



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FLORIDA COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION

APR/MAY/JUNE/JULY 2023

Step by Step

so as to progress gradually and carefully from one stage to the next



To promote the skilled profession of the reporting industry through protecting, connecting, and educating court reporters and captioners.



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Association Bulletin Board

DON'T MISS E-FLASHES!

Be sure your email address is current. Call FCRA Headquarters and give them your email address today
(844) GET-FCRA
(438-3272)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

FCRA Annual Convention
July 14-16, 2023
Key Largo

JULY

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If so, join the FCRA Group by looking up Florida Court Reporters Association... all the latest updates right at your fingertips!

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(438-3272)

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(438-3272).

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Submit an article and receive .15 CEU points if published in The Florida Reporter. Email your story to editor@fcraonline.org

Needful People
Need a job? Need a reporter, agency owners?
Contact
Placement Chairman
Lori Bundy at 239-825-2086 or loribundy@yahoo.com

Are you moving?
Changed a phone number?
Need to update an e-mail address?

If so, let FCRA Headquarters know right away. Simply call (844) GET-FCRA (438-3272) today to make any necessary changes to the information we have on file for you!

Be on the Lookout for Upcoming Florida Professional Reporter (FPR) Online Test Dates this Summer

VISION
GOAL
PLAN
ACTION
SUCCESS

Co-Editor's Letter

Stephanie Jordan Nargiz, RPR, FPR-C



We all have goals we would love to achieve. Whether you're trying to achieve a physical or mental goal, involve a step-by-step process for the best results. George T. Doran introduced the SMART criteria in 1981, and it is widely used today. SMART is an acronym that stands for Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound. I have embraced this method, and when I am focused and motivated to use it, it serves me well.

My life, as I'm sure yours is as well, is comprised of various activities like pieces of a pie. My life includes family, personal growth, court reporting, board service, friends, hobbies, and sports. When goal-setting for all of these parts of my life, using a SMART criteria goal setting chart (like the one shown on the next page) really helps. I use a separate page for each part of my life and set different timelines for myself.

When goal-setting for yourself, first identify your end goal. What is your outcome? One exercise that I did back in school was I closed my eyes and pictured myself working as a court reporter. Visualizing the end goal really helped me. Be sure to set a bite-sized goal. If you set a goal too big, you will struggle to

keep motivated. Surround yourself with people who are along the same pathways. Join groups where you can find motivational memes and tips. How do you know you're getting there? Track your progress along the way. How confident are you in achieving the goal? Set a 1-10 scale for each goal and make sure your goal is truly meaningful to you. Set a timeline for achieving it.

This quarter, I was so excited to hear from the court reporting students taking their step-by-step journeys. I also enjoyed our Facebook Spring Into Your Skills FCRA 90-day practice group. I am encouraged by everyone who gives of their time and offers their wisdom to help others. I strive to be one who can help

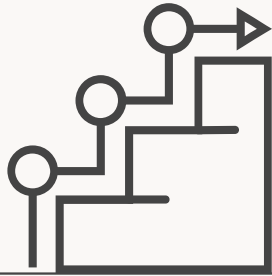


others achieve their goals. I am ready to set some new goals for myself at this mid-year point and look forward to looking back at my worksheets to see my progress at the end. I hope you'll join me in setting new goals for yourself. Remember to never give up on what is really important to you!

*There is no one giant step that does it. It's a lot of little steps.
~ Peter A. Cohen*

GOALS-STEP BY STEP

SET YOUR GOALS IN BITE-SIZED PIECES!



S	<u>SPECIFIC</u> WHAT DO I WANT TO ACCOMPLISH/OUTCOME?	
M	<u>MEASURABLE</u> HOW WILL I KNOW WHEN I GET THERE?	
A	<u>ACHIEVABLE</u> HOW LIKELY CAN MY GOAL BE ACCOMPLISHED? 1-10	
R	<u>RELEVANT</u> DOES THIS SEEM WORTHWHILE? 1-10	
T	<u>TIMELINE</u> WHEN WILL I ACCOMPLISH THIS GOAL?	

GOALS!

President's Message

By Laura J. Landerman, RDR, CRR, FPR-C

Wow. It seems like just yesterday I was inducted as president of FCRA, and now I'm in my final weeks as president. As I look back over the past year, it brings a smile to my face and a sense of pride. Early in my career, I would never have imagined being president of the Florida Court Reporters Association and assuming such an important leadership role, but sometimes you surprise yourself when those hidden traits come to surface.

I have learned it's not always easy to be a leader, and you won't make everyone happy. Oftentimes you have to juggle personalities, raise motivations, be a mentor, yet also continue to learn yourself. You spend a lot of time putting out fires, and you are constantly herding cats. Being a leader requires knowing how to overcome resistance to change and deal with members' reactions to change. At its heart, resistance to change is rooted in fear of the unknown. The world we live in is constantly changing, and new technology is always at our heels. However, we have something no computer in the world has - ten fast fingers and the human brain.

Take a few minutes and think back to when you were in court reporting school. Remember how hard you worked at speed building and then the excitement you felt at each speed you passed? You practiced constantly and kept improving. You eventually graduate and are ready to tackle the world of court reporting. You're a nervous wreck, but every job you took gave you more confidence. As you wrote faster and cleaner, your editing became quicker. You were eager to edit a transcript, and you were first in line for every software update and every training class.



Now return to present day. Are you still practicing? Do you still challenge yourself to be better? Are you using technology as a tool or a crutch? Are you current with software and equipment? Do you attend career-related conferences? Can you still write 225 wpm? Are you a faster editor now than when you started reporting, or are you paying almost half your income out to someone else to edit jobs because they're just too sloppy and time-consuming to do yourself?

If we are going to compete with ever-evolving technology, we need to be at the top of our game. An excellent steno will always be better than AI, but AI will eventually be better than an average steno, as AI is improving at a rapid pace. If we want to keep our place as the gold standard, we must continue to improve as well. That's why it's more important than ever that we focus every day on becoming even better, even faster, even more accurate.

Take time this spring/summer to practice TED talks or join a practice group that offers high-speed dictation, dictionary work, and shares briefs. Even though audiosynch is a great tool, we cannot become so reliant on it that we are unable to read back, or produce a transcript without it. Total audio dependence will inevitably decrease skills, confidence, and income.

President's Message

(continued)

The pandemic brought a lot of changes to our profession. Who doesn't love doing remote work from the comfort of our homes? Today more clients are requesting in-person jobs, and there's a genuine shortage of stenographers who will cover those jobs. Is it a pain to drive in traffic? Yes. Is it a pain to get dressed up? Yes. Do we lose editing time? Yes. Will our pets miss us? Absolutely - just ask my two Doodles. However, we really, really need to get back out there to ensure stenographers/voices are in those seats if we want to remain attorneys' first choice. As much as we fight it, digitals will continue to increase substantially in number, are becoming more widely accepted, and are the ones to cover those in-person jobs that we refuse to show up for. Let's not give them that opportunity.

Verbatim steno and voice writers are trained to write fast, discern accents, complex terminology and differentiate speakers. We can provide near-perfect real time and immediate rough drafts. We are so much better than the other methods, and now is our time to shine.

Do you still love being a court reporter? I hope so because we hold a skill that few in this world do. Simply put, we are AMAZING!! We just need to be reenergized now and then. FCRA's convention theme this year at Ocean Reef, Key Largo, July 14-16, is Go for the Gold - Be the Champion Within. Make 2023 the year you GO FOR THE GOLD!!



Go for the gold
- be the champion within

NCRA Legislative Bootcamp

In February, President Laura Landerman, RDR, CRR, FPR-C, and President-Elect Sheri Smargon, RDR, CRR, CRC, FPR-C, M.A., attended NCRA's Legislative Boot Camp in Washington, D.C.



The Boot Camp is designed to provide attendees with the skills and tools needed to be able to lobby individuals with issues presented in their state that affect court reporting and captioning issues. Here are a few takeaways:

What is one of the most valuable skills or ideas you took away from your Boot Camp experience?

Laura:

Many times we know what we want but do not know how to properly ask for it. We were taught in Boot Camp how to ask. You need to be informative but succinct and clearly state your ask. What dollar amount are you asking for? Why are you needing this? Who will it benefit? It's also a smart idea to bring a personal experience into the situation and don't get "in the weeds" during your meeting. After we made our pitch at mock presentations, we were honestly and brutally critiqued. Well, it wasn't too bad, but we did learn what not to do.

Sheri:

I learned that it is much easier to ask for help on an issue when you have an understanding of its purpose and the impact of the issue. In Boot Camp, we were advocating for a bill that would provide access for Deaf and Hard of Hearing, so it is an issue near and dear to my heart, as I've captioned for most of my career. Learning how to present our opinions without being brusque or ill-informed, how to present the facts and ideas in a comprehensive, direct way was very useful.

NCRA Legislative Bootcamp - Continued

Do you feel what you learned at Boot Camp will help the members of FCRA?

Laura:

Absolutely. What we learned at Boot Camp transcends through to board and committee service and hence our membership. I am much more confident in how to deal with politicians, judges, CEOs, and everyday situations that affect our members.

Sheri:

Learning how to ask for what you need and want is a learned skill, especially when dealing with politicians. This training provided some insight about what to say and what not to say and how to effectively present your message in the best light. There are issues FCRA has to address, and what I took away from Boot Camp will be useful as FCRA moves forward.

Why would you recommend someone attend Boot Camp?

Laura:

Unfortunately, due to COVID, I did not get to attend Boot Camp earlier in my board service or my career. I feel strongly that anyone on the executive board of an association should definitely attend, as it gives you clear insight on how and why things happen as they do. The nice thing about Boot Camp is it's open to all members, not just those on the board. If you have an interest in honing your negotiating skills and learning the ins and outs of politics, I'd definitely recommend you attend.

Sheri:

I think anyone who wants to gain a better understanding into how "things get done" on a large scale would benefit from Boot Camp. It's not just meant for Board members, as anyone can attend, but it certainly will start to put into perspective the reason some issues take so long to come to a resolution. I think it would be beneficial for anyone, whether while serving on a board or not, to attend the camp. Learning to speak extemporaneously is a lifelong learning skill.



**Get your
FPR-C
today!!**



**What do I
need to do?**

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 FPR or pass the FPR before being eligible to use the FPR-C designation through reciprocity;

Be a current member of NCRA (National Court Reporters Association) or NVRA (National Verbatim Reporters Association) and show proof to the Committee of their current membership status; and

Successfully passed at least one of the RPR, RMR, RDR, CRR, or CRC skills examinations awarded by NCRA; or successfully passed at least one the CVR, CVR-S, CM, CM-S, MVR, MVR-S, RVR-M, RVR-M-S, RVR, RVR-S skills examinations awarded by NVRA.

FPR-C reciprocity requires one of the following items which must attached with this registration form or submitted with your payment:

Current NCRA CEU Cycle Transcript with certifications listed

- or -

Letter from NCRA, on NCRA letterhead, indicating your current membership status and qualifying certification achieved (RPR or higher)

FPR-C

Skills, yeah, we got them.



**Join us in Key Largo - July 14, 2023
FCRA Annual Convention for the next
in person FPR-C Skills Test.**

Congratulations
to our new
FPR-Cs:

**Jennifer Wells, FPR-C
Edward Ruggeri, FPR-C
Carla Hopson, FPR-C
Nicole Medlock-FPR-C**

What is the FPR-C?

The FPR-C is the skills complement to FCRA's FPR and is a voluntary (optional) skills examination.

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

Be a current member of FCRA*;

Be a steno or voice writer;

Provide his or her own laptop and CAT software for testing;

Have the ability to email his or her test papers to the
Committee for grading.

*A candidate may take the FPR-C before taking the FPR, but may not use the initials "FPR-C" until the candidate successfully passes the FPR modules and test. A candidate who wishes to take the modules and examination for the FPR certification must be a participating member of FCRA.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW FPRs

SPRING 2023

Lory Minio, FPR
Susan McIntyre, FPR
Apryl Montero, FPR
Edward Ruggeri, FPR

Julie Agustin, FPR
Elsy Altuve, FPR
Kendall Spurlock, FPR(S)
Tracy Wilkes, FPR

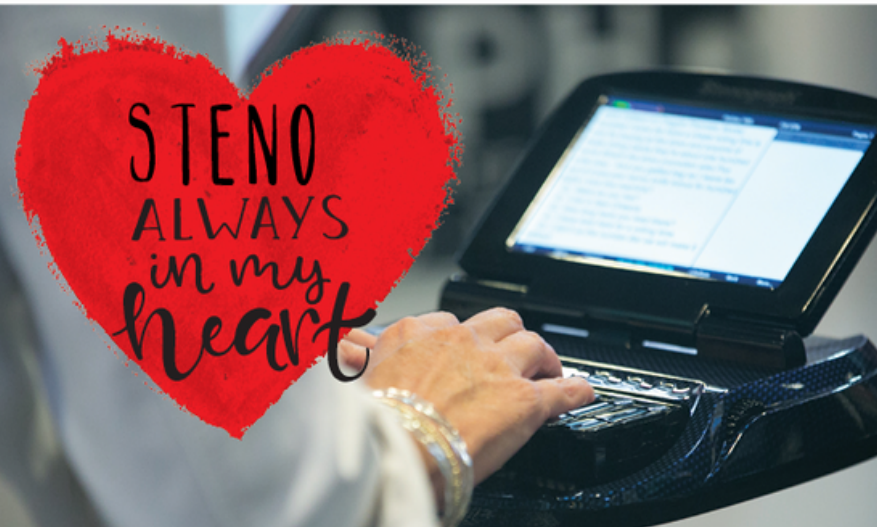
Corinne Grassini, FPR
Irene Koenigs, FPR
Cheryl McDonough, FPR

Tamika Bartee, FPR
Mary Ann Casale, FPR
Jodi Goodman, FPR
Tanya Wood, FPR



2023 Court Reporting
& Captioning Week

**FEBRUARY
4-11**



During the 2023 Court Reporting & Captioning Week, we received testimonials from paralegals, attorneys, and judges showing support of our profession. Some of the testimonials received are featured here. Our FCRA Facebook group featured many others throughout our special week!

"An accurate and complete verbatim record prepared by a neutral party is crucial to our legal system. And if you're involved in important litigation, you count on stenographic reporters as they're the reporters that produce the accurate and complete self-authenticating transcripts, rough drafts and expedited/overnight that are necessary in doing my job representing my clients."

WJ Lee Owen, Esquire
Kubicki Draper, Jacksonville

"Stenographers are absolutely essential to the smooth administration of justice and fairness. They ensure that litigants make an accurate and impartial record, and without that, our courts could not function as the public expects and deserves."

Kate Wallace, Esquire
Court Counsel
12th Judicial Circuit
Sarasota, FL



"I am pleased to offer my thoughts as we collectively acknowledge and honor those capable professionals who tirelessly preserve the record of all we do. Our system is fundamentally based on fairness that often derives from a precise record of the spoken word. That precision is the goal and thankfully, the reality of our excellent court reporters. During jury selection I regularly introduce the court reporter as the hardest working professional in the courtroom. We know that court reporters are tasked with absorbing and processing everything that occurs, while never interrupting or delaying the proceedings. In essence, they must be everywhere and be invisible at the same time. Ironically, when a court reporter is at their best, you sometimes forget they are there."

I have spent over thirty years participating in court proceedings. I spend hours every week reading transcripts to assist with important and difficult decisions. I have also seen how keenly juries listen to a court reporter as they "read back" important witness testimony. Their deliberations can sometimes turn on a few specific and exact words. Likewise, our appellate courts literally make the law based on the precise record presented for their consideration. Without an official record of our public court proceedings the sanctity and inviolability of our legal system would inevitably begin to erode. We must all be grateful for their service.

Court reporters should understand and be proud of their invaluable contribution to our Rule of Law. On behalf of my colleagues from the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, please accept our deep and abiding debt of gratitude. Keep up the excellent work."

Stephen M. Walker
Circuit Court Judge

"Court reporters are crucial to the legal system and perhaps the most critical component in any legal proceeding. Stenographers pave the path to justice for our clients. Given the extreme challenges we would face without stenographers, they have my endless gratitude and should be held in the highest regard."

Robert Zarco, Esquire
Zarco Einhorn Salkowski, P.A.

"The importance of a real stenographer can never be understated. Bottom line is they probably play the most important role in the litigation process. As attorneys we rely on their accuracy in every single step from discovery through the appeals. Without accurate reporting the system simply would fail!"

Keith Goan, Esquire
Morgan & Morgan
Tampa, FL

"A real time stenographer is an integral part of all court proceedings. Producing near-perfect rough drafts in real time and ability to quickly read back is a skill that can never be replaced by digital reporting or AI transcription. Live stenographers don't just transcribe, they act as verbal moderators to ensure every word is captured—and that alone is a critical and integral part of any court proceeding."

Abla Alaoui
Paralegal to David A. Paul
PAUL | KNOPF | BIGGER
Winter Park, FL

"There is no replacement for genuine stenographic reporters. Every attempt at shortcutting the process has shown to be inadequate.

Stenographic reporters are vital for what we do, and the system would be unworkable without them."

~ Philip F. Moring, Esq.
Paul Knopf Bigger, Winter Park, FL

"Documenting what occurs in hearings and trials with transcripts by a stenographic reporter is vital to the legal profession for various of reasons including appeals, reminders of what occurred, and to protect everyone's reputations. Stenographic reporters can also repeat questions that were sidetracked for various reasons."

Christi Gray, Attorney,
Florida Supreme Court Certified Family Mediator,
Parenting Coordinator,
Trained Collaborative Family Law,
and Guardian Ad Litem
GRAY LAW
-Tallahassee, FL

We had a great time at our FCRA virtual Zoom meetup on February 9, 2023. There were great questions and interaction with students, veteran reporters and agency staff participating!



Advocate & Be Involved



Board members Richard Scire, Sheri Smargon, and Michael Scire, along with FCRA members Lisa Plante and Alex Leder, volunteering at the High School Mock Trial competition in Sarasota on February 18, 2023

On April 26th, FCRA members Kelly Broomfield (pictured), Nicole Medlock, and Deanne Moore volunteered to showcase stenography during Neese High School Career Day



FPEA Florida Homeschool Convention

May 25 - 27, 2023, Orlando, FL



Thank
You



to our volunteers,
Mae Fisher, President Laura
Landerman, Apryl Montero,
Sandy Narrup, President-
Elect Sheri Smargon, and
Heather Suarez!!



FCRA's Schools Committee has been busy scheduling various career days at high schools all across Florida. Unfortunately/fortunately, we are all very busy these days, and getting coverage has been difficult at times. The following are the past and future career day invites:

Boca/Olympic Heights H.S. (December 13th)

No coverage.

Miami/Santa Clara Elementary School (March 17th)

No coverage.

St. Augustine/Tocoi Creek H.S. (March 29th)

No coverage.

Ponte Vedras/Nease H.S. (April 26th)

3 volunteers

Orlando/Florida Home School Convention (May 25-27)

6 volunteers

The requirements to participate and volunteer your time is easy! All you need to do is talk about the profession that we all love. The most common comment we get is "I had no idea that this existed." The students are always amazing and interested in that "little machine." This is exactly how I found out about court reporting too! Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering your time for an event near you!
- Lance

Lance.FCRA@gmail.com

STENO & VoicE

Did you happen to catch our Facebook practice group?

Special perks for

FCRA Members!

Request to join the "Spring Into Your Skills
- FCRA Facebook Practice Group"



**Participate as much as you
choose from
March 1 to May 31, 2023**

Member perks!

Prizes along the way!

Join and Participate!

Here is some of what is happening...

Tax Terminology

Qualified Business
Asset
Investment
(QBAI)
Exemption

Recession
Refundable tax credit
Regressive tax
S corporation
Sales tax

Standard
deduction
State and
Local Tax
(SALT) Deduction

Static scoring
Step-up in basis
Super-deduction
Supernormal return
Surtax

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Chiropractic Terms

Tendinitis
Thompson Terminal
Point Technique
Thoracic spine
Toftness Method
Torticollis/Tortipelvis
Transverse process
Trigger point
Vertebrae
Vertebral Subluxation
Complex
Whiplash
X-Ray

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Government Terminology

Constitution
Declaration of
Independence
Amendment
Bill of Rights
Senate
House of
Representatives
Legislative
Articles
Congress
Delegate
Representative

Election
Democracy
Political
Republic
Supreme Court
Petition
Candidate
Ratify
Minority
Majority

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Car Accident Terminology

Covered accident
Declarations page
Deductible
Effective date
Gap coverage
Liability insurance
Limit
Medical payments coverage
(MedPay)

fcraonline.org

Car Accident Terminology

Tortfeasor "tort"
Letter of Protection
Demand letter
Discovery
Mediation
Additional insured
At-fault accident
Auto insurance claim
Collision coverage

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Common Legal Objections

Ambiguous
Misleading
Vague
Argumentative
Asked and answered
Assumes facts not in evidence
Badgering
Best evidence
Beyond the scope
Calls for a legal conclusion
Calls for speculation
Compound question

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Student Corner

Laura Cusack

“Ever tried. Ever failed. No matter. Try Again. Fail again. Fail better.” This quote by Irish Nobel Prize-winning playwright Samuel Beckett is the epitome of my journey to date. I have tried so many things in my quest to discover what I truly want to be. I now wholeheartedly believe that stenography is my calling, but let’s start at the beginning.

Step 1 - USA! USA!

In 2007, I was a 21-year-old girl living in Co. Cavan, Ireland. I decided I wanted to move to America. I didn’t know what I wanted to do, but I had a great desire to move stateside. I didn’t fully grasp that moving to America is not easy or quick and there is a lot of paperwork involved. While I waited, and in an attempt to figure out what I wanted to do as a career, I obtained both my BA and MBA. Fast forward nine years, I’m 30 years old and my green card is finally granted. I pack my bags and move to Pompano Beach, Florida.

Step 2 - Well, now what?

What do I want to actually do with my life? What is the career that’s going to fill my cup? I had my dream location sorted, but what was going to make me happy? I tried a couple of different jobs when I got here but never truly felt like anything fit. My sister has been a stenographer since graduating school and has a wonderful career. Not only does she enjoy a healthy paycheck and amazing work life balance, but she gets to experience something new every day.



Step 3 - Let’s do this thing!

I enrolled in the Mark Kislingbury Academy in March 2020 as an online non-live student. Learning Magnum Steno Theory directly from Mark himself was extremely valuable. One thing that I found interesting about Mark is that he is still learning new briefs and new phrases. He doesn’t stop and is always trying to shorten his writing. I did struggle trying to figure out a way to stop the theory from leaking from my brain (anyone who studies Magnum will feel my pain) realizing sometimes it’s a losing battle as that theory is 96 chapters long. You get the main concepts down and then as you move through speed building, theory review is a must.

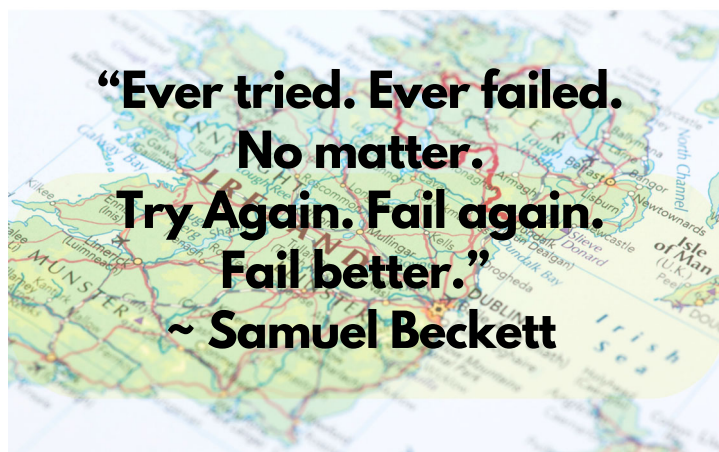
One other thing that happened at MKA was I met my steno besties. Little did I know it would be possible to forge true friendships as an online student. I was so lucky to find a group of friends that truly supported each other through this journey.



To any students out there, my tip is to find your steno besties. These people get it and are struggling, too. That can lift you up on the days you need it most. Special shout-out to my steno bestie, Christine Moers, who has been my rock from day one. We started MKA together on the same day and she is truly one of the best.

Step 4 - The beast that is speed building. Having moved to SimplySteno for this leg of my steno journey, it really is the mountain that humbles you. I went into this thing thinking I'd be the student who finishes in two years. Nope. Speed building has and continues to be my cross to bear. Every single speed has been torturous for me. I was never one to fly through speeds and then "get stuck" at a particular speed. Every single speed has been soul crushing at times. I don't say this to discourage anyone, but I hope it will make the students out there who are having a similar journey as me feel a little less alone.

I'm finally at 190, and while I still have a long way to go, I finally see a glimpse of light at the end of a long tunnel. My SimplySteno family helps me on a daily basis. We have daily practice Zooms and it just helps to see faces every day as we trudge along, inching closer to the end.



Step 5 - Show up!

For any introverts like myself, force yourself to join Zooms when available. I attended the FCRA CRCW Virtual Meet Up earlier this year. I was nervous I would be the only student there but I wasn't. I asked the group if anyone would allow me to start observing some of their depositions, and an amazing group of reporters kindly said yes. Also, if you can afford to, attend conventions. I was fortunate to attend both Vegas and Orlando NCRA conventions and the absolute buzz I got from both is beyond words. Speed building can deplete your soul at times but conventions light it back up.

Another amazing thing to come out of the convention was connecting with a group of students being mentored by the one and only Ron Cook. Ron meets with us on Sunday evenings, listens to our worries, encourages, inspires and motivates us, answers our questions, and just keeps us going. He is truly one of a kind, and I feel so grateful to have him as a cheerleader.

Step 6 - The stuff outside of writing. Since I started interning, I realize how much more is involved than simply writing. At first it can feel overwhelming, but I also find this part of it so interesting. What do you do when the witness has no ID? How do you handle something being redacted? What is the best setup for microphones and recorders? How in the world does audio sync actually work?

The next step - Even though I have no exact end date for reaching 225, I just try to keep putting one foot in front of the other and take each day as it comes. I know I'm going to be an RPR one day, and all this hard work will be a distant memory. For now I will just keep taking it one step at a time.

Roll with It!

If Dogs Held Professional Zoom Meetings



What does a
thesaurus
have for breakfast?
A synonym bun!



HAPPINESS
is not
out there,
it's in
You

What do you get
when you
combine a
joke with a
rhetorical
question?

What's the difference between
a cat and a comma?

One has claws at the end of its paws...
and one is a pause at the end of a clause.



What is FCRA doing for me?

- **The Ethics Committee diligently fields reporter-related questions that come into headquarters and provides guidance following our Florida rules.**
- **FCRA Government Relations Committee, through our lobbying team in Tallahassee, Corinne Mixon and Diana Ferguson of Rutledge Ecenia, were able to secure our fresh off-the-press success with making remote oath permanent. The remote oath became law effective January 1, 2022.**
- **FCRA has rolled out a skills portion to accompany our Florida Professional Reporter™ certification. Holding the FPR-C™ shows you have knowledge of Florida rules and laws AND demonstrates to clients you have the skills necessary to capture their record.**
- **Our Convention Committee is hard at work putting together a comprehensive agenda featuring topics relevant to today's world of court reporting, offering CEUs pre-approved by NCRA, and enabling fun networking opportunities.**
- **Our Schools Committee is putting boots on the ground and promoting this fabulous career to future students throughout the state.**

OCEAN REEF CLUB Key Largo

FCRA Annual Convention July 14-16, 2023

Registration is now open!



STENOCON

GO FOR THE GOLD - BE THE CHAMPION WITHIN

Key Largo



OCEAN REEF CLUB
JULY 14 - 16, 2023

We are so excited about this year's convention, July 14-16, at the exclusive Ocean Reef Club in Key Largo and want YOU to be a part of the excitement. Described as Florida's best-kept secret, Ocean Reef Club is a private club community in the beautiful Florida Keys, and your ticket to paradise is through FCRA. Our convention lineup is an informative, engaging and knowledge-filled group of speakers you won't want to miss. Not to mention live software training from two of the best in the industry.

LIVE SOFTWARE TRAINING

Eclipse

Michael Starkman

CaseCAT

Cindi Lynch



**FPR-C SKILLS
TESTING**



1.7 CEUS



**REALTIME
CONTEST**



TICKE~~X~~TRAVAGANZA



**RESORT &
SPA**



**CATCHING UP
WITH FRIENDS**



We check all the boxes.

**FCRA Annual Convention
June 14-16, 2022**

**"The best way to predict the
future is to create it."**

Abraham Lincoln

FPR-C

Become Florida certified today.

TICKE~~X~~Travaganza



No basket? No problem! 'BASKE~~X~~Travaganza' is now 'TICKE~~X~~Travaganza.' Baskets still welcome but not necessary. Or have one of our designated savvy shoppers put something together for you by donating today.

\$600 \$500 \$400 \$300 \$200 \$150

Solid Gold

PRESIDENT'S PARTY

JULY 15, 2023

2023 FCRA

THOMAS HUGHES MEMORIAL

REALTIME CHALLENGE

July 14 - 5:00 p.m. - Ocean Reef Club, Key Largo

Speed - Accuracy - Fun



**Protecting
the record
starts with
YOU.**



**Advocate for our profession and encourage
others to join their state association today.**

Need to contact FCRA?

**Christy Aulls Bradshaw, RPR, FPR-C
Executive Director - Florida Court Reporters Association
201 North Magnolia Avenue
Ocala, Florida 34475
844-GET-FCRA (844-438-3272)
Cell: 352-427-8008 Email: admin@fcraonline.org
www.fcraonline.org**



Do you know someone who has gone above and beyond?

The Arlene P. Sommers Award

The Arlene P. Sommers Award for Outstanding Achievement in Education is presented to a person who is or has been a teacher, tutor, or administrator engaged in a court reporting education program in the State of Florida approved by the Arlene P. Sommers Award Committee, or any other person who has made a significant contribution to the education of court reporting students.

The Emily Mann Distinguished Service Award

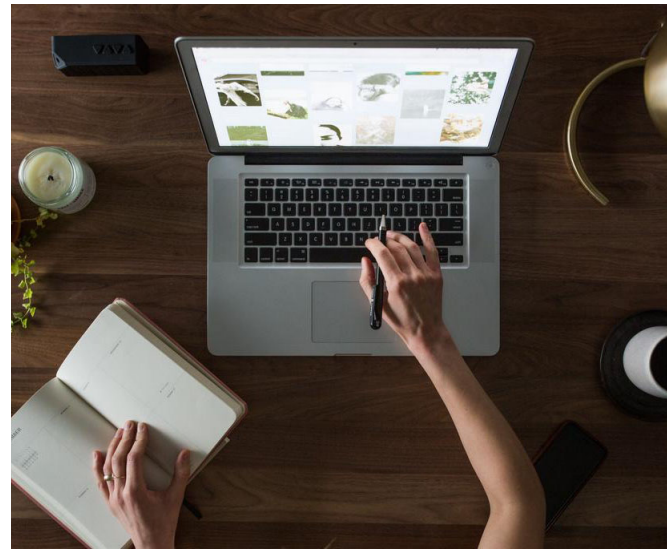
The Emily Mann Distinguished Service Award shall be bestowed by the FCRA upon a person who possesses exceptional qualifications and experience in the field of shorthand reporting while contributing in a meritorious manner to the welfare of FCRA; and has served the Association in at least two (2) of the following categories:

1. Served the Association with active participation on committees and/or on the Board of Directors of the state association.
2. Contributed to the profession in areas of teaching, editing of publications, or other contributions which have been designed for the advancement of shorthand reporting.
3. Contributed important books, papers, or other written material dealing with the profession.
4. Contributed seminars for the state association for members, such seminars having received the approval of NCRA for continuing education points.
5. Aided in the advancement of the profession by working in liaison with the Bar, the media, judicial groups and/or educational institutions

Dates for Nominations for the Arlene P. Sommers Award for Outstanding Achievement in Education and The Emily Mann Distinguished Service Award will be posted in early 2023.



BECOME AN FCRA VOLUNTEER



FCRA depends on the volunteer services of our members. Committees are formed immediately after the Annual Convention. Remember, FCRA depends on its committee members to be our boots on the ground, whether it's through the Membership Committee reaching out to new potential members, the Government Relations Committee working hand-in-hand with our lobbyist, the PR Task Force presenting educational seminars to paralegals across the state, or the Fundraising Committee handling our annual fundraiser. Each committee is an integral part of how FCRA is out there working for you.

Committees Include:

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR
ARLENE P. SOMMERS AWARD

CART/REALTIME

CHARTER & BYLAWS

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

COURT REPORTING SCHOOLS

COURTS COMMITTEE

EMILY MANN DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AW.

FINANCE AND BUDGET

FUNDRAISING

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

SOCIAL MEDIA

THE FLORIDA REPORTER

MEMBERSHIP/INFO EXCHANGES

NOMINATING

PLACEMENT

PR TASK FORCE

PRO BONO

PROFESSIONAL ETHICS

Go to fcraonline.org to volunteer today!



Pre-Authorized Payment Plan Form

Participating Membership Only

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

FCRA Headquarters
201 North Magnolia Avenue
Ocala, FL 34475
Phone: 844-GET-FCRA (438-3272)
admin@fcraonline.org

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	\$90.00
Second Payment	Processed 30 days after first payment	\$90.00
Third/Final Payment	Processed 60 days after first payment	\$90.00

Member Name: _____

Member Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

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 \$90.00 will be processed upon receipt. The second installment in the amount of \$90.00 will be automatically processed 30 days following the first payment. The third and final installment in the amount of \$90.00 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 \$270.00 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:

☐ Master Card ☐ Visa ☐ American Express

Billing Address: (If different from above)

Account #: _____ Exp Date: _____

Cardholder's Name / Signature

Payment plan effective 8/3/22 for Participating Members only.



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**\$250.00

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,
201 North Magnolia Avenue, Ocala, FL 34475
Phone: 844-GET-FCRA (438-3272) • admin@fcraonline.org (for charge payments only)
www.fcraonline.org