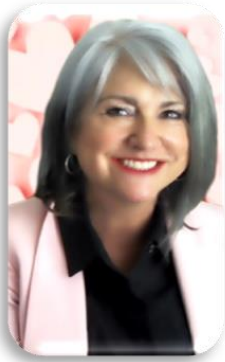




2021 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

In April and May 2021, the FCRA Nominating Committee met to interview the FCRA Board of Directors candidates for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. After interviewing several candidates, the 2021 Nominating Committee, chaired by Amy Yarbrough, *FPR*, with members Christy Bradshaw, *RPR, FPR*; Holly Kapacinkas, *RPR, CRR, CRC, FPR*; Robin Merker, *RPR, FPR*; Liz Speer, *RMR, CRR, CRC, FPR*; and alternates Peggy Casper, *RPR, FPR*, and Rosa Naccarato, *FPR*, submits the following slate of nominees for consideration by the membership during the FCRA 2021 Annual Business Meeting to be held Saturday, June 26, 2021, at the Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort & Spa.



**PRESIDENT
TRACY FINAN, RPR, FPR (FL),
CCR (GA)**, attended Pensacola Junior College's Court Reporting Technology Program, completing her studies in 1993 and began working immediately under the mentorship of Snaith & Rackard Reporting in Fort Walton Beach, Florida, before going into business for

herself. She also graduated with an AA in Paralegal Studies from Okaloosa-Walton Community College and attended Auburn University, majoring in International Business, from 1980-1983. War Eagle! She is a current member of FCRA, NCRA, GCRA, and STAR.

Tracy is a nationally certified Registered Professional Reporter and a proud Florida Professional Reporter who spent the majority of her 28-year career working in the Northwest Florida area of Okaloosa and Walton Counties. She moved to Tallahassee full-time in 2012 after marrying her handsome husband, Patrick, and in 2019, happily returned to her roots as a true independent reporter and is President of P&T Stenographic Services. Tracy additionally is a licensed certified reporter in Georgia and recently accepted a role as an official in the rural South Georgia Judicial Circuit while continuing to freelance and reside in Florida.

Tracy has served on the board for five years as Northern Director, Treasurer, Vice President, and President-Elect. Additionally, she chairs the Government Relations Committee, Bylaws

Committee, Finance, APS, and EMDSA Committees and serves as a committee member on Ethics, Membership, Finance & Budget, and Public Relations and is FCRA's NCSA delegate. Tracy believes in empowering reporters to level up in their knowledge and skills and embrace the amazing technology that court reporters are unparalleled in offering to clients and the public.

Her interests and hobbies include spending time with her beloved family, spoiling her Doberman and Calico kitty, college football and tailgating as an FSU Booster, walking the beautiful trails of Tallahassee, relaxing on the beautiful beaches of the Emerald Coast, wine, and travel (particularly to Colorado to see her beautiful daughter). Tracy is grateful to have had the chance to serve and grow professionally with her passionate, hard-working, and talented fellow board and committee members. She looks forward to the opportunity to continue to serve on the board and advocate for our membership: **Florida stenographic (machine & voice) reporters, the Gold Standard guardians of the record!**



**PRESIDENT-ELECT
LAURA J. LANDERMAN,
RDR, CRR, FPR**, is a native of Orlando, Florida. She attended Winter Park Vo-Tech and began her career in 1986 as a freelance reporter. Laura has served on the board for four years, first as

Central Director, Treasurer, and is currently Vice President. In addition to her board service, she

also serves on many of our committees. Laura is a huge proponent of skills certification and proudly holds NCRA's RDR, RMR, RPR, CRR, and Realtime Systems Administrator, as well as FCRA's FPR designation. She is also an avid competitor in the NCRA and FCRA realtime competitions.

Throughout her career, Laura has shared her contagious passion and enthusiasm for this profession by volunteering her time on behalf of FCRA at events throughout the state to promote court reporting and captioning to our next generation. She mentors students and new reporters, as well as veteran reporters who want to learn to become realtime writers. In June 2014, she received the Arlene P. Sommers Award in recognition of her passion and dedication to mentoring reporters. Service on the FCRA board the past four years has given Laura a broader perspective of the many challenges facing reporters in our state. She is looking forward to the next exciting chapter of her board service and vows to listen to our membership, address their concerns, and continue to be a fierce advocate for our profession.

In her downtime, Laura loves to be spontaneous and enjoy life. This amazing career has afforded her the opportunity to travel the world extensively, and she is always planning the next big adventure. From age 6 to 35, Laura studied ballet, tap, and jazz and was a dance instructor for 20 years. Laura is married and has two stepsons. She currently lives in Altamonte Springs with her husband and their two mischievous Doodles.



**VICE PRESIDENT
SHERI SMARGON, RDR, CRR,
CRC, FPR, M.A.**, has been a broadcast captioner since graduating from court reporting school in 1992. She has provided realtime captioning for events such as the Olympics, the Stanley Cup Finals, and the Golden Globe Awards. Currently, Sheri does

a bit of everything by providing both remote and on-site realtime CART, captioning, and deposition work in the greater Tampa Bay area. She also holds a master's degree in psychology. Sheri currently serves on several NCRA committees, including her current position as chair of the

Educational Content Committee, and is now in her fourth year of committee service for FCRA. In her spare time, Sheri loves to bake, and she is a lover of all things "The Muppet Show"/"Sesame Street" related.



SECRETARY

MICHAEL SCIRE, RPR, CMRS, FPR, has been reporting for 21 years. He graduated from the Sarasota County Technical Institute in Sarasota, FL, in 1999. He began his career as a freelance court reporter for Metzger Reporting Services in Charlotte County from 1999-

2002. He became an Official Court Reporter for the 12th Judicial Circuit in 2002, was promoted to department supervisor in 2008, and continues to work there, providing realtime for the judges. He completed his RPR certification in 2005. In 2006, he and his twin brother, Richard, were recipients of SCTI's "Wall of Fame," an award recognizing distinguished alumni. Michael received his CMRS certification in 2010.

In addition to reporting, Michael served as associate editor to *FCR Online*, currently serves as associate editor for *The Florida Reporter*, and has contributed several articles to NCRA's *Journal of Court Reporting*. He was past FCRA Director at Large and is currently in the midst of serving as FCRA State Director. Since 2008, Michael has served on several committees for FCRA. He has been an NCRF Angel since 2012. Michael was a guest 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. Michael and Richard appeared in *For the Record, A Court Reporting Documentary*, promoting the film in multiple festivals and media outlets. In 2013 they shared the title and page of "Messrs. August" in NCRA PAC's *Men of Court Reporting 2014 Calendar*. Michael frequently shares his passion for court reporting by speaking and educating the legal community.

In his spare time, he loves to travel and laugh as often as he can with family and friends. He and his brother recently launched martiniandamovie.com, a website showcasing their two hobbies: film and a well-crafted martini.



TREASURER
ELIZABETH W. CHORRUSHI, RPR, FPR, 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, the Dreyer name has changed, but Beth remains intrigued by the people she meets and the places she goes, especially when those places require a passport, such as Hong Kong and Copenhagen.

Beth looks forward to continuing her FCRA Board journey and transitioning from Northern Director to Treasurer. She brings with her the experience of having 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.

When she is not working, Beth's family is her priority. Her husband of 27 years has always been her biggest "court supporter." Together, they are raising their University of Florida son – Go Gators! -- and Tampa Plant High School daughter – Plant! Plant! Plant!



IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
RICHARD SCIRE, RPR, FPR, has been reporting for 23 years. He graduated from the Sarasota County Technical Institute in Sarasota, FL, in 1998. He has been an RPR since 1999. He began his career doing freelance and

criminal court contract work for Metzger Reporting Services in Charlotte County from 1998-2001 and freelance work for Lucente & Associates in Sarasota from 2001-2003. His identical twin brother, Michael, also a court reporter, recruited Richard to be an official reporter in 2003, where they both worked as officials in Felony Court for the 12th Judicial

Circuit, providing realtime for the judges and even CART when needed for the hard of hearing and deaf in all courtrooms, until 2020 when he reentered the freelance world.

Richard has served six years on FCRA's Board of Directors, first as Director for two years, Secretary for one year, Vice President for one year, President-Elect for one year, and President for one year. He also serves on several committees. Richard has authored articles in the *Journal of Court Reporting* and *The Florida Reporter*. He served as the editor for *The Florida Reporter* for the past four years and took over as publisher in 2019. He participates in the state and national associations as well as their conventions. He, along with his brother, have conducted several seminars for FCRA Conventions as well as the Mississippi Court Reporters Association and most recently the Hawaii Court Reporters & Captioners Association and the Alabama Court Reporters Association. In 2015, Richard shared the stage with his brother as keynote speakers during the NCRA Convention's Premier Session. They have also presented to their circuit's State Attorney's Office multiple times, educating them on how to make a record. Richard and Michael were featured on two Florida news programs for being twin court reporters and were also interviewed for *For the Record: A Court Reporting Documentary*, promoting the film in multiple film festivals as well as TV, radio, and podcast interviews. In 2013 they shared the title and page of "Messrs. August" in NCRA PAC's *Men of Court Reporting 2014 Calendar*. Richard also shares the title with his brother for their contributions as NCRF Angels for the past six years.

Richard and his twin reunited with the documentary filmmaker to launch martiniandamovie.com doing movie reviews and interviewing celebrities for film festivals. He enjoys being a man about town. While he eats right and exercises, he always enjoys a good martini, up, dry, and never more than two olives.



STATE DIRECTOR

(One-Year Term Expiring 2022)

KAREN F. HOWARD, RPR, FPR, CCR (GA), began her reporting career in 1992, after graduating from the Stenotype Institute in Jacksonville Beach. Her early years were spent working in and around

Jacksonville before branching out across the state and into Georgia. She is a member of NCRA and FCRA and certified as a Registered Professional Reporter, Florida Professional Reporter, and Certified Court Reporter (Georgia). She also holds an Associate in Arts degree from Santa Fe College.

Karen genuinely enjoys her status as a freelance reporter. It has afforded her the opportunity to cover a wide variety of litigation. She is passionate about technology and feels there is no better time to be a reporter.

Away from her machine, Karen can be found riding her horses or cooking in the kitchen. And even though her dance competition days are in the past, she never misses the chance to get back out on the floor. She is a native Floridian. Her ancestors have been here for generations, some arriving on the banks of St. Augustine before Florida was even a state.

Karen is honored and humbled to have been nominated to serve on the FCRA Board of Directors. "For it is in giving that we receive."- St. Francis of Assisi



STATE DIRECTOR

(Two-Year Term Expiring 2023)

NINETTE BUTLER, RPR, CRR, CRC, FPR, CCR (GA), has been a reporter since 1994 and has achieved certifications from NCRA such as the RPR, CRR, CRC, and has received a certificate as a Realtime Systems Administrator. Further certifications include the FPR and the Georgia CCR.

Ninette started her career as an authorized representative and trainer for ProCAT for four years. She is currently a freelance reporter, covering high-stakes civil trials and depositions

throughout the State of Florida. While raising two young children, in her spare time she developed the captioning program for the hard-of-hearing ministry at First Baptist Orlando. Ninette is happily married and enjoys devoting her time to her two teenagers, three dogs, six cats, and a ball python. She loves working with her husband on home-improvement projects and rewards him with gourmet home-cooked meals.



STATE DIRECTOR

(Continuing Term Expiring 2022)

AMBER RODRIGUEZ, RPR, FPR, CSR (TX), has been an independent reporter since graduating from the Court Reporting Institute of Dallas in 2002. She became nationally certified with NCRA and is a member of the Florida Court Reporters Association. Amber started

her career working in Dallas, Texas. She relocated to South Carolina in 2006 to build her skill focused on construction litigation and that led her to Florida where she has been reporting ever since. In the fall of 2018, she opened her own boutique reporting firm, Precision Reporting & Video, located in Northwest Florida.

Amber has a passion for adventure, so you will find her always on the move, spending time with her husband Al and son Kai. She loves being on the water and at home working on her garden.



DIRECTOR AT LARGE

(One-Year Term Expiring 2022)

LANCE W. STEINBEISSER, RPR, FPR, moved to Miami and began as a freelance court reporter for Jack Besoner & Associates upon graduating with an A.A.S. Degree from the Denver Academy of Court Reporting in 1990. In 1993, after surviving Hurricane Andrew and at the age of 23, he moved to New York City and became New York

Supreme Court's youngest Senior Court Reporter in Brooklyn. In 1997, he decided he missed Florida and was offered a freelance position in Miami at Certified Shorthand Reporters, specializing in

commercial and securities litigation, as well as medical malpractice cases. Lance was there for ten years before deciding he needed some new challenges and that it was time to go out on his own. He has found his niche running his firm Steinotype and enjoys the benefits of providing the very best professional services to his clients and their adversaries.

Lance loves our student court reporters and was co-chair of FCRA's Student Committee from 2018-2019 with Cathy Carpenter. He also enjoys mentoring and is always willing to help a colleague out, whether it is computer-related, helping with punctuation, or just listening when someone has had a difficult day.

Lance is the oldest of five, grew up on the family sugar beet farm in Montana, and is not afraid to roll up his sleeves and give 100 percent. His mom calls him a workaholic; but he enjoys traveling with his fiancé, Manny, and caring for their two dogs, Suki-Li and Toby-Rene, not to forget to mention the cat, Ruby-Sue. He also loves golfing and working out with his personal trainer and especially spending time with his reporting besties.

worked in Virginia, Washington, D.C., Texas, Louisiana, and Florida.

Stephanie is also the current secretary for the Florida Women's Hockey Association. She plays ice hockey for the Florida Thunder team in the FWHL and for the Lucky Pucks 50+ Florida national team through USA Hockey. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her two rescue Pekingese dogs, macaw, and her family, including seven nephews and nieces. She also loves the beach, working in direct sales, and making gift baskets.



DIRECTOR AT LARGE

(One-Year Term Expiring 2022)

STEPHANIE JORDAN NARGIZ,

RPR, FPR, is a freelance stenographer working in Tallahassee, Florida, and is a member of NCRA and FCRA. She has done volunteer work on FCRA's subcommittees. She attended both Key College and Atlantic

Technical Center, graduating in 2005 with a Certificate in Court Reporting. Starting her stenography career in Fort Lauderdale with Bailey & Associates Reporting, she later moved to Tallahassee to work with her sister-in-law at Accurate Stenotype Reporting and is currently working with Phipps Reporting. Her supportive husband, together for 21 years, is a legal and business videographer.

Stephanie attended Florida Atlantic University, School of Accounting, where she received an AA degree in accounting, and has worked as an accountant for Oxbow Corporation in West Palm Beach. Her prior experience is in clothing retail, achieving a district manager position, and has