



National Court Reporters Association Update

- NCRA is the Association for stenographic court reporters and captioners and has partnered with the court system to ensure the timely, impartial, accurate, and optimal delivery of court transcripts for many decades.
- NCRA is committed to growing the stenographic court reporting and captioning professions to ensure an ample supply of high-quality, educated experts are available to fill the increasing number of job opportunities both in and out of the courtroom.
- NCRA is committed to ensuring the secure preservation of the record by live stenographic court reporters, who provide syllable-by-syllable authentication for every spoken word, the highest level of protection of private information, and personal responsibility and accountability for the official record.
- Stenographers pivoted to working remotely without introducing any delay to dockets. Remote proceedings have allowed stenographers to cover multiple hearings or depositions a day without travel, maximizing the efficient use of resources and alleviating forecasted stenographer shortages in many jurisdictions.
- NCRA also offers several nationally recognized certifications that show a court reporter's or captioner's level of proficiency. Stenographers can also aid decision-makers on the processes of making the record, including how it will be preserved and secured, a promise that often cannot be met through other means.
- NCRA is reaching out to justice protection groups like the ACLU, Epic, among others, to address judicial concerns regarding gender biases and minority prejudices that are created with automatic speech recognition engines, ensuring justice for all Americans through the provision of accurate court transcripts is preserved.
- High-dollar hidden costs, privacy risks, and compromised biometric data associated with the use of electronic recordings are of grave concern. Outsourcing transcription to a third party often means the recording is being sent overseas, putting personal information at risk of compromise, and potentially violating legislation enacted to protect PII.
- Transcripts produced from recorded proceedings are frequently replete with "(inaudibles)" and "(unintelligibles)" in place of ostensibly critical information. A live stenographer will immediately ask for clarification if something isn't audible.
- Stenographers have their work backed up in multiple locations on a second-by-second basis which provides an additional backup system should a court's system be hacked or attacked by ransomware.