RESTON, Va., Aug. 3, 2023 — The National Court Reporters Association (NCRA), the country’s leading organization representing stenographic court reporters, captioners, and legal videographers, announced today that Jennifer Sati, RMR, CRR, CRC, CRI, from Dayton, Minn., a broadcast captioner and program director of the Judicial Reporting/Broadcast Captioning Program at Anoka Technical College in Anoka, Minn., has been named 2023 Educator of the Year. The announcement was made at the 2023 NCRA Conference & Expo held July 27-30 at the Hyatt Regency Houston Downtown in Houston, Texas.

NCRA’s CASE (Council on Approved Student Education) Award of Excellence recognizes the important role student education plays in the court reporting profession and honors educators for their dedication and outstanding achievement and leadership. Recipients are nominated by an NCRA member.

“I am honored to receive the 2023 CASE Educator Award. It was a tremendous surprise, and I had absolutely no clue it was coming,” Sarti said. “A huge ‘thank you’ to NCRA, my colleagues, my graduates, and my students. Teaching court reporting is truly a dream job. Seeing the magic in a student’s eyes and their skilled fingers flying on the steno machine is simply amazing. Twenty years ago, the opportunity to build a program at Anoka Tech in Minnesota became a reality. I...
gathered a team, and together we built a very successful program. The whirlwind of students starting their theory, passing their speed tests, and sending them out to work is an adrenaline rush that is addicting,” she added.

Sati, who holds the nationally recognized professional certifications of Registered Merit Reporter (RMR), Certified Realtime Reporter (CRR), Certified Realtime Captioner (CRC), and Certified Reporting Instructor (CRI), has worked professionally in the freelance, broadcast/CART captioning, and official fields for the past 30 years. She is credited with creating the Anoka Technical College’s court reporting and broadcast captioning program from the bottom up and has served on the Higher Learning Commission committee for the college’s accreditation. She is also credited with helping to develop the Minnesota Association of Verbatim Reporters and Captioners (MAVRC) mentorship program.

At the national level, Sati has served on the NCRA Board of Directors, as well as the Association’s NCRA A to Z®, Test Advisory, and Contests Committees. She has also served on NCRA’s Certified Reporting Instructor Task Force, and as Chair of the Council on Approved Student Education.

At the state level, Sati holds membership in the Minnesota Association of Verbatim Reporters & Captioners, and actively promotes the stenographic court reporting and broadcast captioning fields by working to organize state conventions serving on various committees, including the organization’s Veteran History Project and Court Reporting and Captioning Awareness committees.

According to NCRA member Deborah Longley, CRI, from Anoka, Minn., a school administrator at Anoka Technical College who was one of several of Sati’s colleagues who nominated her for the award, “Jennifer is always thinking forward about how to engage our students in our state association and our national association. She ensures that students have every opportunity to attend conventions by searching for scholarships and/or financial help.”

NCRA member Jennifer Ogaard, RPR, CRR, from Plymouth, Minn., a freelance court reporter and captioner and an adjunct instructor at Anoka Technical College, also nominated Sati for the award, citing that Sati stays on top of the latest for the profession. “During COVID-19, she devised an online program basically on the fly, and the students/instructors were able to navigate the remote waters almost without a glitch so that the program could continue without students falling behind. This had never been done before and it worked perfectly.”

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.