

# THE GUARDIAN

ISSUE 8 AUGUST 2014

## THE COURT REPORTING PROFESSION IS ALIVE AND WELL

For years, people have been warning court reporters and students that the future of court reporting is doomed. But contrary to the warnings, the industry has not collapsed. It is alive and well, even thriving due to advancements that have strengthened the profession.

Over 30 years ago, when I became a court reporter, I heard the warnings, "Court reporters will be replaced by electronic recording....you won't have a job once video replaces you...voice recognition is going to kill court reporting."

Over the years, I have seen these arguments and many more fall by the wayside. One by one, they were proven wrong as our skills grew stronger, our technology blossomed, and new career paths opened up that widened our profession. A career in court reporting is as stable today as it was years ago when I first began reporting.

### PROJECTIONS

The United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor and Statistics publishes the Occupational Outlook Handbook. This handbook is a source for career information about many different professions. The profiles feature hundreds of occupations and describe the occupations, the work environment, how to enter the field, and more. Each profile also includes employment projections for the 2010–2020 decade. The Occupational Outlook Handbook lists court reporting and gives facts about the industry that are beneficial to anyone who is thinking of entering the field. These facts are also reassuring to court reporters who are still hearing warnings of job shrinkage. There are currently 22,000 court reporters esti-

mated to be employed in the United States. The Bureau of Labor and Statistics projects this number to grow by 14% from 2010 to 2020. This is hardly an indication of a shrinking job market. In fact, the field is expected to grow at an average pace when compared to other occupations.

### NEW TECHNOLOGY

The technology of court reporting has evolved over the years, and continues to advance as computers and the internet advance in sophistication. For years, the only technology used was a stenotype machine and a typewriter. In the early '80s, computer-aided transcription became the norm. Court reporters were able to teach computers how to read steno notes and help turn those notes into transcripts.

Over the years, the computer-aided technology has developed into realtime reporting, allowing our steno notes to be instantaneously translated at a high rate of accuracy. Video began to be incorporated to allow for video depositions accompanied by traditional transcription. With the evolution of the Internet, we now have the capability to transmit video, audio and realtime transcription to remote locations. The realtime nature of this new technology means parties can effectively participate in proceedings that are taking place in different geographical locations without leaving their own office. These new technologies allow court reporters to not only stay relevant to legal proceedings, but also offer wider and more convenient services to clients

### NEW SKILLS

With the new technology of computer-aided transcription in real time, court re-

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I'll try again tomorrow."*

- Mary Anne Radmacher

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## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

### **Angel McCullough**

Angela took court reporting during her senior year of high school and enrolled onsite with CCR three days after her graduation. Her drive and work ethic have served her well in school and will certainly do so in her career as a court reporter. She has soared through the program! She's currently working on her exit speeds, and this past weekend she passed the WKT (written knowledge test) through NCRA. You are doing a great job, Angel!

### **Julie Christopher**

Julie is a hard worker and is very focused on completing the program. She completes all her assignments on time and is always willing to participate in class. She is a teacher's dream. She is a very organized, meticulous worker. She is dedicated to becoming a court reporter. Keep practicing, Julie!

### **Abby Crouse**

Abby Crouse is an upbeat, hard-working student. She is inquisitive and can be counted on to always participate in class. Her transcripts are top-notch! Awesome job, Abby! Keep up the great work!



*You're getting better every day that you practice!*

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porters began to evolve the traditional shorthand theory into a new system of writing that allowed for more accurate realtime transcription. Over the last 20 years, many reporters have retrained themselves in a new way of writing. This higher level of realtime accuracy allows reporters to project realtime translation and also deliver a highly accurate rough draft immediately upon the conclusion of the proceedings. The realtime translation is helpful to the attorneys while they are asking their questions of the witness. The rough draft being supplied is popular for attorneys preparing for an upcoming trial who want the convenience of having the written testimony in front of them immediately after the proceedings have concluded. Another skill that has developed in the last couple decades is legal video. The profession, as a whole, has pioneered legal video and streaming video so that they may deliver these services to clients who can take advantage of the technology and use it to their best benefit. The National Court Reporters Association offers certification for videographers who are interested in providing a high level of professional legal video to clients. This standardization allows the court reporting industry to continue to provide highly professional video for legal use. The ability to commandeer these new technologies and use them to offer a wider variety of services has allowed court reporters to continue to stay relevant over the years.

### **NEW CAREER PATHS**

Once reporters adapted their writing to provide highly accurate realtime translation, reporters began offering their services to the deaf community and people who are severely hard of hearing. These realtime skills are now employed to provide broadcast captioning of live television shows, such as news broadcasts. Television captions are typically created before a show airs. In the case of live television shows, there is no opportunity to create captions before the show airs. Working with television stations, court reporters began using their skills to translate the spoken word in realtime and send it out with live television shows. Realtime also became the method to provide Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) to individuals in schools, the work place and live theater. With the CART provider writing what is being spoken, the person receiving assistance can then read the captions from a computer screen and is able to participate in live discussions that would typically be extremely difficult without the live captions being provided. These new fields of broadcast captioning and Communication Access Realtime Translation has broadened a court reporter's choices of fields to work in and expanded the number of jobs available in the profession.

### **A PROFESSION THAT IS STRONG AND GROWING**

This equation of new technologies, new skills and new career paths adds up to a profession that is alive and thriving. When people tell me court reporting is dying, I know they are wrong because of the developments I have watched and participated in over the years. The truth is the field of court reporting is stronger now than ever.



*Reprinted from O'Brien & Bails Court Reporting Blog  
Written by : Dawn Houghton*



**Word Trippers By: Barabara McNichol****Word Tripper for July 10, 2014**

**Archetype, prototype** – Derived from the Latin term *typus* meaning image, the nouns “archetype” and “prototype” both relate to an original pattern or model, but each prefix establishes the distinction. *Arch* refers to the most accomplished or high ranking of something. *Proto* primarily refers to a standard configuration, or an initial model or version of something. Thus, “archetype” has come to mean an ideal example or perfect form while “prototype” is an early, usually unrefined version of something that’s expected to evolve.



“With her perfect GPA, inspiring extracurricular activity, and impressive athletic accomplishments, she’s the *archetype* of a great student and a possible *prototype* for a successful entrepreneur.”

## J U N E E V A L U A T I O N S P A S S E D

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

**Students who have passed an exit speed have been bolded.**

<p><b><u>10 SAPs</u></b> Holly Harris</p> <p><b><u>6 SAPs</u></b> Matthew Van Pelt</p> <p><b><u>5 SAPs</u></b> Jessica Vanatta Jodi McCall Kathleen Steadman</p> <p><b><u>4 SAPs</u></b> Amy Krueger Daniella Savidge Deb Gaston Kirstine Mowery Lucetta Robertson Megan Reeves Michelle Kowalsky Riley Trella</p> <p><b><u>3 SAPs</u></b></p>	<p>Abby Crouse Amelia Patzelt Ashley Ballard Ashley Kramer Debrina Jones Elise Townes Esperanza Parada Holly McKay Jessica Vega Joelle Maxfield LeeSa Lyons Nicole Simchak Suleika Olivo Susanne Gorman</p> <p><b><u>2 SAPs</u></b> Amy Powers Angel McCullough Bonnie Fiechter Corree Brooks</p>	<p>Daniel Niederkruger Danielle Griffin Cadena Dee Triche’ Ehmey Liggins Heidi Hammond Jacqueline Hamilton Jenna Gaito Jonathan Abrams Julie Christopher Keely Nelsen Kimberly Prebstle Kristen Stegeman Kristin Gertz Lisa Major Melanie Segalla Rebecca Wasser Rob Leifer</p>	<p>Sarah Fitzgibbon Shari Conrad Shelley Duhon Sherrona Williams Stacey Haines Stacy Coonfield Tracie Blocker</p> <p><b><u>1 SAP</u></b> Andrea Beilke Brandi Smith Claudia Meyers Erica Zielinski Jacqueline Waters Jennifer Wesner Jenny Scharich Jesse Anders Kayde Rieken Madison Pacana Melodie Lewis Michelle Dziubla</p>	<p>Michelle Jones Monica Eskenasy Myra Brock Nadine Golden Patricia Martin Paul Stevens Season Young Sharon Dawes Shivone Latortue Stella Vaks Tammy Garber Tanya Powers Timothea Brewer Trish McCall Veronica Stewart Yolanda Pena Yvonne Wilson</p>
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## JOB OPENINGS

# Arizona Superior Court in Pima County

**Notes:** Open continuously for positions within both the Arizona Superior Court in Pima County and the Pima County Juvenile Court Center. Please upload your resume and cover letter after filling out the Employment Application.

**Full-time Hiring Range:** \$46,215 to \$53,147 annually, depending on experience, plus generous benefits and transcripts.

**Per diem:** \$250.00 per day + transcripts, without benefits. CANDIDATES MUST PAY THEIR INITIAL ARIZONA CERTIFICATION FEE.

The Court will pay the Arizona Certification Renewal Fee every two years during term of employment.

**Description:** Performs on a professional level the recording and transcribing of court and legal proceedings to document and produce verbatim records of verbal and non-verbal activities.

**Duties:** Produces a verbatim record of all proceedings using a manual shorthand system or specialized equipment.

Reads back any previously recorded spoken testimony during court proceedings to judges, counsel, witnesses and jurors, and to jurors during deliberation when requested.

Prepares verbatim transcripts in typewritten form from stenographic notes to be delivered in required time periods.

Produces transcripts which involve typing or scoping, proof-reading, collating, binding, delivering and billing to appropriate parties.

Transcribes excerpts of testimony when required to provide verification of portions of testimony or argument.

Signs all transcripts as a certified court reporter.

Performs related duties and projects as assigned.

**Qualifications:** A High School diploma or equivalent G.E.D. certificate and two years of professional experience

recording and/or transcribing verbatim court or legal proceedings. OR any equivalent combination of experience, training and/or education approved by Human Resources.

**LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES:** Registered professional court reporter; must be certified by the Arizona Supreme Court pursuant to ARS 32-4021. Court Reporter certification must be maintained as a condition of employment. For more information on the certification process, call (602) 452-3878 or e-mail [CourtRep@courts.az.gov](mailto:CourtRep@courts.az.gov) or visit <http://www.supreme.state.az.us/cr/>

**OTHER CERTIFICATION:** A salary supplement will be provided for the attainment of the NCRA designations of Certified Real-time Reporter (CRR), Registered Merit Reporter (RMR), or Registered Diplomate Reporter (RDR).

**COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS:** The Court offers a competitive compensation and benefits package to include medical, dental, life insurance, flexible spending accounts, retirement and deferred compensation plans, paid vacation (23 days per calendar year) and sick leave (10 days per year), 10 paid holidays, as well as other benefits.



### Job Details - Court Reporter

**Title:** Court Reporter

**Job Code:** 8065

**Department:** Judicial Divisions

**Salary Type:** Annual

**Min Hiring Salary:** \$46,215

**Max Hiring Salary:** \$53,147

**Contact Name:** Julie Willson

## New Student Spotlight: Sarah Hamilton

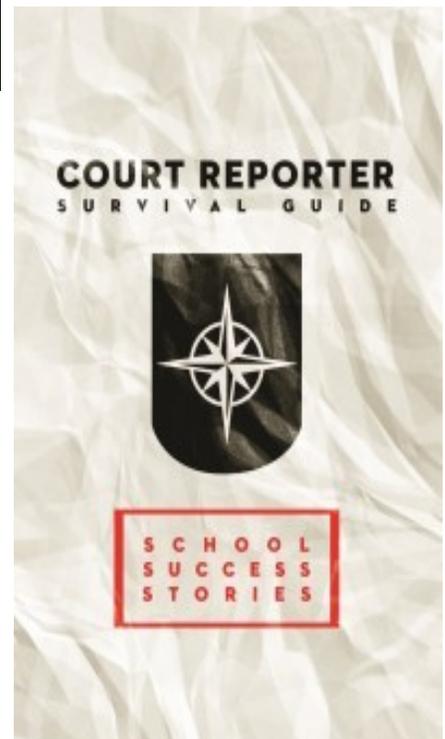


“I have never felt more like I am in the right place in my life than I do at CCR. I haven't even completed two full semesters yet, and I already know how lucky I am to be a student at this school. The online learning technology that is offered is amazing, but nothing beats being able to attend classes onsite and physically interact with staff members. Along with the amazing support of the staff, my classmates have all been there for each other when one of us is at a roadblock. Most of them are hundreds, and even thousands, of miles away, and yet I still feel like I have a great support system who know exactly what I am going through to fall back on. Learning this new language and then how to apply it to a machine that I knew nothing about has been one of the most thrilling experiences of my life. Everyday I am amazed at how I am able to retain all of the new information that I am constantly given and then write it at 80 wpm without even thinking about it, not to mention reading back random letters that are supposed to make up words. I feel privileged to be welcomed into the CCR family, and I am so excited to progress in the court reporting program and to see where this amazing career leads me.”

### NCRA releases *Court Reporter Survival Guide: Student Success Stories*

NCRA has released a new book, *Court Reporter Survival Guide: School Success Stories*, a collection of stories about making it through court reporting school written by freelancers, officials, CART captioners, and current students. The book will first be available during the NCRA Convention & Expo. The stories offer advice from the only people who really understand the ins and outs of court reporting: other court reporters and captioners.

The *Court Reporter Survival Guide: School Success Stories* marks the first in a series of books planned by NCRA. The Association will kick off a call for stories about work-life balance for the second book during the NCRA Convention & Expo. If you have a story to offer, stop by the NCRA Store in the Exhibit Hall.



COLLEGE OF COURT REPORTING

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“Work for yourself...Work for the world!”

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.CCR.EDU



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

**ANY SUGGESTIONS?**

Your CCR newsletter is always changing. Contact Jen at [jen.lewis@ccr.edu](mailto:jen.lewis@ccr.edu) with any ideas that you may have for the next one. It is much appreciated!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1 <b>Suleika Olivo</b>	2 <b>Melanie Bruno</b>  <i>Summer Break</i> →
3 <b>Erin Claybrook</b>  <i>Summer Break Ends</i> →	4 <b>RPR PREP</b>  Classes Resume!	5 <b>RPR PREP</b> <b>Dee Triche'</b> <b>Diana Nuchurch</b>	6	7 <b>RPR PREP</b> <b>Gaylynn Smith</b>	8 <b>RPR PREP</b> <b>Yasmeen Robles</b>	9 <b>Brooke Baril</b>
10 <b>Skyscraper Appreciation Day!</b> 	11 <b>MOCK TRIAL</b>	12 <b>RPR PREP</b>	13	14 <b>RPR PREP</b> <b>Jessica Rykhus</b> <b>Katie Vettickal</b>	15 <b>RPR PREP</b>	16 <b>RPR SKILLS</b>
17 <b>Black Cat Appreciation Day!</b> 	18 <b>National Cupcake Day!</b> 	19	20 <b>Rebecca Wasser</b>	21  <b>FACULTY MEETING</b>	22 <b>National Daffodil Day!</b> 	23
24 <b>Josey Loney</b>	25 <b>Angela Macias</b>	26	27 <b>Kathleen Steadman</b>	28	29 <b>Keely Nelsen</b>	30 <b>Monica Robinson</b>
31 <b>Lois Schoenbeck</b>	<b>10- PAGE MOCK</b>					