



2026 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

In the spring the FCRA Nominating Committee met to interview the FCRA Board of Directors candidates for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. After interviewing several candidates, the 2026 Nominating Committee submits its nominees for consideration by the membership during the FCRA 2026 Annual Business Meeting to be held Saturday, June 27, 2026, at the Tampa Marriott Water Street, Tampa, Florida.

Thank you to our Nominating Committee, chaired by Micheal Scire, RPR, CMRS, FPR-C and committee members Rick Levy, RPR, FPR-C, Sandy Narup, RPR, FPR-C, Kelly Owen McCall, RPR, FPR-C, Sharon Velazco, RPR, FPR-C, Rhonda Hall Breuwet, RDR, CRR, CSR, LCR, CCR, FPR, Lori Seiden, RPR, FPR-C, and Laura Landerman, RDR, CRR, FPR-C.

PRESIDENT



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, Vice President, and Incoming President for FCRA, as well as on various committees. She has served as the Florida delegate for the past two years for the National Congress of State Associations (NCSA).

Her goals this year include expanding “Our Hat Trick: Reliable. Responsive. Respectful” to our association’s members and future members. She endeavors to focus on advocacy, mentorship and recruitment, and the spirit of community.

Her prior education includes a Certificate in Court Reporting from Atlantic Technical Center and the School of Accounting at Florida Atlantic University. Her work history is as an accountant, manager of a reprographics department for an engineering firm, and as a district manager in the clothing retail industry.

She has enjoyed playing ice hockey for travel teams for the past 30 years and served as the past secretary for the Florida Women’s Hockey League for 14 years. She and Garo, her husband, have been together for 26 years. Garo is also in the legal industry and has worked as a legal videographer for 20 years. Stephanie loves spending time with her family whenever possible, which includes her parents, aunts and uncles, seven nephews and

nieces, and a great nephew. They have a fur baby, Layla (17) and a feather baby, a blue-and-gold macaw, Curious George (39). The beach is her favorite place to relax. This year she hopes to spend more time traveling with family and friends.

PRESIDENT ELECT



Ninette Butler, RMR, CRR, CRC, RSA, FPR-C, has worked as a stenographer since 1994. She began her career as a ProCAT representative and software trainer before moving into freelance court reporting, where she specialized in realtime and daily copy for civil trials and depositions. Over the years, Ninette has had the honor of speaking at both state and national association conventions.

She also 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**. Throughout her career, Ninette has served on numerous committees and has held board positions within the Florida Court

Reporters Association.

Outside of work, Ninette is the proud mother of two children, Noah and Bellamy. She shares her home with two beloved dogs—Major, a Hungarian Vizsla, and Duchess, a German Shorthaired Pointer—as well as five cats. When she has the chance, she enjoys escaping to Park City, Utah, for outdoor adventure, rest, and relaxation.

VICE PRESIDENT



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.

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



Roberta Turner - RPR, FPR-C, CLR, CCR (GA) ACR (NY), is a veteran court reporter with more than three decades of experience, having entered the profession in 1991. Throughout her career, she has reported a broad spectrum of complex proceedings, including criminal matters, medical malpractice, Workers' Compensation, personal injury, technical litigation, sworn statements, depositions, and jury trials. While she has provided services nationwide, her primary focus for the past 33 years has been in Central Florida and Georgia.

Roberta is deeply committed to advancing the court reporting profession. She has authored multiple articles for the National Court Reporters Association addressing topics ranging from stenographic proficiency to professional health and wellness. Most recently, she was nominated to serve as Director of the Florida Court Reporters Association.

In addition to leadership service, Roberta actively mentors both new and experienced reporters by facilitating daily High-Speed Dictation sessions to strengthen technical competency. She also engages in community outreach, visiting area high schools to educate students about career opportunities within the court reporting profession.

STATE DIRECTOR



Kornika King, CVR, FPR-C, CCR (GA), is excited for the opportunity to continue serving the Florida Court Reporters Association as State Director.

Her 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 she discovered court reporting, specifically voice writing.

Since taking her first deposition as a certified verbatim reporter in early 2023, she has earned multiple certifications and licenses, including the FPR-C designation and licensure as both a Georgia CCR and a California CSR. She is a strong advocate for certification and licensing and remains committed to promoting training, advocating for certification and licensing, and professional standards across the field.

She is 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. She enjoys serving as a bridge in this profession -- facilitating connections, sharing guidance, and encouraging growth.

Outside of work, she is an active fundraiser for her kids' schools, loves traveling with her family, and fully embraces the joy of a spontaneous nap.

STATE DIRECTOR



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.

STATE DIRECTOR



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!"

DIRECTOR AT LARGE



Sandra Townsend, RPR, FPR-C, with over 35 years of dedicated experience in court reporting, Sandy is a seasoned professional known for her exceptional skills and unfaltering commitment to integrity and transparency. She holds national and state certifications as a Registered Professional Reporter in Florida and the United States.

As a practitioner guided by integrity and transparency, Sandy is dedicated to upholding the highest ethical standards in her work. Her precision ensures accurate and reliable transcripts that serve the interests of justice.

Throughout her illustrious career, Sandy has provided court reporting services across the United States and internationally, contributing her expertise to a diverse range of cases such as Jane Doe vs. Jeffrey Epstein, demonstrating her proficiency in handling complex and sensitive matters with utmost professionalism.

DIRECTOR AT LARGE



Sonia Fancher, RMR CRR, RPR, earned her Associate in Science degree from the Court Reporting Institute of Dallas, passed the Texas CSR exam, and became a freelance court reporter in Dallas, TX, in 1993. The next year, she moved to Tallahassee, FL, where she worked for Accurate Stenotype Reporters. She then became an official court reporter for the Second Judicial Circuit in 1998 where her great aunt, Frances Thigpen, had worked as an official court reporter using pen shorthand for over forty years.

Sonia took a break from being an official in 2003 to raise her children. When she returned in 2019, she had to retake the RPR. At that time, she decided not only to pass the RPR but also strive to pursue a goal that she had set years earlier. In 2025, she passed the CRR and then the RMR. Sonia is a third generation court reporter. Her great grandfather, Frederick Thigpen, was an official court reporter in Savannah, GA, using pen shorthand.

IMMEDIATE PAST 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.