

June 2020



Welcome to NCRA's student newsletter, *Up-to-Speed*, featuring insights and tips especially for court reporting students. In this issue, read about how schools and students are adjusting to life during COVID-19 and how students are becoming new professionals.

## Student Spotlight



### From streaming video games to streaming steno

How would you like to livestream your steno practice on Facebook? How would you like to do it with 700 followers watching? Brian Binkney, a student at the College of Court Reporting in Valparaiso, Ind., has spent his life serving others. Now he has created an online community of students learning from each other. "People are watching me practice and practicing along, usually on their own machines in their own CAT software. It's like a huge practice session for anyone to join."

[Read more.](#)

Do you know a student currently attending an NCRA-approved court reporting program who should be in the spotlight? [Let us know.](#)

## Students Gain Confidence

## Stenopalooza inspires student

On May 1, NCRA held its first-ever Stenopalooza, an online, all-day event put together by the Board of Directors. Webinar topics ranged from learning to caption Facebook Live, to adding Zoom to your remote office toolkit. Only a handful of students attended the event. But one student, Angela Rojo of Argonaut/Charles A. Jones Court Reporter Program in Sacramento, Calif., got a jumpstart on her career by taking part in a full day of webinars, and she learned that advocating for the profession starts with advocating for yourself.



[Read more.](#)

REGISTER NOW > **JULY SKILLS TESTS (SKT)**  
RSR, RPR, RMR, CRR,  
AND CRC SKILLS TESTS

Registration open June 1-20  
for testing July 1-20

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RPR, RDR, CRC, AND CLVS  
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Registration open June 1-30  
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## New Professional Profile: Hailey Treasure

Hailey Treasure, RPR, is a new reporter in the first year of her career, providing services in the Chicago, Ill., area. During her schooling at MacCormac College in Chicago, she set a strong example for other students of what it takes to persevere and reach your goal of becoming a court reporter.

[Read more.](#)

## Registered Skilled Reporter certification seen by candidates as a confidence builder

In January 2020, NCRA launched the Registered Skilled Reporter (RSR), a new certification designed to serve as a stepping-stone for aspiring court reporters or those returning to the profession who have not yet gotten their speeds up enough to earn the Registered Professional Reporter (RPR) certification.

[Read more.](#)



## How You Can Get Involved with NCRA

[JOIN](#) NCRA as a student member and get access to discounts on testing, convention registration, study guides, and more.

[CONTRIBUTE](#) to *Up-to-Speed* by submitting articles, study tips, questions for reporters and instructors, and other suggestions.

[LEARN](#) about upcoming scholarship and grant opportunities.

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN**

**New Professional Reporter Grant**

**\$2,000 grant** awarded annually to a promising working court reporter in his or her first year out of school.

**APPLICATIONS DUE by Friday, June 5**

**NCRF**  
NATIONAL COURT REPORTERS FOUNDATION

**Discover the Difference. Try it Free.**

**Eclipse**  
Student Edition

**ADVANTAGE SOFTWARE**  
A Partner You Can Count On

## Handling COVID-19



## Students and teachers learn to cope with COVID-19

When stay-at-home orders were put in place across the country, brick-and-mortar schools were forced to shut their doors. The last couple of months have been challenging, but court reporting programs have found ways to adapt and serve the needs of their students during this unusual time. Whether they already had online programs in place, or are starting from scratch, everyone is learning to transition. *Up-to-Speed* asked teachers and students, “How are you coping with COVID-19?”

[Read more.](#)

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## Blended learning

Hybrid courses, or blended learning, “can offer the best of both traditional campus and online classes, one complementing the other,” says Carol Adams, RPR, MCRI, Distance Education Director at Huntington Junior College in Huntington, W.V. Adams lays out some of the benefits and challenges of blended learning as schools learn to navigate new COVID-19 requirements.



[Read more.](#)

## Questions of the Month

What is your favorite Q&A dictation topic?

58.8% – Auto accident  
8.8% – Personal injury  
20.6% – Medical malpractice  
11.8% – Drug possession charge

What do you find most challenging in your steno dictation?

47.8% – Q&A  
43.5% – Literary  
8.7% – Jury charge

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Are you a member of your state court reporters association?

**Yes**

[Select](#)

**No, but I used to be a member.**

[Select](#)

No, but I am interested in joining.

Select

No; I have no interest in joining the state association.

Select

I didn't know my state had an association.

Select

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When was the last time you ate in a restaurant?

Today

Select

This week

Select

Last week

Select

March

Select

What is a restaurant?

Select

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Want to see your school in the news? *Up-to-Speed* is looking for news from court reporting programs to feature in our newsletter. Send ideas and information to [schools@ncra.org](mailto:schools@ncra.org).

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## Schools in the news

- [OSU A to Z program](#)

## Testing center

- [Online Skills Test registration opens today](#)
- [Written Knowledge Test registration opens today](#)
- [Learn about NCRA's newest certification: The Registered Skilled Reporter \(RSR\)](#)
- [Block scheduling FAQs](#)