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NCRF Honors Local Court Reporter with 2019 Santo J. Aurelio Award for Altruism *Mervin E. Vaughn Recognized at National Convention*

RESTON, Va., Aug. 17, 2019 — The National Court Reporters Foundation (NCRF), the philanthropic arm of the National Court Reporters Association (NCRA), presented the 2019 Santo J. Aurelio Award to Mervin E. Vaughn from Runnels, Iowa. NCRA is the country's leading organization representing stenographic court reporters, captioners, and legal videographers. The announcement was made at a special awards luncheon held at NCRA's Convention & Expo Aug. 15-18, in Denver, Colo.

The Aurelio Award is given to a working court reporter with more than 25 years of experience who has given back to the profession and to the court reporting community with no expectation of any reward.

Vaughn has worked as a freelance and an official court reporter and currently serves as president of Huney-Vaughn Court Reporters in Des Moines, Iowa. He completed graduated on 1965 from the American Institute of Business in Des Moines before serving in the U.S. Army in Vietnam from 1966 to 1968.

He has been a long-time supporter of NCRF and has served in numerous volunteer positions for NCRA at the national level. He is a lifetime retired member and holds the nationally recognized professional certification of Registered Professional Reporter (RPR). At the state level, his volunteer service to the Iowa Court Reporters Association (ICRA) spans more than 50 years.

He has also been a long-time advocate for young reporters entering the profession, and is known for hosting student interns or recruiting working court reporters to attend marketing events for a local court reporting school.

For his military service, Vaughn was awarded the U.S. Army Commendation Medal for "distinguishing themselves by exceptionally meritorious service in support of allied counterinsurgency operations in the Republic of Vietnam."

His community involvement has included volunteering for a local non-profit that assist families with a child or an adult impacted by Downs Syndrome, and more than 20 years serving in various positions to support his local church.

His, or her, selflessness when giving back to others has clearly been recognized by such acts as having a scholarship established in their name to support students entering a trade school, and



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letters of recommendations from judges, attorneys, instructors, former students, friends, and family, for having this honor bestowed on him or her.

In the words of one of this year’s recipient’s children: “My dad has given his whole life to his career and strongly believes in helping others. From leaving his fiancée to go serve his country, to encouraging any student he counters, he has always put court reporting as his top priority. He has done so while rebuilding his company after a devastating fire, and saying goodbye to his best friend and business partner. He’s the only person who encouraged me to pursue my CLVS, and the reason we are planning our own VHP day, because he saw a need for our community.”

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 realtime. 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. Be sure to visit [NCRA’s Press Center](#) for information as well.

Career information about the court reporting profession—one of the leading career options that does not require a traditional four-year degree—can be found at [DiscoverSteno.org](#).

About the Award

Dr. Santo J. Aurelio, a former court reporter for 30 years, earned a bachelor and master degree from Harvard Business School, and a doctorate in education from Boston University. He is a visiting professor at colleges throughout the Boston area, where he teaches a variety of subjects, including English grammar and medical legal terminology. He has written extensively on Black English, Judeo-Christian religion, sexist language, classical art, discrimination, word etymology, adult basic education, Jewish and Italian immigration, legal terms, and mnemonics. Most of his time is spent teaching, engaging in research and writing. He has four sons, and lives with this wife of more than 50 years in Arlington, Mass.

[About NCRF](#)



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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.

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 14,000 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, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the court reporting field is expected to grow by 14 percent through the year 2020.