



2024 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

In May 2024, the FCRA Nominating Committee met to interview the FCRA Board of Directors candidates for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. After interviewing several candidates, the 2024 Nominating Committee submits its nominees for consideration by the membership during the FCRA 2024 Annual Business Meeting to be held Saturday, June 22, 2024, at The Westin, Sarasota, Florida.

Thank you to our Nominating Committee, chaired by Laura Landerman, RDR, CRR, FPR-C and committee members Sandy Narup, RPR, FPR-C, Susan Riesdorff, RPR, CRR, CLVS, CLR, Kelly Owen McCall, RPR, FPR-C, and Cindy Bender, RPR, FPR.

PRESIDENT



Michael Sciré, (sha-RAY) RPR, CMRS, FPR-C has been reporting for nearly 25 years. He graduated from the Sarasota County Technical Institute in Sarasota, FL. He began his career as a freelance court reporter for Metzger Reporting Services in Charlotte County. In 2002 he became a Realtime Official Court Reporter for the 12th Judicial Circuit where he was promoted to department supervisor in 2008 and worked there until November of 2021. He has since joined the executive team at Diamond Court Reporting and helped open their new offices in Sarasota in 2022.

He obtained the RPR in 2005, the CMRS in 2010, the FPR in 2008, and the FPR-C in 2021. In 2007, he and his twin brother, Richard, were recipients of SCTI's Wall of Fame, an award recognizing distinguished alumni.

In addition to reporting, Michael currently serves on the executive board of directors for the FCRA as President. He previously served as President Elect, Vice President, Director At Large, Central Director, Secretary, and Associate Editor to *FCR Online* and *The Florida Reporter*. Michael also has served on several committees and chairing several of them as well.

Michael was previously a contributing editor to NCRA's *Journal of Court Reporting*. He has been an NCRF Angel for the last eight years. Michael was a speaker at NCRA's keynote premier session in 2015. He, along with his brother, conducted several seminars for FCRA as well as other state associations throughout the country including Alabama, Mississippi, New Jersey, and Hawaii. Michael also was a contributor to the film *For The Record, A Court Reporting Documentary*, and traveled to different film festivals promoting the film, as well as to multiple media outlets.

Michael frequently shares his passion for court reporting by speaking, educating, and advocating to the legal community.

PRESIDENT ELECT



Elizabeth W. Chorrushi, RPR, FPR-C, has been a court reporter since 1991 when she graduated from Erwin Technical Center. Beth began her career as a deputy official for the Fifth Judicial Circuit and completed her RPR that fall. In 1993, she returned to Tampa to take a freelance position with Thelma Dreyer at Dreyer & Associates. To this day, she approaches the profession with a WWTD attitude – what would Thelma do? Through the years, there have been three names on the door, but Beth remains intrigued by the people she meets and the places she goes, especially when those places require a passport, like Hong Kong and Copenhagen.

For her fifth year on the Board, Beth will be stepping into a new role, that of President Elect. Prior to serving as Vice President for one year, Treasurer for two years and Northern Director for one year, Beth served as secretary for the Executive Committee Board of a local chapter of Pilot International, treasurer of her children's elementary school PTA and multiple positions for the Parent Advisory Board for her daughter's swim club. This year she continues as Team Mom for the University of Montevallo Men's and Women's Swim Teams.

When she is not working, Beth's family is her priority. Her husband of 30 years has always been her biggest "court supporter." Their son has embarked on a new path at Rutgers Law and their daughter continues her career as a scholar athlete at the University of Montevallo.

VICE PRESIDENT



Stephanie Jordan Nargiz, RPR, FPR-C is a freelance stenographer located in Tallahassee, Florida, and is the agency owner of North Florida Court Reporters, LLC. She has been a working stenographer in the state of Florida since 2005, attended Key College, and graduated with a Certificate in Court Reporting from Atlantic Technical Center. She is the co-editor and co-publisher of The Florida Reporter magazine and loves serving on various FCRA committees. She has enjoyed serving in the roles of Director at Large, State Director, and Treasurer for FCRA. She is a member of NCRA and FCRA.

In her earlier years, Stephanie worked as an accountant in West Palm Beach, Florida, for Oxbow Corporation. She also has experience working for an engineering firm as a reprographics manager in Boynton Beach, and she was a district manager in the clothing retail industry, working in Florida, Virginia, Washington D.C., and Texas.

She enjoys her free time traveling with her ice hockey teams to tournaments with the Florida Thunder team and the Lucky Pucks 40+ national team. She also served as the secretary for the Florida Women's Hockey League for 14 years. Her musically-talented husband (together for 25 years) is Garo Nargiz. He has been working as a legal videographer for the past 18 years. She loves spending time with her family whenever possible, which also includes seven nephews and nieces. Her gift basket company is her creative outlet. Her babies include two rescue Pekingese dogs (Rocky now 16, and Layla, now 15) and a blue-and-gold macaw (Curious George, now 37.) The beach is her favorite place to relax. She loves jet skiing, enjoying the sunshine, and gathering seashells.

SECRETARY



Heather Suarez, RDR, CRR, FCRR, FPR-C is a United States Official Court Reporter for the Middle District of Florida in Orlando. Heather began her stenographic reporting career in 2010 as a freelance court reporter after graduating from the Stenotype Institute of Orlando. From 2014 to 2018, Heather had the opportunity to work for the Ninth Judicial Circuit as an official court reporter covering their felony division, earning “Employee of the Quarter,” presented by Chief Judge Frederick J. Lauten, in October 2016.

Heather has a passion for learning more about government relations and participating in “court reporting as a career” events. She had the pleasure of graduating from NCRA’s Leadership & Legislative Boot Camp in 2024 and hopes to bring those same skills to FCRA, championing the interests of stenographers and voice writers in Florida. When not in court, working on transcripts, or pushing the limits of her skills, Heather enjoys spending time with her spunky Frenchie, Oliver, and husband, Eddie.

TREASURER



Ninette Butler, RMR, CRR, CRC, RSA, FPR-C, has been a stenographer since 1994. She started her career as a ProCAT authorized representative/trainer and is currently a freelance reporter, specializing in realtime and daily copy civil trials and depositions. She developed the captioning program for the hard-of-hearing ministry at First Baptist Orlando. Ninette has proudly raised two kids, Noah and Natalia. She loves her Hungarian Vizsla, German Shorthaired Pointer, and three cats. She enjoys traveling to Park City, Utah, for some outdoor fun and much-needed rest and relaxation.

STATE DIRECTOR



Lisa L. Taylor, RPR, FPR-C, is a native Floridian, born and raised in Daytona Beach, Florida. She graduated from Daytona Beach Community College in 1988 with an Associate in Science degree in court reporting.

Lisa started her career as a freelance reporter, then moved to a firm that covered civil, as well as all the criminal court work, for the Seventh Judicial Circuit. After enjoying that position for over ten years, she became co-owner of Southern Reporting Company. She attained and has maintained her NCRA national certification as a Registered Professional Reporter since 1991. She also received her Florida Professional Reporter designation in 2010 and received the designation of Florida Professional Reporter-Certified in 2021. In her thirty-six years of reporting, she has taken numerous capital felony trials, covered aviation litigation,

construction defect litigation, and a plethora of depositions.

She has a son, Matthew, and a daughter, Madison, which she is very proud of. She enjoys her best dog ever, a pit bull named Milo, and her two Pomeranians, Taz and Payton. In her free time, she loves to travel, help with animal rescue, and edit and proofread her transcripts! After all these years, she still loves her profession and her clients!

This will be her third year as a board member with The Florida Court Reporters Association, and she looks forward to being involved and advocating for her profession.

STATE DIRECTOR



Roberta Turner - RPR, FPR, CLR, CCR (GA) ACR (NY) A veteran in the court reporting industry, Roberta has been reporting since 1991. Among her extensive skill sets, Roberta has successfully reported for highly complicated depositions, trials, sworn statements ranging from criminal cases, medical malpractice cases, Workers' Compensation cases, personal injury cases, technical matters, and much more. She has reported throughout the country with a primary focus in the Central Florida and Georgia area for the past 34 years.

Giving back to the court reporting profession is extremely important to Roberta. She has written several articles for the National Court Reporters Association with a wide range of topics from steno writing to health and wellness. Most recently, she has been nominated as

State Director for the Florida Court Reporters Association. Roberta has been instrumental in serving the court reporter community as she volunteers and mentors new and seasoned reporters by facilitating High Speed Dictation sessions Daily. Roberta also actively visits area high schools to introduce the court reporting profession to rising students.

STATE DIRECTOR



Lori A. Seiden, RPR, FPR-C, has been a reporter for 33 years. After graduating in 1991 from Tampa College, her entire career has been as a freelance reporter in Tampa and Lakeland. After 25 years of reporting civil depositions, Lori then transitioned to reporting felony trials, where she discovered her true passion in reporting. Lori loves all things steno, is passionate about learning new briefs. She also loves to meet fellow reporters and hear about their journeys in court reporting.

Lori is a member of NCRA, where she volunteers as a mentor and a test reviewer for the Career Launcher Program.

This is Lori's third year serving on the FCRA's board of directors. She also serves on the membership committee, professional ethics committee, and government relations committee. She says that serving on the different committees and the board has provided the opportunity to be able to give back to the profession of court reporting, which she finds to be most fulfilling.

Lori has been married to her husband, Paul, for 17 years. They love to travel and experience unique adventures. She is the proud mom of four adult children, and now proud "grammy" to two grandchildren. She is a hobby baker and enjoys decorating cookies and cakes. Lori also serves at her church as the lead of the care team.

DIRECTOR AT LARGE



Lori Goodin, CRR, RSA, RPR, CLR, CSR

I'm excited to introduce myself as a new board member for the Florida Court Reporters Association. It's truly an honor to be part of this wonderful community. With over 34 years of experience as a court reporter, mostly based in Washington, D.C., I bring a deep passion for precision and excellence to this role. My career has allowed me to cover numerous high-profile and security-sensitive cases, providing unique experiences and a profound appreciation for the legal field. These experiences have given me a broader perspective on the many challenges facing reporters today.

I am an advocate for skills development and hold NCRA's RPR, CRR, and Realtime Systems Administrator designations. Throughout my career, I've made it a priority to put court reporters first and have been actively involved in many initiatives that impact court reporters as a whole. My expertise spans a wide range of areas, including patent infringement law, intellectual property law, medical malpractice, environmental litigation, construction litigation, and securities and complex litigation. My enduring commitment is to uphold a benchmark of excellence.

Recently, I moved to the beautiful city of Sarasota, FL, from Washington, D.C.. Sarasota has been a delightful change, and I love watching the stunning sunsets, playing pickleball, and taking peaceful walks on Florida's gorgeous beaches.

I'm really looking forward to serving the Florida community and connecting with all of you. Let's work together to uphold the highest standards in court reporting and make a positive impact in our field. I am eager to help this passionate community achieve our goals and create success for everyone involved.

DIRECTOR AT LARGE



Kornika King, CVR, FPR-C, CCR (GA), newly established in the court reporting world, earned her FPR certification in November 2022 and her CVR the following month. She took her first deposition as a freelance voice writer in January 2023.

Before delving into court reporting, Kornika's journey meandered through various paths. She studied physics at Florida State University (Go Noles!) and statistics at Northwestern University before serving honorably in the US Navy, then experimented with roles in coding, web design, radio hosting, and public relations. Eventually, a twist of fate led her to a career in eye care, where she spent over 15 years in diverse roles ranging from patient care to clinical research until burnout due to COVID pushed her toward court reporting.

Introduced to court reporting by a patient, Kornika found her calling, utilizing her array of skills and experiences to marry her love of research and continuous learning with precision and accuracy. Now, she's eager to share her passion for court reporting, aiming to recruit and engage reporters while advocating for certification and licensing. Being a believer, she has added the "C" in FPR-C, obtained the Georgia CCR, and is studying for the Texas CSR. She's also almost passed (94.6%) one of the three legs to achieve the CVR's Certificate of Merit.

Outside her professional pursuits, Kornika enjoys traveling with her husband and kids, and she really loves naps! She answers to two feline bosses, Tatiyana and Chloe, and shares an office with a hyper dog named Chilly.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



Sheri Smargon, RDR, CRR, CRC, FPR-C, M.A. has been a broadcast captioner, CART provider, and general stenographer for a variety of different jobs for the past 34 years. In 2022, she has placed in the top three at NCRA's competitions in Orlando, Florida, and first and third at Intersteno in Maastricht, Netherlands, competing against the best of the best within the profession. She also recently passed the California CSR exam on her first attempt. Sheri also holds a master's degree in general psychology. She currently volunteers on several NCRA committees, including as Chairperson of the Certified Broadcast Captioning Committee, and she is a long-time member of the WKT Test Writing Committee. She loves to bake to relax, and she collects anything to do with "The Muppet Show" or "Sesame Street." Sheri has fur babies, three cats (Pita, Snuffleupagus, and Mocha) and she adopted her first dog ever right before COVID hit, a Whippet named Winnie.