub of the city with some of the best entertainment venues in the world within a few blocks. The Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Museum of Contemporary Art, 7th Street Marketplace, great restaurants, browsing and shopping are within walking distance.

The accommodations are large and luxurious and can be yours for CCRA's convention rate of only \$125.00 a night, single or double. Reservations must be made by Friday, September 7, 2007.

Please make your reservations by calling Marriott Central Reservations toll free at 1-800-228-9290, or the hotel direct at 1-213-617-1133, and request the California Court Reporters Association Special Conference Group Rate.

Special Activities

SATURDAY NIGHT RECEPTION

After a full day of activity join your colleagues for a relaxing No-Host Cocktail Reception, with food sponsored by Phil Liberatore, at the beautifully palm tree surrounded poolside. Special entertainment will be provided by Adam Alvarado & Company.

5K FUN RUN/WALK

PACCRA's Annual FUNdraiser will be bright and early at 6:00am. You'll have bragging rights all day for doing it... and you'll feel better too. Additional fee - see registration form.

CCRA SPEED CONTEST

Don't forget to register! Nominal fee; bring your own equipment. See registration form.

SUNDAY NIGHT RECEPTION

Another chance to unwind and visit with colleagues. This great no-host bar reception is generously sponsored by LACCRA.

STUDENTS (APPRENTICES)

Participating students will find value in the planned workshops and the CSR Mock classes on Sunday.

SPONSOR A STUDENT

Help a student attend this year's convention. You can sponsor the registration or donate a flat fee to help pay for accommodations, travel, etc. Sponsorship donations will be distributed after the convention. See enclosed form.

DRESS CODE

Business casual is suggested for convention activities. Remember to pack appropriate gear for 5K Run/Walk. Temperatures in hotel meeting rooms are sometimes cool so we suggest you bring sweaters and/or jackets.

Mandatory Education for Officials

Changes to the California Rule of Court make it mandatory for all court employees, including court reporters, to complete eight hours of continuing education every two years. These continuing education requirements may be met by getting your supervisor to pre-approve your attendance at the seminars at the CCRA convention.

PACCRA FUN 5K RUN/WALK

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2007

6:00 am in the lobby rain or shine!

COURSE: Baby strollers and wheelchairs welcome. No bikes, rollerblades, scooters, skateboards, Segways or pets will be permitted on the course.

FEE: Freelancer/Official/Virtual Runner: \$50.00. Register by Friday, September 15, 2007. After September 15th or on-site, add a \$15.00 late fee.

FOR MORE RACE INFORMATION: (916) 443-5090.

Registration Form - Fax to (916) 451-9150

Freelance Official Virtual Runner

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Payment: Visa MasterCard

CREDIT CARD NUMBER: _____ EXP. DATE: _____

Pledges: (Make checks payable to PACCRA. No cash please.) Please include name, address, email, and pledge amount for each:

1 _____

_____ \$ _____

2 _____

_____ \$ _____

3 _____

_____ \$ _____

4 _____

_____ \$ _____

5 _____

_____ \$ _____

CCRA 97th Annual Convention - Hollywood in Reel Time

Hollywood in Reel Time • October 6-8, 2007

Please print or type information. Submit a separate registration form for each registrant.

CCRA REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Rates apply to registration forms postmarked/faxed on or before 5:00 PM, September 7, 2007. After September 7, 2007, a \$30 late fee will be charged. Students pay a \$15 late fee. Returned checks will be assessed a \$25 processing fee. Cancellation policy: Cancellations must be received in writing (fax or e-mail accepted) by 5:00 PM, September 28, 2007, to qualify for a refund. There will be a \$10 processing fee for all refunds. No refunds for cancellations received after 5:00 PM, September 28, 2007.



NAME:	NCRA #:
MAILING ADDRESS:	CITY/STATE/ZIP:
DAYTIME PHONE:	NAME FOR BADGE:
EMAIL:	

REGISTRATION FEES: Circle Appropriate Fees	MEMBER		NON-MEMBER		STUDENT MEMBER		STUDENT NON-MEMBER	
	Before 9/7/07	After 9/7/07	Before 9/7/07	After 9/7/07	Before 9/7/07	After 9/7/07	Before 9/7/07	After 9/7/07
Full Registration (Includes Seminars, Breaks, Business Meeting, Luncheon, Exhibits, Saturday & Sunday Receptions)	\$295	\$325	\$395	\$425	\$140	\$155	\$200	\$215
Saturday & Sunday (Includes Saturday or Sunday Seminars, Breaks, Exhibits & Events)	\$220	\$250	\$320	\$350	\$75	\$90	\$90	\$105
Sunday Only (Includes Sunday Seminars, Business Meeting, Luncheon, Exhibits, Reception)	\$175	\$205	\$275	\$305	\$75	\$90	\$90	\$105
Saturday or Monday Only (Includes all activities on either day)	\$125	\$155	\$225	\$255	\$75	\$90	\$90	\$105

If your registration includes meal functions, please indicate which events you plan to attend:

- SATURDAY: Reception
- SUNDAY: Continental Breakfast
 Annual Business Meeting & Luncheon
 Reception
- MONDAY: Continental Breakfast

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
 (Will move your renewal date ahead 12 months)
\$121.50
 (10% discount for early renewal)

Additional Activities:

- SATURDAY: Reception @ \$25 each
- SUNDAY: Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon @ \$55 each Sunday Reception @ \$25 each

Speed Contest - Saturday, October 6 - \$25

LACCRA Members - Deduct \$100 from full convention registration or \$50 from partial registration.

Payment: Check made payable to CCRA
 Visa MasterCard

CREDIT CARD NUMBER: _____ EXP. DATE: _____

CARDHOLDER'S NAME (PLEASE PRINT): _____

CARDHOLDER'S SIGNATURE: _____

AMOUNT AUTHORIZED: \$ _____

Check here if you have a disability and require any auxiliary aids or services in order to participate in this meeting.

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY:
 Entered: _____ Clk #: _____
 Auth. No.: _____ Amount: _____

You will need to bring your own equipment including laptop, writer, fully charged, and power cord

Yes, I Want to Sponsor a Student

I want to financially sponsor a student to attend the 2007 CCRA Convention.

Donation:

- \$140 Registration
 Donation for Lodging, Travel & Registration \$ _____ ANY AMOUNT

I wish to sponsor a specific student (Name of student): _____

(Please have named student register with your name in Credit Card box.)

- I wish to sponsor any one student requesting assistance.
 Please share my contact information with the student.
 Yes, you may list me in CCRA publications as a Sponsor.
 I wish to remain anonymous.

My donation will be included in my registration total.

SIGN UP Online at www.cal-ccra.org or

Mail or fax with payment information to: CCRA 2007 Convention, 2400 22nd St., #110, Sacramento, CA 95818 / Fax (916) 451-9150

Overview for Students: The Apprentice Track

The "Apprentice" track was not fully defined when the convention brochure was printed so the following information will clarify the student sessions.

Saturday, October 6, 2007

AM – The vendor breakout sessions in the morning are not designed for students. These sessions will require an advanced level of software knowledge.

PM – Students are encouraged to choose and attend any of the session. The reception by the pool will be great place to meet and network with working reporters.



Sunday, October 7, 2007

CCRA strongly recommends that students attend the 8-9:30 am session on The Ethics of Using "Audiosync"

The following session are designed specifically for students:

9:30 - 10:45 am

"All the Court's a Stage"

Presenting all the roles and scenes that are played out in a courtroom that you don't learn in school. All aspects of court proceedings and reporter responsibilities will be covered so that you can shine with confidence in the role of an official or pro tem reporter.

Speakers: Debby Steinman, Sheri Turner

10:45 - 12:00 noon

"The Depo World - From the Director's Chair"

So what really goes on at a deposition? Learn everything you need to know about being a star freelance reporter where you are in charge of making the record. Learn how to handle your responsibilities with confidence and important information about directing your career and dealing with depo agencies so that you will be in demand for a command performance.

Speakers: Sheri Turner, Debby Steinman

2:00 - 3:00 pm

MOCK CSR

3:00 - 4:30 pm

MOCK Written Tests

4:30 - 5:30 pm

Review of Written Tests

In addition, the Annual Business Meeting and luncheon and evening reception will provide opportunities to speak with working reporters.

Monday, October 8, 2007

Students are invited to attend any session.

To register, go please use the registration form on page 11
www.cal-ccra.org.



Reporters Reference

Alameda County

Bay Area Court Reporters

21573 Foothill Boulevard, Suite 212
Hayward, CA 94541
510/889-9400
Toll Free: 800/339-DEPO
Fax: 510/889-9401
BayAreaCrt@sbcglobal.net
www.bayareacourtreporters.net

Pizzotti & Jarnagin Certified Shorthand Reporters

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www.PJReporters.com

Fresno County

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1810 Van Ness Avenue
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Toll Free: 800/225-1681
Fax: 559/441-1809
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www.rayegg.com

Also, Madera, Kings and Tulare Counties

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Napa County

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in a professional and prompt manner. To be
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Employment Opportunities - Freelance Reporters

May 1: Court Reporters Group Health Insurance. Payment for 0+1 and ALL copies within 5 days. Must be willing to do administrative hearings. **Star Reporting Service, Inc.**, 703 Market Street, Suite 1009, San Francisco, California 94103. (415) 348-0050 ebriuhl@yahoo.com

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

Employment Opportunities - Official Reporters

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

August 24: Court Reporter: Yolo Superior Court. Rec. #07-16 Full-Time; Salary: \$3,610-\$4,388/mo. Provide court reporting services for the court and other agencies; HS grad or eqvlnt w/ Certfd Shrthnd Rprtr Cert (Gov. Code§ 69942). App & more info avail at www.yolo.courts.ca.gov or call 530-406-6881. Final Filing Date: 12pm, September 7, 2007

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

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

Official Reporters - Continued

March 28: Superior Court of California, County of Nevada is seeking an experienced court reporter. Requires license. Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis until filled. Please visit our website at www.nevadacountycourts.com or call (530) 470-2728 for more information and application materials.

March 16: Court Reporter: Superior Court of CA, County of Tuolumne. Up to \$4832.01 per month, plus 5% for Realtime. Visit www.tuolumne.courts.ca.gov for more information and an application.

February 12: Superior Court of California, County of Madera, Certified Shorthand Reporters sought for full-time positions or per diem work. Salary (\$4206-\$5113 depending on qualifications) + benefits + real-time bonus. For information/application visit our website at www.madera.courts.ca.gov, or call 559-661-5197, or visit 321 W. Yosemite Ave., Ste. 300, Madera, CA 93637. Continuous filing until filled.

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

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

Instructors Needed

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

July 18: Court Reporting Instructor: Eden Area Regional Occupational Program, Hayward, CA. Certificated Position Part-Time, 10-Month Position: Employment Dates: August 15, 2007-June 30, 2008, Based on a year to year contract and predicated on student enrollment. Salary: \$31.69 Hourly Rate Plus Pro-Rated Benefits. Under the supervision of Educational Services Department, provides for all aspects of effective Student instruction; curriculum updating and development; grading and attendance reporting; development of an ongoing industry advisory committee; all aspects of Student supervision; and other various duties as assigned. 26316 Hesperian Boulevard, Hayward, CA 94545. (510) 293-2916 • Fax (510) 293-8225

Continued on page 37

Instructors Needed - Continued

February 20: Bryan College, founded in 1940, is looking for qualified Instructors (f/t, p/t, AM/PM) for its L.A. and Sacramento campuses. CSR or Case Cat or StenEd exp. preferred, NOT REQUIRED. Excellent comp package! Pass along your knowledge AND get paid for it! Send resumes to hr@bryancollege.edu.

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

Other Opportunities

July 18: Hearing Reporter Examination State Of California Division Of Workers' Compensation. Salary Range \$4770 TO \$5797 PLUS BENEFITS. Exam is to create civil service hiring list. Final filing date to postmark application is 5:00 p.m., August 31, 2007, for the November 17, 2007, exam. Exam bulletin and application are posted at <http://www.dir.ca.gov/dirjobs/dirjobs.htm> Contact Person - Barbara Cleland (916) 263-2726

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

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

Seeking Employment

July 5: Scopist CaseCAT. Former CSR, excellent attention to detail, needs clientele. 30 free pages first job! Lori Yared, 925-292-1964, stonyhill3@comcast.net

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

Training and Instruction

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

Equipment For Sale

April 16: Micro Trends Inc. Authorized Sales & Service Center for Toshiba - Sony - Hewlett Packard Portable Computers. Our Technicians have been helping Court Reporters since 1988. Backup-Restore-Install Steno CAT - Case Catalyst - Eclipse guaranteed satisfaction. 1104 E Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91106 Phone: 626-432-5990. Online at www.micro-trends.com

Equipment Wanted

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

Proofreaders

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

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



www.cal-ccra.org