



2025 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

In the FCRA Nominating Committee met to interview the FCRA Board of Directors candidates for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. After interviewing several candidates, the 2025 Nominating Committee submits its nominees for consideration by the membership during the FCRA 2025 Annual Business Meeting to be held Saturday, June 28, 2025, at The Daytona Grande Waterfront Resort, Daytona Beach, Florida.

Thank you to our Nominating Committee, chaired by Sheri Smargon, RDR, CRR, CRC, CRI, FPR-C, CSR (CA), M.A. and committee members Susan Riesdorph, RPR, CRR, CLVS, CLR, Rick Levy, RPR, FPR-C, Sandy Narup, RPR, FPR-C, Cindy Bender, RPR, FPR, Kelly Owen McCall, RPR, FPR-C, and Sharon Velazco, RPR, FPR-C.

PRESIDENT



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 sixth year on the Board, Beth will be stepping into the role of President. Prior to serving on the board of FCRA, 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-plus years has always been her biggest "court supporter." Their son is continuing his law studies and their daughter will complete her degree and hang up her competition goggles after four years at the University of Montevallo.

PRESIDENT ELECT



Stephanie Jordan Nargiz, RPR, FPR-C is a freelance stenographer and agency owner of North Florida Court Reporters, LLC. She lives in Tallahassee, Florida, and has been a working stenographer in the state of Florida since 2005. She has enjoyed serving in the roles of Director at Large, State Director, Treasurer, and Vice President for FCRA. She also volunteers on various FCRA committees. This year, she felt a renewed sense of purpose while participating in the NCRA Legislative Boot Camp in Alexandria, Virginia, and the privilege of assisting with the lobbying efforts on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

Her goals this year include serving the association in a greater capacity while achieving time management success to better serve FCRA's members. Her prior education and work history include graduating with a Certificate in Court Reporting from Atlantic Technical Center, attending Florida Atlantic University in the school of accounting, working as an accountant with Oxbow Corporation, working for an engineering firm managing their reprographics department, and working as a district manager in the clothing retail industry.

For the past 29 years, she has enjoyed playing ice hockey for travel teams. She served as the past secretary for the Florida Women's Hockey League for 14 years. She and Garo, her husband, have been together for 25 years. Garo is also in the legal industry and has worked as a legal videographer for 19 years. Stephanie loves spending time with her family whenever possible, which includes seven nephews and a great nephew. Her fur babies are two rescue Pekingese dogs, Rocky (17) and Layla (16). She also has a blue-and-gold macaw, Curious George (38). The beach is her favorite place to relax, and she loves jet skiing and the Florida sunshine.

VICE PRESIDENT



Ninette Butler, RMR, CRR, CRC, RSA, FPR-C, has been a stenographer since 1994. She started her career as a ProCAT representative and software trainer. She has been a freelance reporter, specializing in realtime and daily copy in civil trials and depositions. Ninette has had the privilege of speaking at both the state and national association conventions. She developed and managed the captioning program for the hard-of-hearing ministry at First Baptist Orlando for 10 years. In 2024 she launched her own court reporting firm Butler Reporting.

Ninette is currently the FCRA Treasurer. She has previously held the offices of Secretary, State Director, and Director at Large. She has served as chairman of the Pro Bono Committee and has been a member of the Professional Ethics, Schools, Government Relations, and Social Media/Technology committees.

Ninette is happily married to Kevin Butler and has proudly raised two kids, Noah and Bellamy. She loves her two dogs -- Major, a Hungarian Vizsla; and Duchess, a German Shorthaired Pointer -- and three cats. She enjoys escaping to Park City, Utah, for some outdoor fun and much-needed rest and relaxation.

SECRETARY



Jeana Kim CRR, RMR, RPR, FPR, FPR-C, CLR, is a co-owner of Legacy Court Reporting. She graduated from court reporting school in Fort Lauderdale, Florida in 2000. She passed the CRR in 2010, and has been primarily doing realtime trials since then. She's also had the opportunity to work on some high-profile cases such as the Jeffrey Epstein case and the Trayvon Martin case. Jeana has also worked on several international cases, allowing her to travel outside of the US.

Jeana has also had the privilege of being a member of the National Congress of State Associations with the NCRA.

The most important things to Jeana are her faith and her family, but especially all of her nieces and nephews.

TREASURER



Heather Suarez, RDR, CRR, FCRR, FPR-C, CA CSR, 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 Frenchies, Oliver and Emma; and husband, Eddie.

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



Kornika King, CVR, FPR-C, CCR (GA), After proudly serving a one-year term as Director at Large, I'm excited for the opportunity to continue serving the Florida Court Reporters Association as State Director.

My path into court reporting has been anything but traditional -- Navy veteran, physics student, statistics grad, computer coder, PR rep, and longtime eye care professional and clinical researcher -- but it all came together when I discovered court reporting, specifically voice writing.

Since taking my first deposition as a certified verbatim reporter in early 2023, I've earned multiple certifications and licenses, including the FPR-C designation and licensure as both a Georgia CCR and a California CSR. I'm a strong advocate for certification and licensing and remain committed to promoting training, advocating for certification and licensing, and professional standards across the field.

I'm especially passionate about supporting new reporters by helping them access the resources they need and connecting them with the right people, tools, and opportunities to thrive. I enjoy serving as a bridge in this profession -- facilitating connections, sharing guidance, and encouraging growth.

Outside of work, I'm an active fundraiser for my kids' schools, love traveling with my family, and fully embrace the joy of a spontaneous nap.

DIRECTOR AT LARGE



Heidi Hutson-Vain, RPR, FPR, has been a court reporter since graduating from Sarasota Technical Institute in 1993. Having been an NCRA member since 1993, the RPR designation was awarded to her in November of 1996. The FPR designation was attained recently for her in the year 2023. Having been a freelance reporter for all of her career, she has worked mostly on the west coast of Florida and in the Central Florida area.

Her proudest life achievement has been raising three children, two of which are now adults. Being a freelance reporter afforded her the opportunity to have a career and be available for all of her children's accomplishments. Now that her children are grown, putting time and attention into advocating for the career of court reporting is now an important life goal.

When time away from transcripts is had, you will find Heidi spending time with her husband and children, scrapbooking with friends or taking care of the family's many pets. Having recently added a holy terror of a puppy named Scarlett to the family, training her Basset Hound is now a pastime as well.

As a new board member for the Florida Court Reporters Association, she looks forward to serving and learning so she can give back to a career that has served her well thus far.

DIRECTOR AT LARGE



Kairisa Magee, RPR, FPR-C, is a second generation court reporter, so she feels like she's been in the industry all of her life. Starting in 2004 while in court reporting school at South Suburban College in South Holland, Illinois, she has worked her way through school as a proofreader to scopist. She then took a brief hiatus to nurture her family as it grew.

When she returned to the industry, she took a position as an apprentice court reporter in Northwest Indiana, eventually becoming a part-time freelance court reporter. In 2015 the Magee family took a leap of faith and moved to Tallahassee where Kairisa worked as a full-time freelance court reporter with several firms covering criminal and civil matters as well as council meetings and arbitrations.

In 2021 Kairisa became a realtime provider which led to a period of time where she was honored to become a federal court reporter. In 2024 Beacon Court Reporting Agency, LLC began and Kairisa finally reached her goal of becoming a court reporting firm owner.

Kairisa's biggest passion is her family. She's the wife of Bishop Marc Magee and mother to their five children aged 3 to 21 years old. She enjoys traveling, cooking, reading, singing, writing, and spending time with family and friends.

"Court reporting allows you to work to live and not live to work. As someone who believes faith and family should always come first, this is the perfect profession for someone who believes in that philosophy. Court reporting raised me, and provided me the opportunity to do the same for the generation following me. It's my

professional goal to spread the word that we're still here, we're vital to the judicial process, and we're not going anywhere!"

IMMEDIATE PAST 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 Immediate Past President. He previously served as President, 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.