Date

**(Name) Wins Texting Contest and Earns Scholarship**

***Unique competition showcased court reporting profession and highlighted***

***National Court Reporting & Captioning Week***

**RESTON, Va., DATE, 2019 —** The National Court Reporters Association (NCRA), the country’s leading organization representing stenographic court reporters, captioners, and legal videographers, has announced that (**Full name of winning student**) from (**city and state**) was named winner of a Text for Tuition tournament-style competition recently hosted by (**Name of School/Firm, city and state where located**). (**Last name of winner**) earned a (**$ insert amount**) scholarship to court reporting school.

The competition matched the texting skills of high school students against the speed and accuracy of a court reporting student. Participants transcribed a series of audio files onto their phones via text message at the same time the court reporting student transcribed the same audio files via a steno machine.

The tournament was held in conjunction with NCRA’s 2019 national Court Reporting & Captioning Week, celebrated Feb. 9-16, which is designed to help raise the public’s awareness about the professions as a viable and rewarding career choice.

“Court reporting is a career that is on the rise, be it in the courtroom or providing captioning for live events,” said (**Full name, certifications, title, city and state**). “High school students belong to a generation with plenty of knowledge in the technology field, making them ideal candidates to fill future job openings. They can undoubtedly succeed here, and we want to make that clear.”

“Our hope is that this tournament helped high school students to get a taste of court reporting and understand why it can be such a promising, professional fit for them as a career,” said (**last name of person quoted above**).

Today, there are approximately 32,000 court reporters working in the U.S. However, that workforce population is aging, as 70 percent of court reporters are 46 years or older. Retirement rates are a primary driving force for the projected shortfall. Additionally, new rules adopted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to improve the quality of broadcast captioning have also resulted in a greater need for captioners in the coming years.

Despite the terminology, only 28 percent of stenographic court reporters actually work inside a courtroom day-to-day. Most operate in a freelance capacity for legal depositions or provide ADA-compliant captioning for medical transcriptions, educational settings, and business meetings.

The court reporting and captioning professions offer viable career choices that do not require a four-year college degree and yet offer good salaries, flexible schedules, and interesting venues. There is currently an increasing demand for more reporters and captioners to meet the growing number of employment opportunities available nationwide and abroad.

Court reporters and captioners rely on the latest in technology to use stenographic machines to capture the spoken word and translate it into written text in real time. These professionals work both in and out of the courtroom recording legal cases, depositions, providing live captioning of events, and assisting members of the deaf and hard-of-hearing communities with gaining access to information, entertainment, educational opportunities, and more.

To arrange an interview with a working court reporter or captioner, or to learn more about the lucrative and flexible court reporting or captioning professions and the many job opportunities currently available, contact pr@ncra.org.

Career information about the court reporting profession—one of the leading career options that does not require a traditional four-year degree—can be found at [DiscoverSteno.org.](https://www.ncra.org/discoversteno)

[*About NCRA*](https://www.ncra.org/home)

*The National Court Reporters Association (NCRA) has been internationally recognized for promoting excellence among those who capture and convert the spoken word to text for more than 100 years. NCRA is committed to supporting its more than 14,000 members in achieving the highest level of professional expertise with educational opportunities and industry-recognized captioning, court reporting, educator, and videographer certification programs. NCRA impacts legislative issues and the global marketplace through its actively involved membership.* Forbes *has named court reporting as one of the best career options that do not require a traditional four-year degree, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the court reporting field is expected to grow by 14 percent through the year 2020.*

*About* ***[name of school] \*\*THIS IS OPTIONAL\*\****

***Insert brief description of the school program, including its history, number of students it represents (or some other similar data point) and, perhaps, what its primary mission is—similar to the NCRA “boiler plate” below. Be sure to include contact information at the end of the boiler plate.***

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