

National Court Reporters Association 12355 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 610 Reston, VA 20191-3484

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As with any recognized nonprofit, the direction of the organization is stated in the mission statement. It is the foundation for all actions and the ultimate purpose of the association. This is NCRA's mission statement.

The National Court Reporters Association promotes excellence among those who capture and convert the spoken word to text and is committed to supporting every member in achieving the highest level of professional expertise.

In the NCRA Constitution and Bylaws, this is the overarching purpose of the Association: *To* assume responsibility for leadership and enlightenment of verbatim stenographic reporters and/or stenographic captioners and of the public regarding the special competency, importance, and value of verbatim stenographic reporters and/or stenographic captioners, and to promote verbatim stenographic reporting technologies by the use of symbols, manually or by stenographic machine, over alternative reporting methods.

NCRA, by its nature, is a nonpartisan, nonpolitical organization that should not be engaged with opinions, statements, or influence over areas of social justice, political stances, world crises, or any other area that does not directly deal with the mission or purpose of the Association.

While members, committee members, Board members, or staff of NCRA may be actively involved, participate in, have strong opinions, or even actively participate in their own non-mission-oriented issues, and can speak in their personal capacities on their own platforms, NCRA as an organization cannot speak to those things that are not mission-oriented or directly affect the profession or issues that affect the practitioners of the profession.

The NCRA Board has had many discussions about taking a position or making statements on different issues not pertaining to the mission but have ultimately decided that the Association's voice and position statements need to be mission oriented.

The NCRA Board also knows that taking or not taking a position on world or social justice matters may not be a popular opinion to some members, but hope those members understand the rationale stated above. NCRA's mission is clear, and we must adhere to that above all else.

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