

CCRA *online*

September 2006



Synergize
Energize
Socialize



CCRA
October 6-8, 2006
Santa Clara
Marriott



*CCRA 96th Annual Convention
Keynote Speaker:
Bruce McPherson
California's 30th Secretary of State*

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Cover Photo: Keynote speaker for the Annual Business Meeting at the CCRA Convention on Saturday, October 7, Bruce McPherson, California's 30th Secretary of State

CCRA Online Copy Deadlines

The deadline for ad and article copy for *CCRA Online* is the first of the month prior to the scheduled publication date. Articles, ad copy, changes of address, complaints of nondelivery and subscription requests should be directed to CCRA, 2400 22nd Street, Suite 110, Sacramento, CA 95818 or call 916/443-5090. Advertising inquiries also should be directed to the Association office. Photographs accompanying articles should be RGB color JPEG files with a resolution no less than 120 ppi.

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of the California Court
Reporters Association

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CCRA MISSION STATEMENT

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

President's Page

Philosophically speaking, "When you do the common things in life in an uncommon way, you will command the attention of the world." - George Washington Carver (1864-1943)

It's been a busy year for CCRA, and a year where we have "gone beyond" our normal routines. We have been diligently trying to make innovative changes in the way we do business. As we enter the age of a truly paperless environment, we realized that it was time that we made some changes in the way that we make contact with you. Having merged Caligrams and Calegrams, we implemented our new electronic magazine, *CCRA Online*!! We hope that you will embrace this new format and be as excited about it as we are. You are encouraged to email us your suggestions for possible inclusions in your new magazine and to forward our online magazine to your associates.

We have also launched our first online seminar, "CRR Tips & Tricks." With NCRA's test coming up on November 4th, you will want to go to our web site and brush up on your realtime skills so that you, too, may obtain that much coveted "CRR."

Our "Ask A Reporter" service that we launched to our members this year has been both educational and enlightening for me. It's absolutely amazing what we have learned from the questions posed by other reporters, or by doing the research necessary that enables us to answer your inquires. This service is now used frequently by reporters, students, and prospective students across the state. If you have not checked out our web site recently, I would encourage you to, www.cal-ccra.org. We will soon be listing the answers to the frequently asked questions on our web site for your perusal.

I would like to share with you one of the recent questions that I found both important and intriguing, which was, "Does a reporter's CSR number have to be printed on business cards?" The short answer is, "Yes, it does." Your CSR number belongs on all advertisement. I have quoted the regulation below:

Section 2406 of Barclays Official California Code of Regulations, Title 16 - License Numbers Required.

"A reporter licensed under Chapter 13 of Division 3 of the Code shall list his license number on the cover page and certificate page of each deposition, court transcript, or transcript of other legal proceedings. The license number shall also be included in any and all presentments to the public including, but not limited to, advertising, solicitation, business cards, stationery, and telephone listings."



Doreen Perkins, CSR, RMR, CRR

As you may be aware, CCRA has been moving forward in the Legislature with AB 1293, which is a bill to expand the qualification requirements for indigent litigants in our State to access the funds in the Transcript Reimbursement Fund. You were recently sent an email asking you to write a letter to the Governor in support of SB 1293. It is very important that we let the Governor know that we are in support of the Transcript Reimbursement Fund and would like to see the fund expanded so that more of the indigent citizens in our State qualify for its use. If you have not sent your letter yet, please do so now. Go to our web site and get the mailing information necessary.

You're in for a real treat if you attend this year's annual convention. Now is the time to register for CCRA's 96th Annual Convention, which will be held in Santa Clara at the Marriott, October 6-8. It is just a little over a month away. Our theme this year is "Synergize, Energize and Socialize." Jan White, our convention chair, and her committee have been working very hard on putting together a program that will beat all! For those of you who attended the convention last year in San Diego and had a great time, pack your bags and get ready for a repeat performance! For those of you who have never attended our convention, or have not for many years, this is the year to come and synergize, become energized, and socialize with your colleagues. I can't think of a better way to pick up continuing education units, learn new skills, get to see the vendors displaying the newest equipment and software and have fun all at the same time. That's what conventions are all about. The only thing that could make this convention better is for you to bring all of your friends and enjoy the activities together. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there.

And just for a laugh....

"Every day I get up and look through the Forbes list of the richest people in America.
If I'm not there, I go to work."

- Robert Orben



By Gerie A. Bunch, CSR, RPR, Public Relations/
SOS Committee Chair

Chocolate Fruit Basket Cake

This recipe is very yummy and easy to make.

- 2 devil's food chocolate cake mixes
- 1 basket strawberries
- 1 – 2 tbsp. sugar
- 1 very ripe mango
- 1 ½ bananas
- 1 ½ pints heavy whipping cream
- 3 – 4 tbsp. powdered sugar

Preheat oven 350. Combine cake mixes and follow package instructions. Divide batter among three 9" prepared cake pans. Bake until toothpick comes out clean. Cool completely and cut the tops level. Whip cream, occasionally sprinkling with powdered sugar, until stiff peaks form. In a bowl cut up strawberries, sprinkle with desired amount of sugar and slightly mash. Do the same with the mango, omitting the sugar. Thinly slice bananas and set aside.

Place bottom cake layer on serving plate, cover with juicy strawberries and then a layer of whipped cream. Second cake layer, cut in half horizontally and gently place ½ on top of whipped cream; cover with mango and a layer of whipped cream, then gently place the other half on top of the whipped cream. Place bananas in a single layer on the top of this half and add whipped cream. Place third cake on top of the whipped cream and then frost the entire cake with whipped cream. 🍪

**Best wishes to
Irene Weston
Program Coordinator
Downey CSR Program
who recently retired.**

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Finance	Carlos Martinez
Judicial Procedures	John Avery
Legislative Advisory	Sandy Bunch VanderPol
Membership	Joanne Bergren
NCRA Testing	Debby Steinman
Nominating	Robin Casey
PACCRA	Jim Partridge
Public Relations/Support Our Students	Gerie Bunch
Technology	Lesia Mervin

National Committee of State Associations Update

By Sandy Bunch VanderPol, RMR, CRR, CSR, CCRA Vice President, President-Elect, Freelance

The National Committee of State Associations (NCSA), comprised of representatives of all affiliated state associations of the National Court Reporters Association (NCRA), met in New York at the NCRA Annual convention. One of the purposes of NCSA is to allow state associations to submit resolutions to the NCSA Governing Committee for review and acceptance. If the resolution is accepted by the NCSA Governing Committee, it is brought before the entire NCSA body during its annual meeting. If the resolution is approved by the NCSA body, the resolution makes its way to the NCRA Board of Directors for consideration.

California was well represented on the NCSA Governing Committee. Two of our past presidents were on the committee: Robin Sunkees, Vice-Chair; Jan White, board member. As president-elect of CCRA, I attended the meeting and participated in voting on resolutions and presented during the Information Exchange amongst the other state leaders.

Below are the resolutions that were passed out of the NCSA meeting and on to the NCRA Board. In next month's *CCRA Online*, I will report on the content of the Information Exchange.

Resolution Number: 06-02-MN

Submitted by: Minnesota

Resolution as originally submitted: That NCRA create promotional materials to be distributed to both NCRA members and nonmembers, encouraging them to join their respective state court reporting associations.

Rationale: This material would help to increase membership in both associations and would also help to create an awareness of the complementary role that state associations play in the strength and future of NCRA.

Governing Committee Recommendation: Non-adoption of resolution as originally submitted.

Resolution as modified: That NCRA create promotional materials (such as informational articles) to be made available to state leaders for distribution in any format to both NCRA members and nonmembers, emphasizing the importance of being members of their state association as well as the national association.

Rationale: This material would help to increase membership in both associations and would also help to create an awareness of the complementary role that state associations play in the strength and future of the profession.

Governing Committee Recommendation: Adoption of resolution as modified.

Governing Committee Rationale: Increasing membership is an area in which NCRA has expressed a commitment. State associations are better acquainted with their public relations and promotional needs on a local/regional basis. NCRA staff can prepare information and data and make this information available to state leaders. From that juncture, state leaders can use what they need in the proper format to disseminate information to prospective members and students. This material would help to increase membership in both associations and would also help to create an awareness of the complementary role that state associations play in the strength and future of the profession.

Vote of NCSA Body at Annual Meeting: Adoption

Resolution Number: 06-03-RC

Submitted by: NCSA Governing Committee

Resolution: That NCRA amend language concerning employment practices and postings in all NCRA publications to include pregnancy, marital status and political affiliation. NCRA publications should state that *NCRA will not accept employment advertising that indicates a preference in terms of race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, pregnancy, marital status, religion, sexual orientation, or political affiliation.*

Rationale: NCRA should uphold the laws enforced by the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and extend those laws to protect the interests of members of the profession who seek employment through various NCRA publications.

Governing Committee Recommendation: Adoption

Vote of NCSA Body at Annual Meeting: Adoption

Resolution Number: 06-03-RC

Submitted by: NCSA Governing Committee

Resolution: That NCRA amend language concerning employment practices and postings in all NCRA publications to include pregnancy, marital status and political affiliation. NCRA publications should state that *NCRA will not accept employment advertising that indicates a preference in terms of race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, pregnancy, marital status, religion, sexual orientation, or political affiliation.*

Continued on page 6

National Committee of State Associations Update, Continued

Rationale: NCRA should uphold the laws enforced by the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and extend those laws to protect the interests of members of the profession who seek employment through various NCRA publications.

Governing Committee Recommendation: Adoption

Vote of NCSA Body at Annual Meeting: Adoption

Resolution Number: 06-04-MS

Submitted by: Mississippi

Initial Resolution: That NCRA promote reciprocity certification among state licensure laws for members holding the minimum of RPR certification for those states seeking passage of licensure laws in an effort to promote cohesiveness in national standards of state certification laws and encourage amenable professional state association relations.

Substitute Resolution: That when a state is seeking to adopt certification requirements, NCRA advocate recognition of the RPR as meeting that state's certification requirement.

Rationale: Encourage maintenance of NCRA membership. Encourage better relations and promote professionalism among fellow reporters and state associations. Promote maintenance of the profession in areas where there is a huge shortage, thus promoting the drive toward ER.

By way of explanation, this is an incentive to promote several venues:

Encourage maintenance of NCRA membership. (If a member doesn't see continued benefit of maintaining a RPR in states that do not acknowledge the RPR, what incentive is there to continue maintenance of the designation and membership to NCRA? A continued drive by states to require "their" state testing for certification minimizes the notion of the RPR being the "national" minimum standard.)

Encourage better relations and promote professionalism among fellow reporters and state associations. (Creates a harmonious professional relationship between reporters of states when seeking certification and licensure from other states, rather than creating friction and division between reporters and states and state associations, thereby building a better professional rapport.)

Promote maintenance of the profession in areas where there is huge shortage and thus, promotes the drive toward ER. (In bordering states for many reporters, there are locations where no licensed reporters live, thereby placing the attorneys at a disadvantage by not having a reporter and being left with the alternative of either tape, digital, or video recording. Where a reporter may opt to take the state test, there is the additional expense of testing in addition to licensure fees.)

Creates an incentive for members who move from state to state without having to retest and bear additional expenses when they already meet the national standard and most likely state standards and have to pay ever-increasing membership dues to national. (There has been a constant concern about loss of national association membership and the increase of dues. Where a reporter only is required a state certification and also maintains the RPR, it will be more cost-effective to pay the state licensure rather than pay for both state licensure and national certification. If there is an incentive for flexibility from state to state, the reporter is likely to maintain the RPR and thereby, continue national membership and state licensure as well.)

Vote of NCSA Body at Annual Meeting: Adoption



Carousel Columbia - The tallest double-decker carousel in the World, the majestic Carousel Columbia is just one of 50 rides and attractions at Paramount's Great America.

CCRA Nomination Committee's Slate

Officers and Board of Directors for The California Court Reporters Association Term 2006, 2007

By: Robin Casey, Chairperson

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

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

President: Sandy Bunch, Sacramento
President-Elect, VP Officials - Lesia Mervin, Visalia
VP Freelance - Sheri Turner, Sacramento
Secretary Treasurer - Carlos Martinez, Ukiah
District A - Rose Goni, Fair Oaks
District B - Renee Grove, Castro Valley
District C - (remains Anna Marie Cole, Paso Robles)
District D - (remains Carolyn Dasher, Sierra Madre)
At Large E - (1 year remaining) Teresa Fletcher, Wrightwood
At Large F - (full term) Jim Partridge, San Diego



Merriam Webster

thank-you-ma'am \THANK-yoo-mam\ *noun*

: a bump or depression in a road; *especially* : a ridge or hollow made across a road on a hillside to cause water to run off

Example sentence:

"That night on the way home, thinking of his pleasant visit, he was suddenly shaken out of his tranquility ... when his touring car hit a 'thank-you-ma'am' in the unpaved road." (Hugh Manchester, *Centre Daily Times* [State College, PA], August 22, 2000)

Did you know?

"**Thank-you-ma'am**" might seem like an odd name for a bump in the road, but the expression makes a little more sense if you imagine the motion your head would make as you drove over such an obstacle. Most likely, the jarring would make you nod involuntarily. Now think of the nodding gesture you make when you're thanking someone or acknowledging a favor. The "thank-you-ma'am" road bump is believed to have received its name when someone noted the similarity of those two head bobbing motions. It's a colloquialism particular to American English, and its earliest printed use is found in Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's 1849 prose piece, *Kavanagh*:

"We went like the wind over the hollows in the snow; — the driver called them 'thank-you-ma'ams,' because they make every body bow."

Job's comforter \JOHBZ-KUM-fer-ter\ *noun*

: a person who discourages or depresses while seemingly giving comfort and consolation

Example sentence:

When Tracey's second interview didn't go well, more than one Job's comforter remarked that she probably would have hated the job anyway.

Did you know?

Poor Job. He's the biblical character who endures extraordinary afflictions in a test of his piety. He loses his possessions, his children, and his health. And then, to make matters worse, three friends show up to "comfort" him. These friends turn out to be no comfort at all. Instead, they say that the things that have been happening to him happen to all sinners — and point out a number of his faults. In the mid-18th century, English speakers began using the phrase "Job's comforter" for anyone who offers similarly unhelpful consolation.



CCRA 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 95818 (916) 443-5090 or by e-mail at realtimccsr@calweb.com.

AB 1293 Oropeza

Transcript Reimbursement Fund.

Location: 08/31/2006-A ENROLLMENT 08/31/2006-A ENROLLMENT

Status 08/31/2006-Senate amendments concurred in. To enrollment.

Calendar

Existing law establishes the Court Reporters Board of California and makes it responsible for issuing a certificate to practice shorthand reporting to qualified applicants. Under existing law, until July 1, 2011, funds generated by the initial certificate fee collected by the board, as specified, are used to provide shorthand reporting services for indigent persons, as defined, and deposited into the Transcript Reimbursement Fund at the beginning of each fiscal year. Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, a transfer to the Transcript Reimbursement Fund in excess of the fund balance established at the beginning of each fiscal year shall not be made by the board if the transfer will result in the reduction of the balance of the Court Reporters' Fund to an amount less than six months' operating budget. for expenditure for that purpose. This bill would revise the definition of indigent person for these purposes and would make the program funding shorthand reporting services from the Transcript Reimbursement Fund inoperative on July 1, 2009, and would repeal it on January 1, 2010, unless a later-enacted statute changes those dates.

AB 1588 Negrete McLeod

Professional licensing boards: review and repeals.

Location: 02/02/2006-S B., P. & E.D.02/02/2006-S B., P. & E.D.

Status 02/02/2006-Referred to Coms. on B., P. & E.D. and JUD.

Calendar

This bill would give the Joint Committee on Boards, Commissions, and Consumer Protection the burden of demonstrating, among other things, that its function of licensing and enforcing licensing standards is the least restrictive regulation consistent with the public health, safety, and welfare. The bill would apply to the Court Reporters Board, if passed.

AB 1797 Bermudez

Trial courts: limited-term employees.

Location: 08/31/2006-A ENROLLMENT 08/31/2006-A ENROLLMENT

Status 08/31/2006-In Assembly. Concurrence in Senate amendments pending. Senate amendments concurred in. To enrollment.

Calendar

Existing law defines the term "trial court employee" for pur-

poses of the Trial Court Employment Protection and Governance Act. In defining this term, the act provides that any temporary employee shall not be employed in the trial court for a period exceeding 180 calendar days, except for court reporters under certain conditions. This bill would provide that a limited-term employee is a regular trial court employee if the assignment, position, or project of the limited-term employee is an integral part of the long-term, regular work of the trial court. The bill would state legislative intent to prohibit the trial courts from classifying long-term employees that are performing the regular work of the trial courts as limited-term employees. This bill would additionally provide, in Los Angeles County, that a limited-term employee, including, on and after November 1, 2007, any limited-term law clerk, is a regular trial court employee if the assignment, position, or project of the limited-term employee is an integral part of the long-term, regular work of the trial court.

AB 1995 Koretz

Trial court employees: personnel files.

Location: 08/28/2006-A CHAPTERED 08/28/2006-A CHAPTERED

Status 08/28/2006-Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 187, Statutes of 2006

Calendar

Existing law requires each trial court to permit an employee to inspect his or her official personnel files that are used, or have been used, to determine that employee's qualifications for employment, promotion, additional compensation, or termination or other disciplinary action. This bill would make that requirement applicable to any personnel files.

AB 2863 Karnette

Public employees: retirement.

Location: 08/31/2006-A ENROLLMENT 08/31/2006-A ENROLLMENT

Status 08/31/2006-Urgency clause adopted. Senate amendments concurred in. To enrollment.

Calendar

Existing law provides for the compensation and benefits of court reporters in specified counties. This bill would provide that the compensation of regular official court reporters in Fresno County shall be determined by collective bargaining between the court reporters and the superior court. The bill would also define, for purposes of retirement, the compensation of a regular official court reporter in Fresno County, as specified. This bill is to take effect immediately.

SB 56 Dunn

Trial court judges and officers.

Location: 08/31/2006-S ENROLLMENT08/31/2006-S ENROLLMENT

Status 08/31/2006-Senate concurs in Assembly amendments. (Ayes 38. Noes 0.) To enrollment.

Calendar

This bill would, among other provisions, provide 50 additional judges to be allocated, upon appropriation by the Legislature in the 2006-07 fiscal year to various county superior courts. The bill would require the Judicial Council, on or before November 1, 2007, to adopt, and report to the Legislature annually thereafter upon, judicial administration standards and measures that promote the fair and efficient administration of justice. This bill would require, on or before March 1, 2007, and annually on or before each March 1 thereafter, all of the following: (a) the Governor to disclose aggregate statewide demographic data provided by all judicial applicants relative to ethnicity and gender, (b) the designated agency of the State Bar responsible for evaluation of judicial candidates to collect and release statewide demographic data provided by judicial applicants reviewed and the statewide summary of the recommendations of the designated agency by ethnicity and gender, and (c) the Administrative Office of the Courts to collect and release the demographic data provided by justices and judges relative to ethnicity and gender by specific jurisdiction.

SB 395 Escutia

California Court Facilities Bond Act of 2006.

Location: 07/05/2005-A APPR.07/05/2005-A APPR.

Status 07/05/2005-From committee: Do pass, but first be re-referred to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 6. Noes 3.) Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Calendar

Existing law, the Trial Court Facilities Act of 2002, establishes the State Court Facilities Construction Fund and provides that money in that fund may be used to acquire, rehabilitate, construct, or finance court facilities, as defined, and to implement trial court projects, as specified. This bill would enact the California Court Facilities Bond Act of 2006 which would authorize, for display purposes only, the issuance, pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law, of an unspecified amount in bonds, the proceeds of which would be deposited in the 2006 California Court Facilities Bond Act Construction Fund for specified purposes relating to the acquisition and maintenance of court facilities, including payment of a county's share of building costs in a shared-use court facility. This bill contains other related provisions.

SB 1476 Figueroa

Professions and vocations.

Location: 08/31/2006-S ENROLLMENT08/31/2006-S ENROLLMENT

Status 08/31/2006-Senate concurs in Assembly amendments. (Ayes 22. Noes 15.) To enrollment.

Calendar

This bill would extend the sunset review process for the Court Reporters Board by one year, making the Court Reporters Board inoperative on July 1, 2009, and would repeal it on January 1, 2010, among other provisions concerning other boards.

SB 1852 Committee on Judiciary Maintenance of the codes.

Location: 08/10/2006-S ENROLLMENT 08/31/2006-S ENROLLMENT

Status 08/10/2006-Senate concurs in Assembly amendments. (Ayes 37. Noes 0. Page 4852.) To enrollment.

Calendar

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.


SCA 16 Runner

Judicial districts: superior court judges.

Location: 08/18/2005-S JUD.08/18/2005-S JUD.

Status 08/08/2006-Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.

Calendar

This measure would provide that the superior court of any county with a population of more than 5,000,000 shall be divided into judicial districts established by three special masters appointed by the Supreme Court, and would prescribe specified population, geographical, and public hearing requirements for the establishment of those districts. The measure would provide for the assignment of incumbent superior court judges to judicial districts within the county in a one-time process conducted by the Judicial Council following the initial establishment of the districts, as specified. (2) The California Constitution provides that judges of superior courts shall be elected in their counties at general elections, except as specified. This measure would provide that judges of superior courts shall be elected in their counties or districts at general elections, except as specified. SCA 16 would divide the Los Angeles Superior Court into judicial districts. SCA 16 would create new levels of bureaucracy in the Los Angeles Superior Court, thus creating more administrative and management costs. The proposed constitutional amendment would create the potential for separate and distinct collective bargaining agreements and personnel policies, procedures or rules for each judicial district as opposed to one collective bargaining agreement and one set of policies, procedures or rules that uniformly affect all employees of the Los Angeles Superior Court. 

CCRA Legislative Alert * Your Help Needed ASAP!

Please Write, Call Or Email The Governor Requesting His Signature on AB 1293 (Oropeza) – Expanding the Transcript Reimbursement Fund to indigent litigants!

Here's How:

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: **916-445-2841**
Fax: **916-445-4633**

Email (Copy and paste from below sample letter – no attachments to the e-mail!)

To send an Email please visit: <http://www.govmail.ca.gov>

Be sure to include your name and address when you communicate with the Governor's Office. They do not accept e-mail attachments.

SAMPLE LETTER:

[date]

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814
Re: AB 1293 (Oropeza)

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

I urge you to SIGN AB 1293 which expands the definition of "indigent person" for purposes of transcript reimbursement to include those eligible for or receiving services under the Older Americans Act or the Developmentally Disabled Assistance Act and those who qualify for Section 8 housing assistance. The Transcript Reimbursement Fund is funded each year by the Certified Shorthand Reporter's licensing fees, making available a court and/or deposition transcript to the indigent litigant. This bill expands the availability of funds to the above-described categories.

Thank you in advance for signing the important legislation.

Sincerely,

[name]

[address]

This bill is due to reach the Governor's desk on Thursday, August 31. Communication is needed immediately.



Realtime Troubleshooting Scenarios

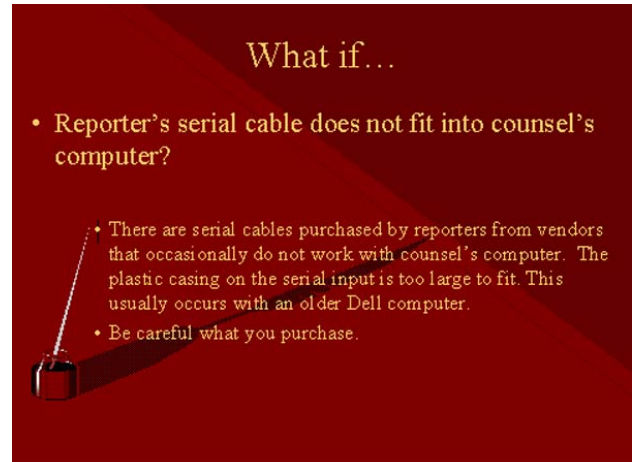
By Sandy Bunch VanderPol, RMR, CRR, CSR, CCRA Vice President, President-Elect, Freelance

Last month our realtime troubleshooting scenario concerned what if the realtime feed from the reporter's computer to counsel's computer was not working. **As a refresher**, remember in that scenario there could be any number of solutions, but the first option is to make sure that your com port on your CAT system output is appropriate. You can do this by going to the Device Manager, which you find under Control Panel – System – Hardware – Device Manager. Then once in Device Manager you click on the plus sign next to the Ports (Com & LPT) and a list of com port devices will be listed. Find your specific type of cable listing and the com port will be indicated in parens. That's the com port designation that you want to select in your CAT output.

I had requested from you, the reader, to email me with troubleshooting episodes you have experienced. I received one such episode that I would like to discuss this month.

Have you ever had trouble inserting your serial adapter into a Dell computer's serial port? Coincidentally, I had three realtime reporters have this very same problem over the past month. Personally, I have never experienced this issue, but it is a common occurrence if you do not use the appropriate serial port adapter.

You can solve this problem by making sure the serial adapters you buy are not too large to fit into that Dell serial port. What do I mean? The Dell computer has a larger plastic piece that surrounds the serial port, and if you do not have a "smaller" or "regular" serial adapter that you use to hook to their computer, this problem will occur.



So when buying the cables, multi-line block, DSD, and serial adapter, be sure to ask the company if they are compatible with the Dell's serial port!

we need mentors throughout the state

ensure our futures

give back to your profession

Become a Mentor!

help a student stay motivated

We have over 100 students and just over 60 mentors, so we need more mentors!

We need mentors throughout the state.

The only requirement is that mentors be members of CCRA and are willing to follow the simple guidelines for mentoring on our website.

For more information and to sign up **just click here!**



For almost 100 years, the California Court Reporters Association has represented and advocated for freelance and official reporters in California.

We have worked to preserve your role as the guardian of the record.

This year's convention builds on our long history of providing quality education to our members.

We will SYNERGIZE. That is, we will bring all of the information together that you need to stay fresh and in charge of your career.

We will ENERGIZE. You will feel motivated, refreshed and committed to the dynamic role you play.

We will SOCIALIZE. Let's have some fun together. Life is so much richer when you can enjoy your work and your play.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2006

8:00 am – 5:30 pm Registration

9:00 am to Noon Speed Contest

Noon Vendor Area opens

Noon – 1:30 pm

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 0.15 CEU

Energize Your English Skills

Let's go over those rules one more time! Margie has a way of providing helpful hints to correctly edit transcripts. More than the basics, she'll have you feeling like an expert.

Speaker: Margie Wakeman-Wells

How Hooking Up Has Changed My Life

It's so scary! Is it worth all the hassle and stress to hook up attorneys? Find out these reporters' experiences in overcoming hurdles, the pros and cons, the benefits and blessings of hooking up attorneys, judges and experts, and how it can change your reporting career. Ask the questions you would like to know about how to get started hooking up and share your own experiences.

Speakers: Joanne Bergren, Sheri Turner, Yvonne Fenner, Sandy Bunch VanderPol

Things You Didn't Know You Didn't Know

In this seminar, the panel members will focus on their personal experiences in training both official and freelance reporters. With all that our court reporting school programs teach us, it is sometimes amazing how unprepared we are for the "real world" of our professions. This panel will speak to many of the experiences – and occasionally nightmares – that face new reporters and/or those reporters that have never had the benefit of receiving mentoring or one-on-one training from an experienced CSR.

Speakers: Bill Greenley, Paula Killian, Robin Casey

1:30 – 2:00 pm

Break in Vendor Area

Join us to see the latest software and hardware available and enjoy the refreshments while you are there. Check out the bargains in the Silent Auction as well.

2:00 – 3:30 pm

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 0.15 CEU

KJSS - Keep it Short Steno

Learn the tricks of the pros and how you can use them to write smarter, not harder. Topics will include left-bank and right-bank phrases, Q & A briefs, briefing on the fly, fun and interactive steno swap, and much more. They don't call it shorthand for nothing!

Speaker: Lesia Mervin

STUDENT SEMINAR

Dr. Phil's Student Seminar:

How's That Working For You?

Mark Brickman leads an energetic, lively and informative discussion with students of all levels. Come to discuss your successes, your rough spots, your frustrations and your little tricks that can help others. We'll seek answers to work out some of your issues, we'll talk about ways to get you out of school more quickly, and we'll do so in a fun, spirited environment.

Speaker: Mark Brickman

The Doctor is IN!

Glenn Mervin, our honorary Computer Doctor, will diagnose, treat and or provide insight and direction for all of your computer concerns in exchange for a donation to CCRA.

Sign up on site at the registration table.

CCRA's 96th Annual Conference

3:30 – 4:00 pm

Break in Vendor Area

4:00 – 5:30 pm

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 0.15 CEU

The Latest Web Technology For Your Reporting

Business

Take a closer look at all of the ways the Internet technologies can transform your reporting business. In this seminar, you will learn about how the Web plays a part in digital signatures, on-demand client access to transcripts, production workflow at your firm and broadcasting live events to your remote clients.

Speaker: Jason Primuth, RealLegal

Yoga

Come learn some easy yoga stretches that will help you start your day out right! Learn how to find tranquility and/or energy on your breaks. We will be doing some yoga, so come prepared to learn!

Court Reporter Carolyn Joy Dasher became a Kundalini yoga instructor to help others find inner peace and develop healthy and flexible spines. Dress code: comfortable, stretchy costume.

Speaker: Carolyn Joy Dasher

Stenocat

Learn timesaving tips and techniques and get the most out of your software. This is a session to get your bothersome questions answered. Bring your own equipment.

Speaker: Tim Brunk

STUDENT SEMINAR

Written Exams - English, Medical and Legal

Speaker: Gerie Bunch

6:30 – 8:30 pm

Reception and Entertainment

Join us for Political Humor directly from outside the beltway! The Road to the White House will feature Paul Mellor, who never got very far on the road to the White House but whose stories and observations you will love. We will have food stations and a cash bar for your enjoyment.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2006

6:00 – 7:00 am

FUN WALK/RUN FOR PACCRA

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

7:30 – 5:00 pm **Registration**

7:30 am **Continental Breakfast in Vendor Room**

8:00 – 10:00 am

OPENING GENERAL SESSION 0.2 CEU

Welcome from President & Conference Chair

Face Reading

Reading faces provides many valuable insights into our personalities, drives and motivations, facilitating better communication and more rewarding interaction. It is a very useful tool for all your relationships, whether business-related or personal.

You can be reading faces as soon as you learn what particular features mean. Face reading is not hard. In fact, it's quite easy. The more faces you analyze, the more accurate you will become and the more useful the tools that you learn in this session will be.

Speaker: Bill Cordingley

10:00 – 10:30

Break in Vendor Area – Silent Auction in Room

10:30 – Noon

BREAKOUTS – VENDORS 0.15 CEU

Bring your own equipment

Stenograph

Be a Realtime Pro! Step-by-step instructions in how you can write like the pros using Realtime Macros, EZ Speakers, Fill-in-Fields and more, along with a brief overview of new features in Catalyst 6 & 7. This will be a fun and interactive session you won't want to miss.

Speaker: Terri Wilson

Eclipse

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

ProCat

Do you have questions about your software and how to use it to make your work life easier? Bring them to this session to hear the answers.

Speaker: Bob Bakva

STUDENT SEMINAR

English, Legal and Medical Test Review

Speakers: Margie Wakeman-Wells and Nancy Patterson

Noon – 2:30 pm **0.1 CEU**

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND LUNCHEON

Speaker: Secretary of State Bruce McPherson

Bruce McPherson became California's 30th Secretary of State on March 30, 2005. After being nominated by the Governor, he was unanimously confirmed by the State Senate and Assembly.

Over the past year, Secretary McPherson has led the charge to restore trust and confidence to the Office of Secretary of State. He has rebuilt relationships with federal, state and local partners. He has become a national leader in election reform and developing innovative ways to ensure the integrity of every vote and to make government more customer friendly and efficient for all Californians. The stability that Secretary McPherson has provided to the office has earned high praise from observers throughout the country.

CCRA's 96th Annual Conference

His service as Secretary of State follows 11 years in the State Legislature. After three years representing Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties in the Assembly, he served eight years in the State Senate representing a district of more than 800,000 people.

REESA PARKER 0.1 CEU

Reesa Parker, President of NCRA, will provide us with a national perspective on today's issues. President of MillerParker, Inc., she earned her certified shorthand reporter designation in 1979. She is a Registered Professional Reporter and Certified Realtime Reporter.

MillerParker, Inc., under Reesa's direction, has become known nationally for its high degree of organization and efficiency. The streamlining of workflow protocol under her direction has positioned MillerParker, Inc. as technological leaders in the profession.

Speaker: Reesa Parker

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS Distinguished Service Award

2:30 – 3:00 pm

Break in Vendor Area – Silent Auction in Room

3:00 – 3:30 pm

STUDENT SEMINAR

Dressed to Kill

Being appropriately dressed is so important. With wardrobes changing so drastically all the time, how is a court reporter to know what to wear and when? Do "costumes" change depending upon which client and law firm you are going to cover as a freelance reporter or which courtroom? Law firms all have their different dress codes. Should court reporters? Get some expert answers!

Speakers: Gerie Bunch, Reesa Parker, Mark Brickman

3:00 – 5:00 pm

GENERAL SESSION 0.20 CEU

Living Life without Barriers

What holds you back from achieving all that you could? Do you know what gets in the way and how much energy you use in not doing what needs to be done? Why does that happen to us and what can we do to change these patterns? Learn how to eliminate your barriers to success.

Speaker: Bill Cordingly

3:30 – 5:00 pm

STUDENT SEMINAR

Establishing Your Reporter Credibility

Learn how to plan your career in court reporting from the President of NCRA, Reesa Parker, who also happens to be a successful businesswoman from Texas. You will receive valuable insights from someone with national recognition for her skills and leadership.

Speaker: Reesa Parker

**A total of 1.35 CEU's have
been approved by NCRA**

5:30 – 6:30 **No-host cocktails by the pool**

6:30 – 8:00 pm

EVENING PROGRAM – BEST IN THE WEST

Tonight's adventure will include dinner, line dancing and country music as well as Texas Hold 'Em poker tables. We encourage western garb to fully enjoy this fun-filled evening. Did we mention the jail house fundraiser? More on that!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2006

6:00 – 7:00 am

POWER WALK

Join us to get your heart pumping and your day off to a great start.

7:30 – 10:30 am **Registration**

7:30 – 8:30 am **Continental Breakfast**

8:30 – 10:30

IMPROVING YOUR MEMORY 0.2 CEU

This is a comprehensive session on remembering names and faces. You will learn the FACIAL Formula to help you in quickly remembering a name. You will find your attention needs to be placed on concentration and focusing techniques to recall names correctly. Through the use of pictures and examples, you'll create a proven system in correctly matching a name to a face. Want to beat absent-mindedness? This session, through the use of imagery and success principles, will teach you how to master your mind so you'll never forget. Misplaced glasses, lost keys and "I know it's here somewhere" statements will be a thing of the past.

Speaker: Paul Mellor

10:30 – 11:00 am **Break**

11:00 am – 12:30 pm

SPEAKING OUR MINDS 0.15 CEU

Codes, Ethics & Information Exchange For Freelance & Official Reporters

This could be the most valuable 90 minutes of your conference experience. Here is your opportunity to learn from your colleagues as professionals who face the same challenges that you do and are willing to share their stories and their successes. Two separate sessions, one for Officials and one for Freelance Reporters, will include a discussion in an "information exchange" format. Come prepared with questions that you would like answered, solutions that you would like to share, and benefit from this unique learning and networking experience.

Speakers: CCRA Board

STUDENT SEMINAR

Mock CSR

*Speakers: Ned Branch, Kary Parker, Teresa Fletcher,
Monica Ramirez*

CCRA's 96th Annual Conference

DETAILS! DETAILS! DETAILS!

HOTEL INFORMATION: Located in the heart of Silicon Valley, the Santa Clara Marriott is adjacent to Paramount's Great America Theme Park. With outstanding restaurants and an extraordinary wine bar, you'll love the services of this hotel.

CCRA's convention rate is \$99.00 SINGLE or DOUBLE.

Reservations must be made by Friday, September 8, 2006.

Please make your reservations by calling 408-988-1500 and request the California Court Reporters Association group for our special rate. This rate will be offered, based on availability, three days before and three days after the convention.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

FRIDAY NIGHT'S RECEPTION:

Join your colleagues for an evening poking fun at politics. This event is included with a full, or Friday, registration. Additional tickets may be purchased for guests. Food stations and Cash Bar.

5K FUN RUN/WALK:

PACCRA'S Annual FUNdraiser. Join CCRA at 6 am. Saturday morning for this event. You'll feel better all day for doing so. Additional fee, see enclosed registration form.

CCRA SPEED CONTEST:

Don't forget to preregister! Remember, you must bring your own equipment. Additional fee on registration form.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING & LUNCHEON:

Saturday, October 7. We are honored to have Secretary of State Bruce McPherson as our keynote speaker. In addition, Reesa Parker, President NCRA, will provide us with a vision of national issues. New directors and officers will be elected and installed. CCRA's Distinguished Service Award will be presented to a very deserving member.

BEST IN THE WEST:

It's country time at CCRA. Saturday evening's special event will feature dinner, line dancing, Texas Hold'em poker tables and a fun Jail Fundraiser. Western garb will be appropriate, so polish up those boots!

SPONSOR A STUDENT:

Help a student attend this year's convention. You can sponsor their registration or donate a flat fee to help them pay for accommodations. 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 and the Bay Area is often cool so we suggest you bring sweaters and/or jackets.

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.

PACCRA FUN 5K RUN/WALK SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2006

6:00 am in the lobby rain or shine!

COURSE: Baby strollers and wheelchairs welcome.

No bikes, rollerblades, scooters, skateboards or pets will be permitted on the course.

FEE: Freelancer/Official/Virtual Runner: \$50.00. Fee includes T-shirt. **Register by Friday, September 15, 2006.** 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

NAME: _____

Freelance Official Virtual Runner

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Payment: Visa MasterCard

CREDIT CARD #: _____

EXP. DATE: _____

T-SHIRT SIZE:

Women's: S M L

Men's: S M L XL XXL

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's 96th Annual Conference

Synergize • Energize • Socialize • October 6-8, 2006



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 8, 2006. After September 8, 2006, 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 29, 2006, 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 29, 2006.

NAME:	NCRA #:
MAILING ADDRESS:	CITY/STATE/ZIP:
DAYTIME PHONE:	NAME FOR BADGE:
E-MAIL:	

REGISTRATION FEES: Circle Appropriate Fees	MEMBER		NON-MEMBER		STUDENT MEMBER		STUDENT NON-MEMBER	
	Before 9/8/06	After 9/8/06	Before 9/8/06	After 9/8/06	Before 9/8/06	After 9/8/06	Before 9/8/06	After 9/8/06
Full Registration (Includes Seminars, Breaks, Business Meeting, Luncheon, Exhibits, Friday Reception, Saturday Dinner)	\$270	\$300	\$370	\$400	\$140	\$155	\$200	\$215
Friday or Sunday Only (Includes Friday or Sunday Seminars, Breaks, Exhibits, Events)	\$160	\$190	\$325	\$355	\$75	\$90	\$90	\$105
Saturday Only (Includes Saturday Seminars, Business Meeting, Luncheon, Exhibits, Saturday Dinner)	\$190	\$220	\$355	\$385	\$75	\$90	\$90	\$105

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

- FRIDAY: SATURDAY:
- Reception Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon
- Continental Breakfast
- Best In the West

Additional Activities:

- FRIDAY: SATURDAY:
- Reception @ \$45 each Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon @ \$45 each Best In the West @ \$65 each
- Speed Contest - Saturday, October 7 - \$25** You will need to bring your own equipment including laptop, writer, fully charged, and power cord
- Visit with Dr. Computer - \$25**
- LACCRA Members - Deduct \$100 from Total**

Payment: Check made payable to CCRA
 Visa MasterCard

CREDIT CARD NUMBER:	EXP. DATE:
CARDHOLDER'S NAME (PLEASE PRINT):	
CARDHOLDER'S SIGNATURE:	
AMOUNT AUTHORIZED:	
\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> 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: _____	Ch #: _____
Auth. No.: _____	Amount: _____

Yes, I Want to Sponsor a Student
I want to financially sponsor a student to attend the 2006 CCRA Convention.

Donation:

\$140 Registration

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

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

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 2006 Convention, 2400 22nd St., #110, Sacramento, CA 95818 / Fax (916) 451-9150

Bruce McPherson - California's 30th Secretary of State

Our keynote speaker for the Annual Business Meeting at the CCRA Convention on Saturday, October 7 will be Bruce McPherson, California's 30th Secretary of State. As a state legislator, Secretary McPherson was a strong supporter of court reporters authoring several of CCRA's bills. "Court reporters play an important role in the justice system by preserving the record. It has been my honor to work closely with CCRA on important issues and I am looking forward to speaking at CCRA's 96th annual convention," McPherson commented recently.

Bruce McPherson became California's 30th Secretary of State on March 30, 2005. After being nominated by the Governor, he was unanimously confirmed by the State Senate and Assembly.

Over the past year Secretary McPherson has led the charge to restore trust and confidence to the Office of Secretary of State. He has rebuilt relationships with federal, state and local partners and he has become a national leader in election reform and developing innovative ways to ensure the integrity of every vote and to make government more customer friendly and efficient for all Californians. The stability that Secretary McPherson has provided to the office has earned high praise from observers throughout the country.

His service as Secretary of State follows 11 years in the State Legislature. After three years representing Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties in the Assembly, he served eight years in the State Senate representing a district of more than 800,000 people.


While in the Legislature, he earned a reputation as a moderate and nonpartisan officeholder - a fiscal conservative who successfully fought to protect our environment and our scenic coastlines. His honest and straightforward approach has earned him high marks from legislators on both sides of the political aisle.

In the Assembly, he was the Chair of the Elections and Reapportionment Committee. During this time he authored several key pieces of legislation. Some of his accomplishments include legislation requiring candidates to post their disclosure statements online, allowing high school students to assist at polling places on Election Day, and establishing a bi-partisan commission to study the effectiveness of the Political Reform Act. He also authored a bill to make the Secretary of State's Office a non-partisan office.

Secretary McPherson is the recipient of numerous awards and has been recognized for his service to California in elections, education, and environmental protection.

As Secretary of State, McPherson leads an agency of 500 employees dedicated to many areas including elections, political reform, business programs, and protecting and showcasing the State's history through the State Archives and California Museum for History, Women and the Arts.

Secretary McPherson graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo with a degree in journalism and was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Cal Polytechnic State University. Earlier in his career, he spent 26 years in the newspaper business as a reporter and then editor of his family-owned Santa Cruz Sentinel.

Secretary McPherson is a fourth-generation Santa Cruz native. 



Santa Clara Marriott, location of the CCRA 96th Annual Convention!



WANTED THE BEST REPORTERS IN THE WEST

Do you know a reporter who should be recognized and **rewarded** for being one of the **best reporters in the west**? Now is the opportunity to do that and to help CCRA with a fun fundraiser at the same time! Here's the low-down:

Send us the bottom of this form along with a \$25 process serving fee and we will issue a **warrant** for the **arrest** of the reporter on any of the following charges or some of your own concoction:

- Excessive Speed** — Exceeding the fastest possible steno writing speed
- Reckless Writing** – Getting every word without regard for the number of people in the room
- Writing Under the Influence** – of impeccable professionalism
- Possession of Controlled Proceedings** – Able to maintain order in a deposition (or court) under extraordinary circumstances
- Habitual Punctuality** – Unable to be late under any circumstances
- Repeat Offender** – Follows the highest standards of our profession on a daily basis for “X” number of years
- Aiding and Abetting** – Helping students and fellow reporters to be the best they can be
- Breaking and Entering** – breaking curfew and entering the office on a weekend or holiday to get a transcript out
- Failure to Stop** – being an excellent reporter

We will issue an **arrest warrant** and notify the reporter that they are being **charged**. To avoid **incarceration**, they will have to **post bail** of \$100, with the help of relatives, friends, coworkers, or whoever will come to their assistance. As a condition of their **parole**, they will be given a certificate of recognition by CCRA and featured in *CCRA Online*, our online magazine. At our October convention there will be a **jail** for those who are still **at large** and for any last-minute arrests to be made. Process serving fees and bail may be paid by check or credit card to CCRA. What a great way to have some fun and to help CCRA at the same time!

Arrestee: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

Charges being brought: _____

My name: _____

My address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

My phone: _____ My E-mail: _____

Check enclosed Charge my credit card: Visa MasterCard

Card number: _____

Exp. Date: _____ Signature: _____

Mail to: CCRA, 2400 22nd Street, Suite 110, Sacramento, CA 95818 Or fax to: (916) 451-9150

Which Do I Choose, Courts or Depositions?

Working for the Courts (Part 2 of a 2-part series)

By Carlos A Martinez, CSR, RPR, CCRA Director

Depositions are fascinating. They can also be a well-paying facet of your court reporting career. The flip side is they can be boring. (Read worker's comp depositions here.) And occasionally it takes forever to get paid with small claims becoming a necessary step to get an invoice paid.

Now that the two extremes are out of the way, let's focus on the nuts and bolts as I see them and some of the reasons that I have for those two statements.

You set your own hours – kind of. You can choose to take a deposition on a certain day at a certain time or you can choose not to work that day. But if you're not working, you're not getting paid. You still are in control of your own time more than if you are an official. If you're an official reporter and your court is in session, so are you. If you're not writing when your court is running, it's either because you've got an understanding supervisor who will let you work on your transcripts or you're taking some of time off with pay that you've earned by being an employee.

As a depo reporter the faster that your clients want their transcripts, the more money you're able to make. Expedites, dailies, rough ASCIs, rush jobs all present the opportunity for you to market your skills and charge more for your services.

Depositions offer you the opportunity to meet many new people. Some deposition reporters in larger metropolitan areas rarely see the same attorneys twice. In the smaller rural areas, you see the same attorneys often and you're able to develop friendships on both a professional and a personal level.

On the other side of that coin, a downside to being a deposition reporter is what is commonly referred to as being isolated from the rest of the reporting profession. I have spoken with reporters that have talked of never meeting the people that run the deposition firm that hired them. They are called for a job, arrive at a new client's office, take the deposition, go home, edit the job, email it to the hiring firm, mail the exhibits, and then they wait for their payment. If you're a social person, you should consider this as a possible downside.

Being a deposition reporter allows you the chance to work in different locations each time that you have a job. Some reporters have traveled to different states as well as different countries to take depositions with their clients. In college I worked for a reporter in a deposition firm who had taken Imelda Marcos's deposition. I've spoken with reporters from the Los Angeles area who had taken the depositions of rock stars as well as movie stars and professional athletes. I attended a real time seminar with the deposition reporters that did the deposition of then President Bill Clinton in the Monica Lewinsky matter.

So as you can see, the opportunity to meet what many consider fascinating people on a more personal level is possible in the deposition world depending on where you choose to hang your shingle or take your jobs.

The choice in the end is yours and what you feel most comfortable with. From my experience, a career that includes both depo and court work is really the best of both worlds.

The CCRA Store



Freelance & Official Compendiums = \$125



Highlighter = \$4



Travel Mug = \$15



Wall Clock = \$20



Paper Holder = \$5



Keychain = \$25



Mouse Pad = \$15



Mini Mouse = \$25

Supporting CCRA = PRICELESS!

Reporters Reference

Alameda County

Bay Area Court Reporters

21573 Foothill Boulevard, Suite 212
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BayAreaCrt@sbcglobal.net

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Covina, CA 91723
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Toll Free: 800/242-1996
Fax: 626/915-7306
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Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
818/788-3376
Toll Free: 800/936-3376
Fax: 818/788-4871
aedscal@sbcglobal.net
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