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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local court reporter to serve on national board *Dana Hayden from Fayetteville, Ark., to serve a three-year term*

RESTON, Va., July 28, 2025 — The National Court Reporters Association (NCRA), the country's leading organization representing stenographic court reporters, captioners, and legal videographers, has announced that Dana Hayden, RMR, CRR, CRC, a freelance court reporter and agency owner from Fayetteville, Ark., has been appointed to serve a three-year term as Director. The announcement was made at the [2025 NCRA Conference & Expo](#) that took place July 24-26 in Minneapolis, Minn.

Hayden holds the nationally recognized professional certifications of Registered Merit Reporter (RMR), Certified Realtime Reporter (CRR), and Certified Realtime Captioner (CRC). She began her court reporting career in 1989 after graduating from Alvin Community College in Alvin, Texas. Her professional experience includes as an official court reporter for the Arkansas Western District Court in Fort Smith and Fayetteville. She currently owns Arkansas Realtime Reporting based in Fayetteville. She has provided closed captioning services for television and CART (Communications Access Realtime Translation) services for the deaf and hard-of-hearing communities.

At the national level, Hayden has volunteered as a mentor to court reporting students and served on the Association's TRAIN Committee and as a Chief Examiner to administer the national skills tests in the state of Arkansas. She currently serves on NCRA's Membership, Marketing, and Outreach Committee.

At the state level, Hayden holds membership in the Texas (TCRA) and the Arkansas (ACRA) Court Reporters Associations. She is certified to work in Texas, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. She is a past president to TCRA, has served on all roles on the organization's executive committee, and has



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presented numerous times at the state level on rules/ethics, writing and perfecting realtime, and CART and captioning. She currently chairs TCRA's CART/Captioning Task Force.

In her current state of residence, Hayden is serving her second three-year term on the Arkansas Supreme Court's ACRA Certification Board and is lead in administering a mandatory two-day orientation for newly certified reporters. Under the Arkansas Administration of the Courts she served on the Motion Subcommittee to explore reciprocity options for certified court reporter certification which ultimately was approved.

Hayden is the recipient of numerous awards including being named Court Reporter of the Year by ACRA. She is both a national and state speed and realtime champion.

Hayden is a past president of the Minnesota Association of Verbatim Reporters & Captioners and was awarded the Association's Award of Excellence in 2017 and placed second in the speed contest.

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 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.

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.

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 125 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.

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



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field is expected to be one of the fastest areas of projected employment growth across all occupations. 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](http://NCRA.DiscoverSteno.org).