



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“It is not possible to be in favor of justice for some people and not be in favor of justice for all people.”

- Martin Luther King, Jr.



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THE GUARDIAN

College of Court Reporting

Issue 1

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NCSA CHALLENGE INSPIRES MEMBERS TO SHOWCASE COURT REPORTING AND CAPTIONING PROFESSIONS

Although the kick-off for NCRA’s fifth National Court Reporting & Captioning Week is still weeks away, members have already begun reporting activities that are showcasing the court reporting and captioning professions. NCRA’s 2017 Court Reporting & Captioning Week is set for Feb. 11-18.

 **2017 Court Reporting & Captioning Week**
February 11-18

LEARN HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED!



In Texas, for example, the state’s court reporter association’s Student Recruitment Task Force has already reported career fairs and school visits in high schools and community colleges in areas such as Brownsville, Corpus Christi, Houston, Midland-Odessa, and San Antonio. A recruitment event hosted by the Rio Grande Valley Court Reporters in Hidalgo County also generated a feature story on local television station KRGV Channel 5.

Meanwhile, in Massachusetts, members of the state court reporters association introduced students at a local vocational school to the court reporting and captioning professions. Many students attending the event expressed interest in the profession, and several said they would be willing to participate in an introduction to machine shorthand class.

Students at McClintock High School in Tempe, Ariz., were also recently introduced to the court reporting and captioning professions during a career day held in mid-November. NCRA members Doreen Sutton, RPR, a freelance reporter from Scottsdale, and Cindy Lineburg, RPR, and Amy Weaver, RPR, official court reporters from Phoenix, were on hand to showcase realtime writing. The students also had a chance to try out a machine and watch their names come up on iPads.

“Many of the students were interested in an introduction to steno class in order to test the possibility of enrolling in a stenography course as well as learning more about their options for future employment,” Sutton said.

Some of this early activity can be attributed in part to the friendly challenge issued by the National Committee for States (NCSA) during the NCRA Convention & Expo held this past August, according to NCSA Chair Mary Bader, RPR, an official court reporter from Medford, Wis.

Student of the Month

Nadine Capps

One of Nadine's instructors had this to say about her as a student:

"She has demonstrated proficiency in all of her work. She submits her assignments in a timely fashion, and has passed all of her evaluations including her mentors. She is a pleasure to work with, and is able to think quickly on her feet. She is a star student."

Keep up the great work, Nadine!



"This is the third year NCSA has issued this friendly challenge among members and state associations to promote our profession as a viable career path as well as to showcase the important work court reporters and captioners do both in and out of the courtroom. The response to the NCSA challenge has boosted activity across the nation each year, and it is exciting to see folks engaging early in celebration of our unique professions," Bader said.

The NCSA challenge calls on all state associations to join forces with their members to spread the word about the benefits of a career in court reporting or captioning for the chance to win complimentary registrations to NCRA events or vouchers for continuing education. Recently, NCSA shared some tips for planning a student demonstration, which can be found on NCRA's Court Reporting & Captioning Week resource page.

NCRA's National Court Reporting & Captioning Week is designed to encourage members of the court reporting and captioning professions to celebrate their careers by hosting special events within the community and more.

In the past, an array of events have marked the week, including securing official proclamations recognizing the occasion, school and firm open houses, Veterans History Day projects, media outreach, and more.

In addition to the many resources available through NCRA.org/Awareness, the Association is also encouraging members and state associations to consider using several new resources made available this year through its Take Note campaign. The Take Note materials are designed to target specific markets for potential new students. NCRA's Take Note campaign is based on an industry-wide outlook report conducted by an independent research firm that determined that there is a growing need for qualified people to fill jobs coming open in the court reporting and captioning fields.

The new messaging resources are part of a newly designed "Fresh Perspectives" toolkit created as part of the campaign's phase two track to help identify, attract, and retain new students. New messaging is featured on two-sided rack cards, which were created to appeal to high school students, career changers, college students who have withdrawn, and veterans and their spouses. Each of the cards also features the text: "A career in court reporting can give you a fresh perspective." The rack cards are available to view and download at crTakeNote.com. The new resources can be downloaded and printed and used at various events held to help promote and showcase the profession.

The ways to celebrate 2017 Court Reporting & Captioning Week are unlimited. To learn more how you can celebrate the week or to find the latest in resources, including press release templates, media pitches, presentations, and more, visit the Resource Center on NCRA.org or contact the NCRA communications team at pr@ncra.org. And don't forget to share with NCRA what you plan to do to celebrate.

Grammar Tip of the Month

#1. Avoid “could of,” “should of,” “would of,” and “might of.”



“Could’ve,” “should’ve,” “would’ve,” and “might’ve” are **correct**.

Although “could of” sounds like “could’ve,” it’s wrong! This also applies to “should of,” “would of,” and “might of.”

If you want to avoid making this mistake in the future, force yourself to always use “could have” (instead of the contraction).

December Evaluations Passed

These students have all passed one or more SAP evaluations during the month of December.

<u>11 SAPs</u>	Obstalecki	Steadman	Leneair	Lora Ingram
Michelle	<u>4 SAPs</u>	Kyra Kustin	Christine Angel	LaDonna
McClean	Baley Moore	<u>2 SAPs</u>	Geneva Wildcat	Younger
<u>9 SAPs</u>	Erin Alajoki	Camille Holmes	Hannah Wilson	Lexi Klasing
Katie Buckner	Gabrielle	Treshanna	Stephanie	Linda Day
<u>8 SAPs</u>	Mosher	Robinzine	McGinnis	
Shaylene Mofle	Morgan	Christine Saylor	Holly Reese	
<u>7 SAPs</u>	Maloney	Holly McKay	Jamie Bleicher	
Stephen Brown	<u>3 SAPs</u>	Mackenzie	Stephen Lane	
<u>6 SAPs</u>	Amanda Vernon	Smith	Taisha Herr	
Ashley Hare	Cassi Knight	Nicole Cramer	Jennifer Hall	
<u>5 SAPs</u>	Courtney	Clara Brooks	Rhonda	
Ashley Privett	Randolph	Jessica Williams	Wentzell	
Donna	Stephanie	Shannon Gallo	Nadine Capps	
Capolongo	Garcia	<u>1 SAP</u>	Karina Hannah	
Eric Luft	Daphne Tardy	Alexis	Kate Bush-	
Lisa Major	Kate Hargis	Celentano	McKee	
Martha	Kathleen	Cheyenne	Kolby Garrison	

COURT REPORTERS ARE A RARE BREED!

The career of a court reporter is very rewarding and challenging. In most instances, work-life balance is good and compensation is high. Why? Well, a court reporter is responsible for recording testimony with the utmost accuracy in a legal proceeding. The court reporting brain must process this testimony in real-time, and in many situations the vocabulary being used is highly specialized. This information is then simultaneously translated into court reporting language, which will be translated back at a later point.

Attributes of the Best Court Reporters

At the Court Reporting and Litigation Support firm of Kaplan Leaman & Wolfe, we have identified that the best court reporters possess the following attributes:

- Excellent listening skills
- High levels of concentration
- The ability to multi-task
- A passion about perfection
- An inquisitive mind
- Perfect communication skills

What Do The Experts Say About Court Reporters?

In a recent federal court matter, a neuropsychologist gave expert testimony as to the complexity of the human brain. In his testimony, he used the Court Reporter's brain as an example. Here is what he testified to:

Neuropsychologist: "May I give an example of this?"

Counsel: "Sure."

Neuropsychologist: "Okay. If you look — and the example is this: Our brains are a miracle. Okay? They're a miracle that needs to be protected. And if you look at the court reporter right now, as an example, okay, this is a miracle in progress happening right before your eyes.

Let me just explain what she needs to do. I am speaking, so the information has to come in through her ear into her temporal lobe, and it has to go log itself into the language center. She has to be able to comprehend what I'm saying.

Then it has to get rerouted to the prefrontal cortex where it has to hold — she has to be able to hold the information, because, you know, I continuously talk so she has to hold it. Right? Then she has to analyze it, integrate it and synthesize it. Then it has to go back to the cerebellum and she has to be able to execute this, and she has to be able to then convert my words into those little squiggly marks. Have you ever seen court reporters have little squiggly language things?

So she has to convert it into a different language, and the white matter tracks allow her to reroute all of this information simultaneously without effort. Okay.



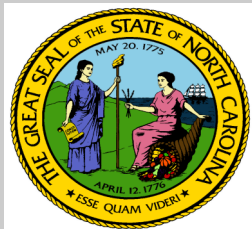
Position: Official court reporter

Location: Lehigh County Courthouse, Allentown, PA



Position: Freelance reporter

Location: Advantage Court Reporting, St. Cloud/Minneapolis, MN



Position: Official court reporter

Location: North Carolina Superior Court, Guilford County, NC

If you would like more information about any of these positions, please contact

Natalie.Kijurna@ccr.edu

We take our brains for granted. She's sitting here. I'm probably talking too fast for her, but she's able to do this simultaneously. Seamlessly. Okay?

No animal on the planet can do this. All right? That's why I believe court reporters will never be replaced. Because no technical — no technology could replace the beauty of that brain and the miracle of that brain.

And that's why your brain should always be protected and you should take care of it. It takes a special brain to be a court reporter."

Conclusion

As you spend time with family this Holiday weekend, you may encounter family members who are considering different career paths. Hopefully this blog article will provide you with some great insights on the career of a court reporter!

Kaplan Leaman & Wolfe is a court reporting and litigation support firm with its headquarters in Philadelphia, PA. We serve law firms, courts, and insurance companies in every state across the United States with their court reporting and litigation support needs.



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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.CCR.EDU

January

Birthdays are in bold print! Happy birthday, CCR students and faculty!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4 Sarah Harless Courtney Casteel Debra Selsavage Tracie Blocker	5	6	7
8 Stephen	9 Lizahaira Alvarado	10	11 Dawn Molina	12	13	14 Taifa Stephenson Bernice Cashman
15	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Kristine Rebar	17 Daphne Tardy	18 Shana Jones	19	20 Alice Leonard	21
22	23 Baley Sargent Moore	24	25	26 Emily Senesac Macy Thompson	27	28
29 Jessica Barg	30	31 Casi De La Torre				