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REPORTER



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FLORIDA COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION APRIL/MAY/JUNE/JULY 2021



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By **Richard S. Sciré, RPR, FPR**
2020-2021 President



Honoring Our Past – Dominating Our Future!

So much has happened in the last year. If Covid has reminded us of anything, it was to expect the unexpected. Court reporting has already taught us that. Sometimes the unexpected is good and other times it is not.

For me personally, never did I expect to be the first president in our 60-year history to be sworn in over Zoom. I also did not expect we would be in a world where Zoom would become the norm. The biggest shocker, or so I thought, would be leaving my position after 18 years as an official reporter. I'll miss the judges I worked with. Luckily, their friendships aren't going anywhere. The unexpected change has created new opportunities for me that I am excited and overwhelmed about at the same time.

Perspective was certainly gained by the losses this year. I still cannot wrap my head around the loss of Donna Kanabay. Even up until the end, she put FCRA first as prepared us for a life without her. Her Diamond Vault articles have taken on a new meaning now as she shared with us FCRA's past. I will forever be grateful to her. She was one of the reasons I made I first accepted a position on the board. Thank you, Donna.

Jennifer Gaul was the second great loss. Jennifer served as FCRA president from 2008-2009. Even as we were planning the 2020 and 2021 conventions, she was a big help right up until the end. Thank you, Jennifer.

The third and hopefully final loss was my court reporting instructor and mentor, Carol Williams. Even when I struggled at speeds in school, she never let me forget that I can and will do it. It is because of her, my twin brother, Michael, and I are honored on the "Wall of Fame" as distinguished alumni at Suncoast Technical College (formerly Sarasota County Technical Institute) where Carol ran the court reporting program for 30 years. Thank you, Carol.

On happier note, we have a lot to celebrate in their honor and memory. Each of their influences will always be with us and has paved the way for us to celebrate FCRA's 60th anniversary!

Our convention chair, Michael Scire, and the convention committee have worked tirelessly to put on a spectacular convention. I am excited that this is the first year we will have a keynote speaker. I have been lucky enough to meet Nik Wallenda several times in Sarasota, and I look forward to the rest of you meeting him too.

Another new exciting adventure is the launch of the FPR-C. It has taken years in the making, but FCRA finally has a skills test to accompany the FPR.

You can read all about the convention, the FPR-C and more in this current issue. I look forward to seeing all of you at the convention as we celebrate our 60th anniversary "Honoring Our Past – Dominating Our Future."



By Richard S. Sciré, RPR, FPR
2020-2021 President
The Florida Reporter Co-Editor

All For One and One For All

Henry Ford said, "If everyone is moving together, then success takes care of itself." This issue was put together in collaboration with my amazing cohorts, Sharon Velazco and Sheri Smargon. Our incoming president, Tracy Finan, will soon be naming a new editor. I am confident my (our) successor will bring you a great magazine in the future. Watching *FCR Online* turn into *The Florida Reporter* has been a fun transition, but it could not have happened with those who contributed. I want to thank Donna Kanabay especially for her contribution of The Diamond Vault articles in the past issues. I miss her and in fluence.

In this issue, we have Sharon's beautiful words returning to the magazine. I know you will her enjoy her articles. Pay particular attention to Sheri's articles as she navigates us through the FPR-C and explains it all for us.

We also have a special message from this year's convention chair. What does the convention committee have in store for us? Read about it in this issue.

Finally, this magazine cannot happen without all of you. Please consider writing articles. We all grow best when we learn from each other. I look forward to seeing many of you in Clearwater. Let's have a great convention!

FPR-C
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INAUGURAL FPR-C SKILLS TESTING AT FCRA'S ANNUAL CONVENTION. HILTON CLEARWATER BEACH RESORT & SPA

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 Article Submission – November 5
 Online Publication – December 12

(SPRING) APR/MAY/JUNE/JULY
 Article Submission – March 5
 Online Publication – April 12

(FALL) AUG/SEPT/OCT/NOVEMBER
 Article Submission – July 5
 Online Publication – August 12

By Sharon Velazco, RPR, FPR, CLR,

Court Reporting – It’s a Relative Matter



A profession is a legacy – or at least, it used to be. Centuries ago, masons passed their trades on to their children. Indeed, some of the most beautiful cathedrals in Europe were constructed over the course of a hundred-plus years, with original lines and planes intact, all because the craftsman had explained to the son, and the father to his son, the purpose and meaning of the builder’s original design. These generations of masons then went on to share and perform their job to such a degree of dedication, we have the elegant buildings and sacred monuments still standing today, testaments to the refined skill set given from one generation to the next.

Even in our present time, the majority of children of attorneys will eventually end up tacking an “esquire” onto the end of their name, just as doctors’ children usually grow up to pursue some facet of the medical profession. Other specialty trades such as plumbers, electricians, architects, engineers – all are occupations that are proudly passed down, relative to relative.

And then there are people such as musicians that have a talent that is gifted, if you will, present from generation to generation. Their natural, inherited skills are trained to the degree that they are able to hear the slightest difference of pitch, note to note. Theirs is a talent so delicate and refined, it is almost a birthright to claim it. May I be so bold as to suggest that the same could be said for court reporters. Our trained ears and hands work in seamless cooperation with each other, rapidly transferring what we hear into a format for all eyes to see.

I know that some of us are so worried that our profession will cease to be, we are often encouraging our children to pursue another livelihood. We shouldn’t fear. Although the means of keeping the record may change over

time, there is still the element of human intuition involved, a guarantee for job security for those willing to develop their inborn aptitude and keep up with the technology that seems to be the proverbial wolf at the door.

Also, if you think about it, our children are the best candidates to be court reporters. For the most part, they have grown up in a household hearing nearly perfect grammar (most of the time!). And, who better to keep the record than people whose ears are genetically equipped with the ability to pick up nuances in speech that might otherwise be missed. It must be said that we have been fortunate to have reporters who do come into the trade of their own volition, having never met another court reporter before, inexplicably drawn to our trade. I would venture to say that if you go back far enough into THAT person’s ancestry, you will find a “history/recordkeeper” of some sort.

Recently, in doing my own family genealogy, I was rather pleasantly surprised to discover that one of my “great” grandfathers took down in longhand (and probably with a quill pen) the wills and testimonies for veterans and their families of the American Revolutionary War so they could claim their pensions. Well, it took nine generations, but a reporter (that would be I!) came back into the fold!

So now I forewarn you, this is a “brag alert.” Please indulge me as I state that my bilingual and musically talented sons have not yet discovered the fact that they and/or their children are destined to be beneficiaries of what we do. Given time, I am hoping to eventually steer both my sons into their God-given direction and career, a career of which I am particularly proud, court reporting!



By Shari Smargon, RDR, CRR, CRC, MA, FPR
FCRA Secretary

NEW FCRA CERTIFICATION: The Launch of the FPR-C!

Legislation was introduced in 1990 creating a certification program for shorthand reporters in the State of Florida. The legislation was not funded that year, nor has it been funded by the Florida Legislature since being passed more than 30 years ago.

For the past two years, your FCRA Board, in cooperation with several committees, has been working to create a skills component to complement the Florida Professional Reporter (FPR®). The FPR-C is the result of those years of hard work and a strong desire to demonstrate our professionalism as keepers of the record. The FPR-C is a voluntary skills test that we hope will show that a stenographic or voice reporter is interested in professionally developing their skills.

The FPR-C consists of five minutes of literary or judicial dictation at 180 words per minute and five minutes of testimony at 200 words per minute. While these speeds are lower than the metrics National Court Reporters Association uses to test for their Registered Professional Reporter (RPR) examination, we listened to what the FCRA membership has been saying to us, as an association, for a number of years regarding the difficulty in attaining certification on the national level.

While FCRA doesn't wish the FPR-C to be seen as a "joke test" due to its lower speeds, we do feel the test we have created is a good starting point in the membership's desire to prove their professionalism and skill level on a local level.

The Committee and the Board will be rolling out the inaugural FPR-C at its annual convention in Clearwater, Florida, on Friday, June 25, 2021.

In order to be eligible to sit for the FPR-C, a candidate must:

- Be a current member of FCRA
- Be a stenographic or voice writer
- Provide their own laptop and CAT software for testing
- Have the ability to email their test papers to the Committee for grading

The FPR-C will be given, at a minimum, once a year at the Board's discretion as to time and place. This may include being given virtually.

A candidate who wishes to use the FPR-C designation but does not wish to test may use the FPR-C designation if they meet the following criteria:

- Be a current member of FCRA
- Be a stenographic or voice writer
- Be a current member of NCRA (National Court Reporters Association) and must show proof to the Committee of their current membership status. This may be done in several ways and will be outlined on FCRA's website shortly.
- The candidate must show they have successfully passed at least one of the RPR, RMR, RDR, CRR, or CRC skills examinations awarded by NCRA.

We, as a committee and board, have worked diligently to devise ways for people to feel continuing pride in their profession. We feel the FPR-C will complement every effort our members make in this vein.

Please join us in Clearwater, Florida, from June 25 – 27th, 2021, for FCRA's 60th Anniversary celebration, "Honoring our Past – Dominating our Future," as we roll out the FPR-C.

FCRA Student Member Spotlight: Amber Douglas



Q. How were you introduced to stenography?

A. I was introduced to “the best career you’ve never heard of” by former FCRA President Sharon Velazco! I was fortunate to meet my other half (who just happens to be her son) at Stetson University. We came home for Thanksgiving, which was my first time meeting the family, and she exuberantly shared with me her love of court reporting. Her excitement was contagious. I was immediately intrigued and asked probably too many questions of her, but as I realized that court reporting is a combination of all of my favorite things, I was hooked!

Q. In what setting do you wish to work and why?

A. I hope to work as a freelance court reporter, as it provides both the stability and flexibility I’ve always desired in a career. It also doesn’t hurt that I grew up watching a myriad of court-related TV shows and have found every facet of the court extremely fascinating (granted, TV is NOT the same!

Q. How many hours per day do you practice?

A. Now that I am working on my higher speeds, I dedicate at least two hours a day to speed building, finger drills, and endurance building. I also spend at least one

day a week reviewing and further solidifying my theory and updating my dictionary.

Q. Congratulations on your musical degree from Stetson! How does your background in music correlate to learning the language and art of steno?

A. With a background in music, I feel as though I know what it takes to truly succeed in this profession! I’m so fortunate to have muscle memory from piano and to have had experience in “following the speaker,” as Aural Training in the School of Music prepared me to focus solely on the specified instrument and dictate that line of music as the instrument plays. I am also extremely fortunate to have learned the correct way to practice for me. I’ve not only learned the importance of dedication to practice time, but also the importance of how to practice (and listen!) in order to achieve optimal results. **Practice makes permanent**, and mindful, meaningful practicing is essential!

In addition to this, my degree is in Vocal Performance. The vocal program requires several classes of dictation and IPA (international phonetic alphabet) in different languages - English, Italian, French, German, Spanish, and Russian. By learning the intricacies of these languages through phonetics, I learned how to properly listen and identify subtle differences in pronunciation which, I feel, has helped immensely in my pursuit of this incredible profession.



Michael A. Sciré, RPR, CMRS, FPR
FCRA Central Director
Convention Chair

2021 Convention: Honoring Our Past – Dominating Our Future

Convention time is here! It is hard to believe it has been two years since we gathered for a convention. Come on out to the beautiful and newly renovated Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort & Spa from June 25th to June 27th as we gather with old friends and celebrate FCRA's 60th anniversary. Your 2021 Convention Committee has been working diligently to ensure we have a convention that we can all be excited about as we celebrate our 60 years together.

Your incoming president Tracy Finan has chosen the theme "Honoring Our Past – Dominating Our Future." If our 60-year history has taught us anything, it's that we have the power to overcome challenges ensuring our place in the future.

We have the addition of a keynote speaker this year, Nik Wallenda! You are not going to want to miss Nik Saturday morning. For those of you not familiar with Nik, he is the daredevil who has walked the tightrope over Niagara Falls, The Grand Canyon, New York's Time Square, and an active volcano. There is nothing he can't do. After an unpredictable 2020, Nik is sure to inspire, motivate, and encourage each of us as we dominate our futures.

Also new this year is the inaugural FPR-C skills testing Friday morning. The practice room will open at 8:00 and the test will be given at 9:00 sharp! You will need your FPR, and although it is not being offered at the convention this year, it is offered online. If you already hold certifications with NCRA, you qualify for reciprocity. Check out FCRAonline.org for more information.

The networking happy hour Friday will be at the Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort. If you're taking the Thomas Hughes Memorial Realtime Challenge, don't worry, you won't miss out. Thanks to one of our sponsors, an extended happy hour will immediately follow across the street at Surfside Taphouse.

We also will see the return of the BAKSExTravaganza! If you are able to donate a basket, you will receive drawing tickets to use in the basket room as a thank you. Don't have time to put a basket together? Donate one of the recommended tiered amounts and the FCRA Fundraising Committee will put a basket together on your behalf.

We have something for everyone at this year's convention. Need help writing smarter? Steno swap with Alan Peacock, Coronavirus & Medical terminology with Elliott Carter, and realtime tricks with Laura Landerman and Sheri Smargon is for you. Sunday's seminar "Who Can? You Can!" with Lady Steno will also give you the answers to being a better realtime writer. Need help with those zoom hearings? You're not going to want to miss the seminar "You're on Mute." You're also not going to want to miss this year's town hall town hall.

The room block is full, but you can get on waiting list should rooms become available. Contact FCRA headquarters for more information on that. If you have a room and no longer need it, please contact FCRA headquarters so your room can be reassigned rather than cancelled.

Like many of you, I am so ready for an in-person convention, and I look forward to seeing you on June 25th on Clearwater Beach.

By Sharon Velazco, RPR, FPR, CLR,



"Don't make me come down there!"

When I met Donna, she was putting together the memorial tribute for another beloved icon of FCRA, past president Thomas Hughes. I recall with admiration the dedication she poured into that labor of love. And, when I later read her composition for him, it had been written in such a detailed way that I felt a bond with him - though I had only met him one time the year before at my first convention. So, fast-forward years later, on the day of Donna's passing, I was stunned when I received a Facebook friend request from Thomas Hughes. Some would say it was just an uncanny coincidence. I prefer to believe it was both of them reaching out to say she was in a good place with old friends. I think the fact that they chose to use social media was a direct reflection of their sense of humor!

Donna Kanabay was already a legend when I joined FCRA. And, when I was nominated and subsequently interviewed to be on the board, Donna was the point-of-contact who sent the initial questionnaire and coordinated the follow-up interview, and then participated in the interview process itself. So, from the beginning, I made the assumption that she was in charge! During my time of service on the board, my initial impression was



confirmed that she was an integral part of the backbone of FCRA, heavily relied upon by the past presidents and leaders of FCRA. I observed, firsthand, that Donna attended and contributed to every board meeting, and performed other FCRA behind-the-scenes functions like maintaining and updating FCRA's archives. As well as being a very talented writer, Donna was the unofficial "official" historian of our organization, and she played an active role in putting together the FPR certification process.

Donna readily gave advice to anyone who asked. She would respond immediately to texts and emails. However, it was well known that you had better not call her after nine p.m., as she retired early so she could wake up at 3:30 in the morning to start her multi-tasking day!

During my presidency, she was supportive and quick to give a pat on the back and indicate her genuine approval for successful board activities. However, she didn't hesitate to single me out, personally, and give a stern,

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"Don't make me come down there!"

unapologetic lecture on any issue where she observed I needed improvement. But, even while I was (deservedly so) the recipient of her corrective albeit blunt criticism, I never had a doubt that she always had my back. She gave praise where praise was due, and she even helped me put together the end-of-year PowerPoint slide presentation that highlighted the many membership and board accomplishments of that year.

When Donna's family graciously extended an invitation to FCRA members to attend her memorial, I looked forward to meeting them. The gathering was held at what was described to be one of her favorite places, a bar and grill right on the beach, about half an hour outside Tampa.

Present for the occasion was a combination of some of Donna's family and friends who had come together from far and wide to celebrate her memory, and they were seated at the scattered, shaded picnic tables stationed around the outdoor eatery. A framed photograph of Lee and Donna was displayed at the corner of one of the tables, serving as a poignant reminder of a devoted couple that shared a rich history. And, while there was no official memorial ceremony, there was a sense that Donna was right there with us as we shared our favorite "Donna" stories, her spirit urging us to experience and enjoy her favorite place and reinforcing the unity and connection she already had with everyone who was present.

Several hours after we had all said our goodbyes and parted ways, I was preparing to make the long drive home. Reflecting on the shared stories and how much everyone loved and respected Donna, I had the familiar ache in my heart and tightness in my throat that most people experience when they have lost a loved one. The emotional reverie called to mind my father, who passed away a few years ago. He happened to be a musician during his lifetime, and I knew there were some posts of his songs

on YouTube. Suddenly, in that moment of sadness, it occurred to me to log on and enter the name of the bluegrass band he had formed with his brothers over 50 years ago. I was pleasantly surprised to discover that a few months ago, someone had uploaded one of their albums from back in the day of vinyl records. As I sat there nostalgically listening to the familiar music, I mused that perhaps there was a connection between my feelings over the loss of Donna and my father and my immediate impulse to seek out my dad's music. In retrospect, the same way I imagined Thomas, from the other side, using social media to give a reassuring message about Donna, I just as easily believed Donna had performed yet another one of her selfless acts and, taking charge in her Donna way, had prompted me to go on YouTube and find that album. As I listened to it all the way home, I experienced an incredible sense of peace and being loved.

I believe we are all connected, and I take comfort in what some would consider to be a nontraditional conclusion; that people we all love find each other on the other side and, in that dimension beyond the confines of this earth and time, there is a unified sense of oneness where they are then able to reach out to us in a manner we just don't comprehend. They will always be with us.

So, as I write this, I would like to give a message to Donna. While I am sure you are enjoying a reunion with your own family and loved ones, including our cherished Thomas Hughes and Jennifer Gaul, I am just as positive you have met my wonderful, talented dad. Thank you for the reconnection that I believe was inspired by you!



What Makes a Great Reporter?

Do you consider yourself a good reporter or one who falls in the category of the complete professional?

Separating an average reporter from a superior one is based on a number of factors, which are often taken for granted: attitude, skills, commitment, pride in accomplishment, and accountability.

It is important to display great client service skills and develop ways to improve your client service.

It is a foregone conclusion whom we are ultimately trying to impress: your clients. Litigation lawyers require, and demand, from court reporters prompt appearance and timely, accurate transcript production for a fair fee. This is what is normally expected.

If you are to succeed in going beyond by attaining the business of national, large law firms who have lucrative multiparty litigation matters, elevating your company above the competition and displaying great service skills will go a long way toward relationship-driven, long-term loyalties.

It is equally important to support your branding and the services you promote real time reporting, daily copy, Internet scheduling, document repository, nationwide coverage, video synchronization, CD depo, videotaping and videoconferencing, as well as video streaming, just to name a few.

Reporters and sales associates alike need to market your external clients. If you initiate the process of serving a client or recruiting a new one, you own that responsibility, and it is essential to follow up and ensure the client is receiving the services you promise. Coordination with scheduling, production, and management is the quality control means to this end. Additionally, good, bad, or indifferent, feedback to management from a casual comment by an

attorney or legal assistant is critical to maintaining good will and minimizing attrition.

Also, taking any assignment you're asked to cover holds you in high regard by your company and serves your clients' needs. Carrying business cards, brochures, and marketing materials on the job enhances your branding and enables you to develop new business.

Unlike the early, simpler, and evolutionary days of reporting, when it took two minutes to set up a steno machine, today's reporter needs to have, and know how to use, state-of-the-art technology, allow for traffic, arrive early and set up in advance so as to not keep counsel waiting, be cheerful, attuned to counsel's needs, and demonstrate your skills on a par excellence level. After all, on this stage, you, the reporter, are the face of your company.

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Continued from previous page.

What Makes a Great Reporter?

In summary, here are Ways To Improve Your Client Service:

Be On Time

- Arrive 10-15 minutes prior to the deposition for setup

Follow Up On Your Promises

- Remember that you made it and that the attorney is expecting it timely

Under Promise And Over Deliver

- But do not try and talk him/her out of their initial request

Go The Extra Mile

- Make going out of your way a habit; be accommodating

Offer Your Client Options

- Give your clients a positive alternative as opposed to a "No"

Express Empathy

- Understand the client's point of view:
- "I understand how you feel; I'm sorry it happened"

Treat Your Clients As The Most Important Part Of Your Job

- Focus: Clients are the reason you do our job; return calls timely, even though you are busy

Your Ultimate Goal: Client Satisfaction

*H. Allen Benowitz, President, Worldwide
Videoconference Sales & Rentals, Inc.
[2009-2014], Retired 2014*

*H. Allen Benowitz, Retired 2009
VP, Veritext/Florida [1998-2009]
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**Join us for FCRA's
60th Anniversary President's Party
June 26, 2021
The Theme is *Caribbean Chic!***



It is with heavy hearts that we share the passing of Jennifer Gaul. Jennifer was a member of the management team at U.S. Legal Support starting in 2004 and was a key contributor to the success of the Florida market, as well as that of the company nationwide. Her welcoming spirit and humor will undoubtedly be missed by those that had the privilege of working with her.

A dedicated and passionate professional court reporter, Jennifer was heavily involved in the Florida Court Reporter's Association, serving on committees, the board, and as their President for a number of years. Her talents were frequently recognized, and she was the recipient of the Emily Mann Distinguished Service Award in 2011.

She was generous with her time, educating students about our profession and worked closely with military organizations, providing information about stenography career paths that aligned with the transient demands of being a military spouse.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Jennifer was a passionate human being, fiercely committed to her family and friends and had a strength that rivaled most. Her wit was clever and always brought laughter. Jennifer will be greatly missed, and we send our condolences to her family and friends.

U.S. Legal Support



Carol Dorothy Williams, 80, of Sarasota, Florida, passed away on March 8, 2021, in Tallahassee, Florida. She was born on March 14, 1940, in Norwich, Connecticut, to James A. Williams and Dorothy "Dot" Heilman Williams.

After graduating from Norwich Free Academy, she went on to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Simmons College in Boston, Massachusetts. She later earned a Master's Degree in Education Administration from Nova Southeastern University. An outstanding educator, Carol taught court reporting and video captioning at Sarasota County Technical Institute for 30 years until her retirement in 2006. She loved her students and

enjoyed celebrating their successes. Carol was SCTI Teacher of the Year in 1989 and 2005 and was recognized by the Florida Court Reporters Association and National Court Reporters Association for her education-related achievements. She published many professional articles about court reporting and authored a textbook, "Calling All Brief Lovers," that is still in use today.

Carol was a lifelong football fan and enjoyed attending Florida State University and Tampa Bay Buccaneer games with her friends and family. Since her teenage years, Carol loved Sarasota and spent many hours walking the beach with her friends at Siesta Key. She always enjoyed being physically active and had fun playing tennis in her retirement years. Carol was a proud and loving mother who cherished spending time with her daughters Ashley and Kimbal.



Honoring Our Past - Dominating Our Future

FCRA 2021 ANNUAL CONVENTION • June 25-27, 2021

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**Register today and FCRA will submit
your CEUs to NCRA at no additional
charge!**

Questions? Contact Us!

E: admin@fcraonline.org | P: 407-774-7880





Pre-Authorized Payment Plan Form

Participating Membership Only

Please complete and return payment plan form and membership application to:

FCRA Headquarters
222 S. Westmonte Dr, Suite 111
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
Fax: 407-774-6440

The FCRA payment plan is available only through submission of this form and is not available online.

INSTALLMENTS: Plan is payable by credit card only. Check payments will not be accepted.
All payments will be automatically processed as outlined below.

First Payment	Processed upon receipt of this form	\$100.00
Second Payment	Processed 30 days after first payment	\$110.00
Third/Final Payment	Processed 60 days after first payment	\$110.00

Member Name: _____

Member Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Terms of the Agreement: I hereby authorize FCRA to process the fees for my Participating membership in three credit card transactions. All transactions will be processed to the credit card provided on this form. The first payment in the amount of \$100.00 will be processed upon receipt. The second installment in the amount of \$110.00 will be automatically processed 30 days following the first payment. The third and final installment in the amount of \$110.00 will be automatically processed 60 days following the first payment. Check payments will not be accepted under this agreement. I understand there will be NO REFUNDS for any installment (partial payment) processed under this agreement. I also understand that FCRA membership will not be considered active until all three plan payments have been processed successfully. The full amount paid under this plan for my FCRA Participating membership dues will be \$320.00 which includes a \$20 administrative fee for processing multiple payments.

Please enroll me in the payment plan. I have included credit card information for all three installments below. I fully understand and agree to the Terms of the Agreement as stated above.

Signature

Payment Method:

MasterCard Visa American Express

Billing Address (if different from above):

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVV: _____

Cardholder's Signature

Print Name



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Florida Court Reporters Association

*Name (Please print) _____ NCRA # _____ NVRA # _____

*Company _____ Owner Co-owner Manager

*Mailing Address _____ Website: _____

*City/State/Zip _____

*Telephone: Home (_____) _____ Office (_____) _____ FAX (_____) _____

CHECK ONE: OK to publish home phone number in directory. DO NOT publish home phone number.

*Email address _____ Secondary Email Address _____

*METHOD OF REPORTING: Stenographic Voicewriter Gregg Pittman Other _____

*TYPE OF REPORTER: Freelance Official Deputy Official Federal Teacher Student Other _____

*DESIG: CSR [List State(s) other than FL] _____ FAPR FPR RPR RDR CMRS RMR CLVS CRI CRR CPE

*Asterisk indicates required information.

I make application for Membership as a: (CHECK ONE)

PARTICIPATING MEMBER\$300.00

Open to anyone engaged in active practice of official or general court reporting by either stenographic or voicewriter method. (Please indicate method above.)

PAYMENT PLAN AVAILABLE

*Pre-Authorized Payment Plan Attached
(Participating Members Only)

STUDENT MEMBER\$35.00

Open to any student of shorthand reporting who is endorsed by a court reporting training program instructor or director.

RETIRED MEMBER\$45.00

Open to any participating member in good standing who has retired from the active practice of shorthand reporting.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER \$90.00

This category is open to the following (please check one):

- Teachers of shorthand reporting
- Individuals officially connected with a school or college conducting shorthand reporting course - School Name & Location _____
- Non-member individuals retired from active shorthand reporting
- Non-reporters professionally associated with or employed by a member of FCRA whose application is endorsed by a participating member in good standing (*please print sponsoring member's name below where requested*)
- Anyone qualifying for Participating membership, but residing outside of Florida - State of Residence _____

VENDOR MEMBER.....\$500.00

Open to any firm or corporation engaged in selling products or services to FCRA members.

PRO BONO: Are you interested in donating time to the Pro Bono Program?

Yes No

FLORIDA MANUAL: The guide to court reporting in Florida — sample forms, guidelines, and rules of court. Cost for members: \$75.00. Subscription to updates: \$25.00.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY: Searchable geographical and alphabetical members' listing on our website.

Membership year runs one year from date of enrollment. Dues payments are deductible by members as an ordinary and necessary business expense. In accordance with Section 6033(e) (2)(A) of the Internal

For Administrative Use Only

Date Rec'd _____ Ref # _____ Amount _____

Date Approved _____ Computer _____

I hereby make application for membership in the Florida Court Reporters Association and pledge myself, if accepted, to abide by the requirements of the Bylaws and Code of Professional Responsibility of the Association as they are now and as they may be amended in the future.

I understand that all applications are subject to review and approval by FCRA. All applicants must be sponsored by an FCRA member in good standing per FCRA bylaws.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Name of Sponsoring Member (Please print or type) _____

How did you hear about FCRA? Code: _____ Other: _____

PAYMENT ENCLOSED FOR:

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Check # _____ MasterCard VISA AmEx

Account # _____

Exp. Date: _____

CVV: _____

Amount to charge: \$ _____

Authorized Signature _____

Billing Address: Same as above

Address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____

Make check payable to FCRA and mail to FCRA Headquarters,
222 S. Westmonte Dr, Ste 111, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
Telephone 407-774-7880 • FAX 407-774-6440 (for charge payments only) • www.fcraonline.org