You may have recently seen or heard suggestions to modify your deposition notices to allow for the recording of deposition testimony solely by digital audio and/or by artificial intelligence (AI) means, without having a certified court reporter present. This practice is sometimes referred to as *digital reporting*.



Digital reporting is not court reporting.

- Make sure you know what methods of taking the record are permitted in your jurisdiction.
- Laws, rules, and regulations for making a record vary from state to state and jurisdiction to jurisdiction, and many do not accept digital recording as a means of capturing or protecting the record.

Simply creating an audio recording or relying on AI recording of a deposition is not court reporting. If it were, anyone could do it.

Digital reporting is not regulated and carries significant risks.

- Your only record is an audio file. There could be disastrous consequences for your case when equipment malfunctions or fails.
- In most states, no training, degree, certification, or license is required.
- Transcripts can be outsourced (frequently outside the U.S.) with no regulatory oversight or accountability.

Certified court reporters are licensed, regulated, and accountable to the public and the courts.

- Tested to demonstrate proficiency, with continuing education required.
- Must abide by all state laws, rules, and regulations, with possible sanctions for violations.
- Can provide instantaneous read back, simultaneous realtime, rough drafts, and expedited transcripts.
- Have three to four redundant backup files running at all times, including synchronized audio files that follow every word as it is spoken and written stenographically into the realtime transcript.



MAKE SURE YOUR NOTICE SPECIFIES A CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

National Court Reporters Association

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Special thanks to the Washington Court Reporters Association