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National Court Reporters Foundation program earns national honor

ASAE 2023 Power of Associations Silver Award recognizes Career Launcher Program

RESTON, Va., Aug. 11, 2023 — The National Court Reporters Association (NCRA), the country’s leading organization representing stenographic court reporters, captioners, and legal videographers, announced that the National Court Reporters Foundation (NCRF) Career Launcher program has been awarded the 2023 Power of Associations Silver Award from the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) in the Power of Global Development category. NCRF is the philanthropic arm of NCRA.

ASAE’s Power of Associations Awards recognize the associations’ economic and societal contributions locally, nationally, and globally. ASAE will celebrate In 2022, NCRA’s STRONG Committee was awarded the 2022 Power of Associations Silver Award from the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) in the advocacy category. The 2023 award winners will be honored during ASAE’s annual Summit Awards Dinner on September 28, at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C.

The Career Launcher program was nominated for the award by NCRA Past President Sue A. Terry, FAPR, RPR, CRR, CRC, a court reporter and captioner from Springfield, Ohio.

“I nominated the Career Launcher program because I was so excited to see a program emerge created by top professionals in our field that bridges the gap between training and success,” Terry said. “The Career Launcher team's commitment to mentorship is helping to propel our new stenographers toward excellence in their craft and easing the transition from student to professional,” she added.

Launched in 2021, the Career Launcher program is an innovative and comprehensive professional training program designed for court reporting students, new professionals, or anyone who needs a crash course in the life of a deposition reporter. The program is asynchronous and consists of 10 video mock deposition modules. Participants can work through the program at their own pace and will benefit from more than 150 years of cumulative experience from leading industry professionals as they navigate the myriad circumstances and environments that they will encounter in their career. The program is available to students, working professionals, and court reporting firms and schools.
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“Congratulations to the National Court Reporters Association and its Foundation for exemplifying the impact associations have on the industries and professions they represent, and on society at large,” said ASAE President and CEO Michelle Mason, FASAE, CAE. “It’s always so incredibly satisfying to see associations going above and beyond their everyday mission to change the world. We’re very proud to spotlight this award-winning initiative.”

Click here to learn more about The Career Launcher Program, or contact Jill Parker Landsman, Manager, NCRF.

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 and 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.

If you’re looking for a career that is on the cutting edge of technology, offers the opportunity for work at home or abroad, like to write, enjoy helping others, and are fast with your fingers, then the fields of court reporting and captioning are careers you can explore at NCRA/discoversteno.org.

The NCRA A to Z® Intro to Steno Machine Shorthand program, a free online six-week introductory course, lets participants see if a career in court reporting or captioning would be a good choice for them. The program is an introduction to stenographic theory and provides participants with the opportunity to learn the basics of writing on a steno machine. There is no charge to take the course, but participants are required to have access to a steno machine or an iPad they can use to download the iStenoPad app.

To arrange an interview with a working court reporter, captioner, legal videographer, or a current court reporting student, 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.

About NCRA

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 12,000 members in achieving the highest level of professional expertise with educational opportunities and industry-recognized court reporting, educator, and videographer certification programs. NCRA impacts legislative issues and the global marketplace through its actively involved membership. NCRA’s STRONG Committee promotes stenographic captioning and court reporting as the best means to maintain the accuracy of the record. One of its missions is to combat false proclamations that digital and automatic speech recognition (ASR) methods of capturing the spoken word are equal to superior to
stenographic means and/or that these methods are less expensive.

Forbes has named court reporting as one of the best career options that do not require a traditional four-year degree. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the court reporting field is expected to be one of the fastest areas of projected employment growth across all occupations. According to 247/WallSt.com, the court reporting profession ranks sixth out of 25 careers with the lowest unemployment rate, just 0.7 percent. Career information about the court reporting profession—one of the leading career options that do not require a traditional four-year degree—can be found at NCRA DiscoverSteno.org.

About NCRF
As a charitable organization, the Foundation relies almost solely on tax-deductible donations, the majority of which come from NCRA members and associated businesses. To donate, or for information on NCRF’s programs, visit NCRA/Foundation.org, or call 800/272-6272, ext. 126.