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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Local court reporter from Riverview, Fla., inducted into national academy *Sheri Smargon named a 2026 Fellow of the Academy of Professional Court Reporters***

**RESTON, Va., June 2, 2026** — The National Court Reporters Association (NCRA), the country’s leading organization representing stenographic court reporters, captioners, and legal videographers, has announced that Sheri Smargon, FAPR, RDR, CRR, CRC, CRI, a court reporter and captioner from Riverview, Fla., has been named a 2026 Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters (FAPR).

[Membership in the Academy](#) symbolizes excellence among NCRA members. The designation of FAPR represents an individual’s dedication to the court reporting and captioning professions and expresses the highest level of professional ethics. Candidates for Fellowship are required to have been in the active practice of reporting/captioning for at least 15 years and to have attained distinction as measured by performance (which includes publication of important papers, creative contributions, service on committees or boards, teaching, etc.).

“Becoming a Fellow is something I’ve dreamt of but never thought I’d be of the caliber to receive the honor. I’m humbled and grateful to be a member of such an elite group of reporters,” said Smargon.



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Smargon, who began her career in 1992, is a graduate of the Erwin Technical Center in Tampa, Fla., and holds a bachelor's degree in applied behavioral science and a master's degree in psychology from the National-Louis University in Tampa. She also holds the nationally recognized professional certifications of Registered Diplomat Reporter (RDR), Certified Realtime Reporter (CRR), Certified Realtime Captioner (CRC), and Certified Reporting Instructor (CRI).

She has reported trials, depositions, arbitrations, and council meetings, as well as provided realtime captioning for deaf and hard-of-hearing consumers. In addition, Smargon virtually provided CART (Communications Access Realtime Translation) during COVID-19 for group meetings, one-on-one settings, and online classes for students. In 2024, she was appointed to serve on the Guantanamo Bay Team.

At the national level, Smargon has served on NCRA's Test Writing Committee, is a past chair of the CRC Committee, and is a past member of the CRC Test Writing Committee. A long-time competitor, she also earned numerous medals in NCRA's national Speed and Realtime Contests and in Intersteno competitions, including as World Champion in 2022 in the Audio Transcription division of the international competition.

At the state level, Smargon served as president of the Florida Court Reporters Association (FCRA) and is the current chair of its Realtime/FPR-Committee. She has also served on FCRA's CRC Test Writing Committee.

"Throughout her career, Sheri has distinguished herself as an exceptionally accomplished and highly credentialed professional. Her long list of certifications is not just impressive on paper; it reflects a sustained dedication to mastery, growth, and excellence in court reporting," wrote Michael A. Scire, RPR, CMRS, in a letter recommending Smargon for the award. "Each credential she has earned tells a story of discipline, precision, and an unwavering pursuit of the highest standards in our field," he noted.

In another letter of recommendation, Alan Peacock, RDR, CRR, CRC, wrote "Not only is she an excellent and skilled realtime reporter, but she has what I affectionately refer to as a 'steno heart,' meaning she has total dedication to this profession."

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 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



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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](mailto: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 10,000 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.*

*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. 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 [DiscoverSteno.org](http://DiscoverSteno.org).*