

# COURT REPORTERS IN WASHINGTON STATE MUST BE CERTIFIED

Is your Court Reporter Certified and Licensed to take depositions in Washington State?

Have you been asked to stipulate to using a “digital reporter” to cover your deposition?

Digital Reporters are not certified to perform court reporting services in Washington State.



Specify on your Notice of Deposition it will be taken before a Certified Court Reporter

## KNOW THE LAW & COURT RULES IN WASHINGTON STATE

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Promoting Excellence in the Court Reporting Community

## Attention Washington Attorneys

Knowing the court rules and existing laws in Washington State is more important than ever. You may be surprised to find an uncertified “digital reporter” appear at your deposition. Be aware that in Washington State, court reporters must be certified according to law.

### RCW 18.145.005 – Findings

The legislature finds it necessary to regulate the practice of court reporting at the level of certification to protect the public safety and well-being. The legislature intends that only individuals who meet and maintain minimum standards of competence may represent themselves as court reporters.

### RCW 18.145.010 – Certificate required

(1) No person may represent himself or herself as a court reporter without first obtaining a certificate as required by this chapter.

**“Digital Court Reporters” are not court reporters or certified court reporters under the definition of existing law in Washington.**

### RCW 5.28.010 – Who may administer an oath

Every court, judge, clerk of a court, state-certified court reporter, or notary public, is authorized to take testimony in any action, suit or proceeding, and such other persons in particular cases as authorized by law.

### RCW 42.45.230 – Prohibited acts

(1) A commission as a notary public does not authorize an individual to:.....(e) Provide court reporting services.

## Protect Your Record

Make sure your notices always specify the proceedings are to be taken before a Certified Court Reporter (CCR). All Washington CCR's must include their license number on their business cards. If you don't see it, ask for it to be provided.

You may also contact the Washington Court Reporters Association and we will assist you in filing complaints if an uncertified digital reporter appears at your deposition. Should you need help finding certified court reporters, we can help locate one for you. We're here to help you protect your record.

[www.washingtoncourtreporters.org](http://www.washingtoncourtreporters.org)