

Spring 2022
Volume 25 Issue 1



MINNE - *strokes*

Minnesota Court Reporters: On and Off the Record



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PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

By *RandiAnn Harvey*



Most president messages in the past have been optimistic and uplifting, but this one will not be. Hopefully, it will be motivating, though.

“The mission of the Minnesota Association of Verbatim Reporters & Captioners is to create an understanding of the role of verbatim stenographic reporters, realtime closed captioners and communication access realtime (CART) providers; and to promote and ensure that they are the preferred professionals who, through education, training, state-of-the-art technology and high professional and ethical standards, capture and manage the record.”

Stenography, in an official capacity, is in the crosshairs of the Minnesota Supreme Court and State Court Administration who want to use Electronic Reporters in lieu of the true keepers of the record, Stenographic Reporters.

Time and time again, the official reporters have been undermined; and we need to continue to stand up for our profession, for the public, and for the stenographic record, or our oath to uphold the integrity of the record will be chipped away and given to an electronic button pusher. We know that had a stenographer been at the high-profile Christmas parade driver’s prior bail hearing in Wisconsin, there would be a written record of exactly what was said during that hearing <https://www.fox6now.com/news/darrell-brooks-lost-bail-hearing-record-among-dozens-over-3-days>. But that reliance on a solely electronic digital recording produced the ultimate fail in the record-keeping world, “No record due to technical issues.”

Continued to page 2



2021-2022 MAVRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT	RandiAnn Harvey 320.679.6407 randiannharvey@hotmail.com
PRESIDENT-ELECT	VACANT
VICE PRESIDENT- OFFICIAL	VACANT
VICE PRESIDENT-FREELANCE	Deanna Oaks 858.231.0383 oaksdeanna@gmail.com
SECRETARY	Lisa Wurtinger 612.226.7147 lisawurtinger@hotmail.com
TREASURER	S. Ryan Ziegler 612.219.6207 srziegler@gmail.com
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE A (Official)	Shelby Brown 970.488.0789 shelbybrownncr@gmail.com
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE B (Official)	Sarah Anderson 763.760.6783 sarah.l.anderson2134@gmail.com
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE A (Freelance)	Jeanna Zunker 320.760.4561 jeannazunker@gmail.com
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE B (Freelance)	Lynzie Zempel 218.393.1975 lynzie.zempel@gmail.com
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Laura Pelletier 763.421.2025 ljpelletier@comcast.net

Continued from page 1

We all know that the live stenographer at the proceedings is the one best qualified to produce a written record. Stay Steno Strong! Familiarize yourself with MN Statute 484.72 https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2021/cite/484.72?keyword_type=exact&keyword=court+reporter which provides a limitation on the use of electronic recording equipment and talk to your judges about it. Make everyone aware of it.

As the president of MAVRC, I will continue to promote freelancers, captioners, CART providers, and push for stenographers to continue to be the keepers of the record, and my passion for that will not wane.



MAVRC BOARD VACANCIES

The MAVRC board is looking to fill two vacancies:

Vice President - Official and President-Elect.

President-Elect (freelancer) would be a position until the fall, followed by one year as President and then one year as Immediate Past President.



Vice President - Official would be a position until the fall, followed by one year as President-Elect, one year as President, and then one year as Immediate Past President.

If you're interested or would like more information, please e-mail RandiAnn at randiannharvey@hotmail.com

Save the Date



FOR THE MAVRC SPRING SEMINAR

 SATURDAY 
APRIL 23, 2022

AT ANOKA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

UPCOMING *Events*

Welcome to

Our New MAVRC Members!

Daniel Raustadt, Student
Marisa Sundell, Student
Leann Barrick, Associate
Mikaela Nelson, Student
Nicole Poulakis, Student
Alyssa Vankempen, Student
Erika Moravec, Student
Katie Hammers, Student
Natalie Achtzener, Student
Megan Stumm, Reporter
Melinda Johnson, Student
Erin Albert, Student
Tara Atkisson, Student

Vlada Dosche, Student
Manning Harms, Student
Kelly Korte, Reporter
Taylor Leger, Student
Shannon Parkhurst, Student
Leslie Pingley, Reporter
Rebekah Rademacher, Student
Lisa Soma, Reporter
Kay Yeoman, Reporter
Michelle Anderson, Student
Kylee Desotelle, Student
Gabriela Cortes, Student

STAY TUNED FOR FALL CONVENTION DATE.... 3



Treasurer's Report

2021 End-of-the-Year Treasurer's Report

Prepared by Ryan Ziegler

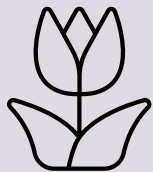
Year-end balances in MAVRC's accounts:

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance:	\$4,473.38
Deposits (transfers):	\$30,000.08
Expenses:	\$28,473.22
Balance:	\$6,000.24

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance:	\$18,825.67
Deposits:	\$28,519.93
Earned Interest:	\$1.41
Withdrawals (transfers):	\$30,120.24
Balance:	\$17,226.77



** The \$1,500 deposit and expense in the "Miscellaneous" category reflects a transfer from checking account back into the money market account.

Breakdown of Income & Expenses:

Administration:	
Deposits:	\$96.00
Expenses:	\$9,638.00
Fundraising:	
Deposits:	\$1,614.34
Expenses:	\$0.00
Membership:	
Deposits:	\$15,869.85
Expenses:	\$0.00
Spring Seminar:	
Deposits:	\$4,059.30
Expenses:	\$855.00
Fall Seminar:	
Deposits:	\$3,887.79
Expenses:	\$2,185.39
Advertising:	
Deposits:	\$692.85
Expenses:	\$0.00
Insurance:	
Deposits:	\$0.00
Expenses:	\$612.00
Website:	
Deposits:	\$0.00
Expenses:	\$642.75
Legislative:	
Deposits:	\$100.00
Expenses:	\$12,600.00
Tax Preparation:	
Deposits:	\$0.00
Expenses:	\$440.00
Student Relations:	
Deposits:	\$699.56
Expenses:	\$0.00
Miscellaneous:	
Deposits:	\$1,500.24
Expenses:	\$1,500.08

CURRENT OFFICIALSHIP JOB OPENINGS IN MN



[Judge Kevin Mark - First District](#)

[Judge Arlene Perkkio - First District](#)

[Judge Stacey Sorensen Green – First District](#)

[Judge Adam Yang – Second District](#)

[Hennepin County - Court Reporter Unit](#)

Visit
www.MAVRC.org/jobs
for updated job postings

CHELSEA LUBBERS

“Now that I’ve graduated, I feel as if a huge weight has been lifted off my shoulders. I’ve worked so hard for this and have had such an amazing support system behind me throughout this entire process. Now I’m on to bigger and better things and just accepted an official court reporting position at Scott County!”





**Have you
renewed your
MAVRC
membership for
2022?**

NEW THIS YEAR:

Renew your
membership online
via



**THE MAVRC 2022 MEMBERSHIP DEADLINE IS
QUICKLY APPROACHING!**

**RENEW YOUR 2022 MEMBERSHIP BEFORE THE
MARCH 31ST DEADLINE TO BE ENTERED INTO
THE 2022 MEMBERSHIP DRAWING TO WIN A
MAVRC STAINLESS STEEL TUMBLER!**

THE DRAWING WILL INCLUDE SEVERAL WINNERS





STUDENT PROFILE

By Emily Kramm



Name: Emily Kramm

School: Anoka Technical College

Speed: 225



Hometown: Lonsdale, MN

MAVRC Q: Tell us a little about yourself.

A: I am excited to start a new career as a court reporter. My undergraduate degree was in fine arts, but I have spent the last several years working in retail. I wish I would have found this career earlier, but that's life. I am a homebody and enjoy camping, fishing, and going on walks with my husband and our dog. I also like spending time with my family, playing the piano, singing in choir, cooking, and gardening.

MAVRC Q: What made you decide to pursue a career in court reporting?

A: After serving on a jury in Hennepin County, I was immediately intrigued to research what the person next to the judge was doing. When I found out that she was a stenographer, I looked up schools that offer that program. I enrolled in the A to Z Intro to Steno class and was hooked on steno. After that I knew I was about to change careers and become a court reporter.

MAVRC Q: What area of reporting interests you the most at this time - official, freelance, or captioning/CART?

A: Freelance.

MAVRC Q: What's been the most challenging or rewarding part of your schooling thus far?

A: For me, the most rewarding part of school is also the most challenging. It has been rewarding to see my progress from 0-200, but it has also been challenging to not progress as quickly as I would have liked. When I look back and see how I progressed through the speeds, I am proud of my accomplishments. Also when I look back, I recall the frustrations and challenges that I had with each speed.

Do you know any working reporters or anyone that's been an influence to you?

A: Before I started school, I did not know a single stenographer. Over the last few years, my network of support has grown immensely. Merilee Johnson and Micheal Johnson have been positive influences on me as well as many other reporters that I have interned with and chatted with at seminars and conferences. I am grateful for my instructors and friends Amanda Doherty, Lisa Wurtinger, and Shelby Brown who supported me through school. They are now working reporters, and I couldn't be prouder of what they have achieved.



Continued...[click here](#)

In Memoriam



Sherlyn (Carl) Anderson – September 30, 1966 – February 6, 2022

By Sandy Burch, RPR, CRR, CLR

“Never doubt in darkness what God has shown you in the light.” I heard that said by a pastor and it stuck with me. It’s a great reminder that when darkness comes, and it comes to all of us at times throughout life, that we should never let it overshadow the things we’ve been shown in the light. Sometimes that darkness comes in the form of grief, but we are to fix our thoughts and eyes on a greater truth — that life is full of wonder and goodness and so much to be grateful for—and remember that the darkness is only for a time.

Sherlyn was a light—a very bright light. She was loved by everyone who met her. She was a beautiful example of someone who lived out loud, who never took a single day for granted, understanding that life is both precious and very fragile and never to be wasted. She shared her love for life with everyone, whether it was her family, her friends, her community, her clients, or our community of court reporters. She loved her family and friends beyond measure, as you could tell by her social media posts. Whether it was going to dinner, sharing cocktails on a patio somewhere, hosting an event, or having one of her grand-littles on her lap smiling so big, her joy in others shone through.

Sherlyn also loved our profession of court reporting. She graduated from Rasmussen Business College in 1988, became a Registered Professional Reporter through our National Court Reporters Association, was an active member of our state association of MAVRC, worked as a freelance court reporter, started her own court reporting business, Advanced Reporting, and ran that business for 22 years.

Many of our MAVRC members knew Sherlyn from seeing her at our Spring Seminars, our Fall

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Conventions, or at a MAVRC get-together. Sherlyn always stayed involved and was an advocate for our profession, often reminding clients of the importance of using a certified stenographic reporter to keep and preserve their record.

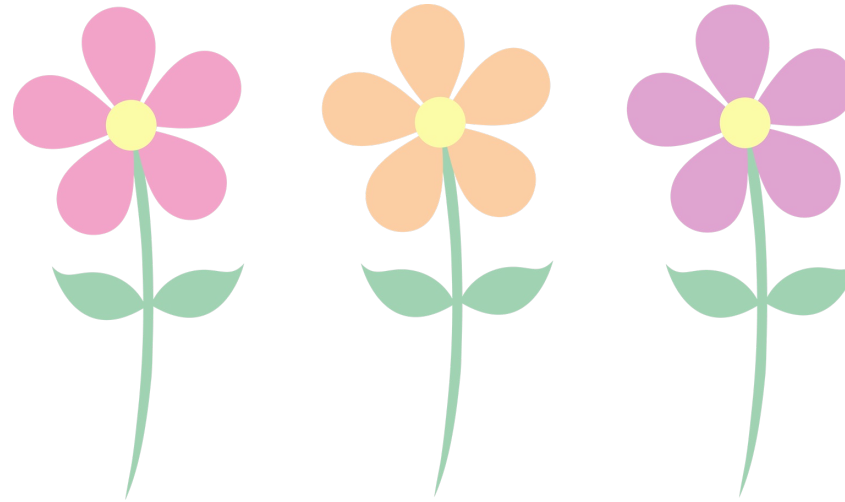
Sherlyn is survived by her husband Jeff and her children, Josh (Danielle), Chris (Heather), and Carlyn (Brett) Spoden. She is also survived by five precious grandbabies.

Sherlyn lived her life filled to overflowing with gratitude and inspired those around her to live more passionately as well. She wouldn't want those of us left behind to be sad at her passing. Rather, she would want us to find joy in everything, since life is so precious, and to "Never doubt in darkness what God has shown you in the light."

Until we meet again, my friend....

In Memoriam by Sandy Burch, RPR, CRR, CLR, of
Integrity Court Reporting, Inc.

Click [here](#) to view Sherlyn's Obituary



SEEKING ARCHIVES

The Publications Committee, along with Jen Sati, want to compile a list of past Willard I. Braun Outstanding Student of the Year Award recipients for the periods of 1983-1997 and 2001-2005.

If you were a recipient during those years, please contact Rhonda Franken at: rhonda.franken@courts.state.mn.us.

How to Become a Great Proofreader!

By Jackie Young, RPR, DSA

Even if you happen to be a highly skilled steno writer, if your transcripts are filled with typos or poor punctuation, it is likely your client will soon be searching for a new reporter. One of the rudimentary, fundamental aspects of court reporting is producing the most accurate transcript possible, and by implementing the following proofreading techniques, you can excel at your job and provide an excellent product that you can be proud of.

In a nutshell, proofreading is the careful reading of a text for errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Spelling mistakes or poor punctuation in a transcript distract the reader from the content and leave an unprofessional impression. While court reporters are not allowed to change what was said, even if improper grammar is used, it is imperative that it is punctuated correctly so that the reader is not left confused by what is being conveyed by the attorney or witness.

Rule No. 1: Do not rely on your spelling/grammar checker to find your errors. These programs have limited dictionaries and often do not detect incorrect homonyms, compound words, or misused words.

Rule No. 2: Proofread in a quiet place without distractions. If you are going to spot mistakes, you need to concentrate, concentrate, and concentrate! Turn off the television, radio, and your cellphone. It should go without saying that if you are not 100 percent focused on what you are doing, mistakes will occur!

Rule No. 3: Read out loud any awkward sentences. This technique will help you figure out the best way to punctuate the sentence.

Rule No. 4: Take a break periodically to help refresh your eyes and your brain.

Rule No. 5: Proofread at a time of day when your brain is fully alert. Most people are more alert in the morning versus in the evening simply because your brain should be rested from a good night's sleep.

Rule No. 6: Slow down! Rushing through a transcript will result in overlooking different mistakes. If you have time, go through your transcript a second time. This second look should minimally consist of a quick scan of your cover and index pages. If you find you are not catching simple mistakes or are a novice reporter, one very helpful method to slow yourself down is to point a pen or pencil at each word until you learn to read at a slower pace.

Rule No. 7: Create an editing checklist of mistakes you commonly make. We all tend to make the same errors over and over. Your checklist will help you look for them one at a time as you proofread.

Rule No. 8: Use a larger font or a different color print.

Rule No. 9: Check to make sure you are using the correct homonym (there/their/they're or it's/its, etc.)

Rule No. 10: If you find that your transcripts contain a number of mistakes even after carefully proofreading, try proofreading a printed transcript versus on the computer screen. Reading text on paper versus a computer screen is easier on your eyes and will help reduce eyestrain.

Rule No. 11: Double-check numbers and proper names.

Continued to next page

While these techniques are by no means foolproof, they are designed to make you a better proofreader and, in time, you will find that your transcripts contain fewer and fewer errors, with the ultimate goal being a totally error-free transcript!

Proofreading Exercise No. 1:

Directions: The recent Times article excerpted below has been amended to include several errors. Each question contains at least one grammar, punctuation, or spelling error, and one or more factual errors. Can you spot them all?

1. World News - Find the six mistakes.

From "[Assailing U.S. and Kiev, Putin Keeps Open Option of Force.](#)"

President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia broke his silence over the Ukraine crisis on Tuesday for the first time since it boiled over into a possible armed confrontation.

Attorney General John Kerry visited the kapital of Kiev carrying a promise of \$1 billion in emergency aide, Russian soldiers deployed in Crimea fired warning shots, and the pro-Kremlin regional leader there said he was accelerating a plan for an independence referendum.

ANSWERS:

No. 1 – Putin, Secretary of State (not Attorney General), Ukraine, kapital, carrying, aid

Proofreading Exercise No. 2: Find the ten mistakes

Moose related deaths are on the rise in Canada. As highways expand and encroach on the habitat of Canadian wildlife, vehicle collisions with these animals are becoming more commonplace, especially in provinces, such as British Columbia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland and Labrador. According to Wildlifecollisions.ca, in 2014 there were four to 8 large animal vehicle collisions and hour within Canada. A large number of these collisions involve moose and deer species, so much so, that a class-action lawsuit was brought against Newfoundland's Provincial Government for not controlling the explosive moose population in that province.

Answers: Moose-related deaths are on the rise in Canada. As highways expand and encroach on the habitats of Canadian wildlife, vehicle collisions with these animals are becoming more commonplace, especially in provinces such as British Columbia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland and Labrador. According to Wildlifecollisions.ca, in 2014 there were four to eight large animal vehicle collisions an hour within Canada. A large number of these collisions involve moose and deer species, so much so that a class-action lawsuit was brought against Newfoundland's provincial government for not controlling the explosive moose population in that province.



Electronically Recorded Zoom Hearings: Of Horseshoes, Hand Grenades, and Appellate Court Transcripts

By Jean Whalen, RDR, CRR, CRC, DSA

“They’re listening to the testimony in a way that’s different from how the person capturing the record is listening to it. They’re listening to the forest; properly trained court reporters are listening to the trees.”

We are now heading into year three of the pandemic, and many litigants and attorneys have participated in Zoom court hearings. There are a lot of upsides to Zoom hearings: they keep people socially distanced; they save time and money; and they keep more cars off the roads, which is better for the environment. From my understanding, they also result in fewer nonappearances by parties.

As a court reporter with many years of experience using both stenographic and digital audio recording methods of capturing the record, I believe there is a circumstance when using Zoom is not at all appropriate. That circumstance is when the person overseeing the recording of the proceeding is simultaneously overseeing the recording of multiple other hearings when one or more of the hearings is using the Zoom platform.

I am not wholesale against using digital audio (in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, that typically means using a digital audio recording platform called CourtSmart). I think CourtSmart has its place in the court system. I know there are steno reporters who disagree with me on this. Although most of my career has been spent as a stenographic court reporter, I formerly worked in a metro area judicial district where there was widespread use of CourtSmart. Some days my assignment would be to monitor CourtSmart hearings, which means I would flip from courtroom to courtroom, listening in and making notes pertinent to the proceedings. Although I was assigned to multiple courtrooms, only one courtroom could be listened to at a time. A CourtSmart monitor’s daily average assignment was four courtrooms, but it could be as many as nine at a time. Despite this, I recognized CourtSmart’s value when it was used in an appropriate manner.

I believe the court record is seriously jeopardized when administrators who decide how the record will be captured either have a particular interest in promoting one form of capturing the record over another, and/or don’t understand the intricacies of making a verbatim record. They don’t understand that, should they opt to use CourtSmart to capture the official record of a Zoom court hearing, they should require the CourtSmart monitor (sometimes called an electronic recording equipment operator or electronic court reporter) to monitor the proceeding on a one-to-one basis rather than having the monitor cover multiple courtrooms simultaneously. The record suffers because of management’s lack of understanding.

continued to next page

Unfortunately, I have witnessed this happen time and time again and have had the frustrating experience of attempting to prepare useable transcripts from these low-quality audio recordings. It begs the question, why aren't unbiased people who thoroughly understand both stenographic and digital audio recording brought to the table so that informed decisions can be made on which method of capturing the record is acceptable under different circumstances?

I've been around the law for many years, but that doesn't make me a judge. I know what I don't know. I'm not an expert in the law. But I don't believe that judges and administrators understand that even if they've been around "the record" for their entire careers, there's a lot they don't know about actually making the record. They rely on advice from people who have a lack of understanding and may have an outside agenda, whether it be saving a nickel here and there or pushing for a particular type of audio recording equipment to be utilized, for whatever reason. I strongly believe that the only agenda should be that of ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the record.

To quote Minnesota's Chief Justice, "I have a solemn responsibility to be a good steward of our Judicial Branch, an institution promised in our constitution. The judiciary is where the people come when the things that are most important to them – their family, their freedom, their property – the things they treasure most, they come to us when those treasures are threatened. They come to us, and they come looking for justice. This is as it must be, because the judiciary is at the heart of what our founders meant when they spoke Minnesota into existence with our constitution and promised that our state 'Government is instituted for the security, benefit and protection of the people.'"

Do the Chief Justice's words apply to the appellate process, when a complete and accurate transcript is crucial, when the Court of Appeals is making important decisions regarding Minnesota citizens' families, freedom, and property based on the official court transcript? Or does close only count in horseshoes and hand grenades, and now also appellate court transcripts?

Let's say you're an attorney attending a Zoom/CourtSmart hearing, and let's do the math. I'm the CourtSmart monitor who is overseeing four courtrooms, including yours. Statistically, that means I'm actively "attending" your particular Zoom hearing maybe 25 percent of the time. Which means that 75 percent of the time, the recording equipment is just running with no one actually monitoring your hearing. And even if I happen to be monitoring your hearing at a time the Wi-Fi cuts out, which happens a lot in Zoom hearings (many times parties attending Zoom court hearings are sitting in their cars tapping into a sketchy public Wi-Fi connection; think coffee shop), I don't have a way to immediately interject and ask for a repeat. All I have is a Chat feature in the CourtSmart program that enables me to send a message to the clerk, who may or may not be looking at the CourtSmart messaging system at the time I send the message; and who may or may not then interject and say, "The court reporter said the Wi-Fi cut out, so can you please repeat what you said a while ago?" Which while ago? There is no doubt that the record has already been compromised at that point.

continued.....[CLICK HERE FOR FULL ARTICLE](#)

hello!

PROFILE OF A BOARD MEMBER

By Lisa Wurtinger



MAVRC Q: What is your name?

A: Lisa Wurtinger.

MAVRC Q: Where did you go to court reporting school and when did you graduate?

A: Anoka Technical College; July 2021.

MAVRC Q: Any particular people who have influenced you in choosing court reporting as a career or helping you during your career?

A: There are so many people that have had to hear all my questions! I am continuously amazed at how supportive court reporters are to each other. I think the support demonstrated shows the strength of this industry and is unlike anything I've experienced elsewhere in my career.

MAVRC Q: Where have you worked since graduating, and what type of work do you do now?

A: I always had my mind set on court and that's only what I've done. I work in Hastings for the Honorable Richelle Wahi.

MAVRC Q: What type of steno machine and court reporting software do you use?

A. I have a Luminex II, and I use Case CATalyst.

MAVRC Q: Do you produce your work all on your own or do you use scopists or proofreaders?

A: As a new reporter, I haven't had enough transcript work yet that would require me to use a scopist or proofreader. And honestly, I learn so much about my writing by doing this myself. I have improved a ton already since graduating and almost enjoy reviewing Margie's book.

MAVRC Q: Do you have any tips for other reporters about work habits or routines?

A: For me personally, I find the more prepared I am, the better I write. And the better I write, the less I have to fix on edit. I know there are times when I put in too much time in advance of a calendar, but more often than not, the prep work pays off.

MAVRC Q: Do you have a few favorite briefs to share?

A: I've been hearing a lot of family cases lately and using custody (KUD), legal custody (LUD), and physical custody (PUD).

MAVRC Q: Have you attended any NCRA conventions, boot camps, seminars? If so, how was that experience for you, and would you recommend it to other reporters?



A: I attended the NCRA conference in 2019 as a student. I was shocked at the welcome we received as students! I hope to attend again when the time works out for my schedule.

MAVRC Q: Do you recall when you joined MAVRC or approximately how long you've been a member?

A: I joined MAVRC as a theory student and have renewed my membership every year since.

MAVRC Q: When did you become a board member of MAVRC, and when does your current term end?

A: I recently became a board member of MAVRC this past fall for a one-year term.

MAVRC Q: How often does the board meet, and do you meet in person or somehow electronically?

A: We meet once a month over Zoom as a board, but committees meet in addition to those board meetings.

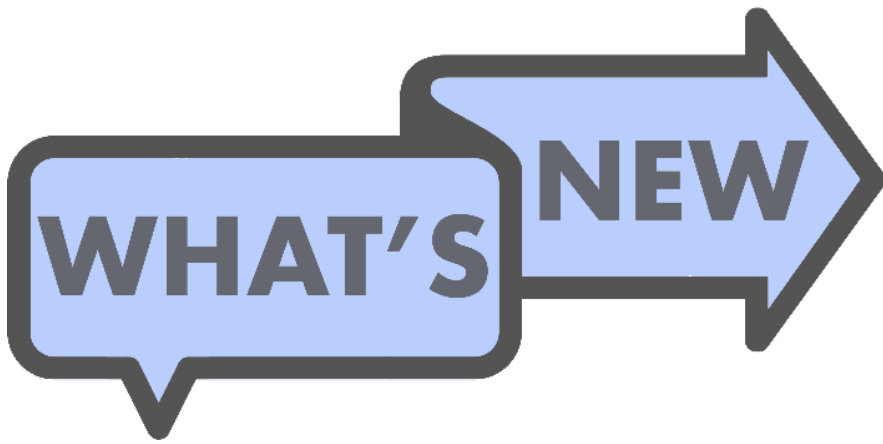
MAVRC Q: What are some of the current issues the board is working on?

FEDERAL COURT BRIEFS - FINANCIAL

By Lisa Thorsgaard, RPR, Freelance Court Reporter

Account:	KAUN	Expense account:	SPOUNT
Accountant:	KAUNT	Investment account:	VOUNT
Accounts Payable:	KPAIBL	Joint account:	JOUNT
Accounts Receivable:	KAOEBL	Savings account:	SOUNT
Allocation:	AOLGS	Trust account:	TROUNT
Allocate:	LAET	Credit card:	KRARD
Allocating:	LAEGT	Fiduciary:	FURB or FAOURB
Amortize:	MORZ	Finance:	F-N
Amortization:	MORGS	Financial:	F-NL
Asset:	SAET	Financial statement:	FAIMT
Audit:	DAUT	Securities and Exchange Commission:	SKAES
Auditor:	DAURT	Securities:	SKURTS
Auditing:	DAUGT	Securities fraud:	S-FRD
Bank account:	BOUNT	Mortgage fraud:	M-FRD
Brokerage account:	BROUNT	Wire fraud:	W-FRD
Checking account:	KHOUNT	Welfare fraud:	WEFRD





Instructor(s) Needed!

Judicial Reporting/Captioning at Anoka Technical College

Have you ever thought about teaching? Maybe a speed class or even a course with another focus?

Jane Schleusner will be retiring this year, and we need to find someone to continue our work of graduating new professionals. While Jane will continue to support the students and program and, if we're lucky, teach an occasional class as an adjunct, we need to find another person with a passion for sharing this amazing profession with newbies!

Please email Jennifer Sati at Jsati@anokatech.edu if you are interested in an adjunct position (teaching one class) or a part-time position or just want to talk about options. The part-time position is salaried with benefits and could be structured as two days a week or four mornings a week. Credentialing requires that instructors have worked in the field for three years in a full-time capacity and hold their RPR and/or CRI. This really is the best job in the world!



A HUGE THANK YOU

to MAVRC members and nonmembers who supported the association, lobbying efforts, or sponsored students in furtherance of education and training

SHELBY BROWN	RANDY OLSON
NANCY MEYER	THAI WOOD
ANGIE SUNDELL	ROBERT MATTHEWS
MEGAN STRUMM	JOSHUA GRAMS
CHERYLE DOSS	ANTONIA SIU
LYNNE KRENZ	SHAWN FUMO
FAITH WEST	JILL TREMMEL
CHRISTINE CLARK	PATRICIA KARGOL
ERIN POPHAM	
TAMMY WILSON	
SHARON STEINBRECHER	
RENEE ROGGE	
DEBBIE PETERSON	
ELISA KUKUK	



Congratulations to **Gabriela Cortes**, RPR, Eden Prairie, MN, who recently passed the RPR (Registered Professional Reporter) exam to earn her certification!

REPORTER HUMOR



MY HEART

Witness has a decent mic	
Witness has stable wifi	
Witness has a headset with stable wifi	

Me, a court reporter, tryna be the tech person during remote proceedings



@hotstenomesses @courtreportertalk

TECH CORNER: CAMERA ISSUES, SPECIFICALLY WITH LENOVO LAPTOPS

By Shelby Brown

Have you ever logged on to a videoconference and seen the dreaded gray box with a slash through the camera icon?



This is an especially common issue with Lenovo devices. Here are the two steps to take to fix this issue:

Step 1: Open up the Start menu and start typing "camera privacy settings."

Click on this option once it appears. You will see a list of apps that are permitted to access your camera. Make sure all videoconference apps are given access.

If this doesn't fix your issue, try this next step.

Step 2: Open up the Start menu and start typing "device manager." Click on the "device manager" option. Then click on "cameras" and then "integrated camera."

Right click integrated camera and click uninstall. This will uninstall your camera driver.

After uninstalling the driver, the computer will prompt you to restart. After restarting, the camera driver will be automatically reinstalled on its own.

One of these two steps will fix your camera issues.

Another device this camera issue is commonly seen on is a MacBook Air made before 2012. This device at this age simply doesn't have the processing capabilities to keep up with the latest versions of Zoom and other videoconference apps.

LET'S RECAP...

By Emily Lettner, RPR

On December 18, 2021, MAVRC hosted a holiday party, held at Lynzie Zempel's residence, and it was a blast! According to Deanna Oaks, "The camaraderie was paramount.

Our profession can feel very isolating sometimes, and it was nice to get a group of reporters together, milling around, chatting about goals and ideas." There was a free library where attendees donated and acquired both textbooks and novels. A mock photo booth was set up, and fun props to wear were available if you wanted to participate.

Attendees were asked icebreaker questions, and prizes were awarded for different categories including who had the longest deposition, who had the most pages in a day, and other fun topics. Jackie Young won the 50/50 raffle, and RandiAnn Harvey won a Duet Bag.

A mentor/mentee database was established, and every student who wanted a professional reporter mentor was connected with one. Food and drink were also present, including a hot chocolate bar, holiday sangria, and a charcuterie board. Check out the photos on MAVRC's Facebook page!



Attendees enjoyed this gorgeous charcuterie table prepared by Deanna Oaks and Lynzie Zempel



Sandy Burch and Jackie Young pose for the photo booth



Deanna Oaks poses with two students: Leah O'Donnell and Kylee Desotelle



RandiAnn, Sandy Burch, Ryan Ziegler, Lynzie Zempel, Joanie Heubner, Deb Foster, Rhonda Franken, Jackie Young, and Shelby Brown pose for the photo booth



I am an “old-fashioned stenographer.”

By Kellie Smith, RPR, CRR, reprinted from *thejcr.com* on February 24, 2020

That funny looking machine that looks like a cash register to you allows me to write the spoken words you say at 225+ words per minute. The words go in through my ears into my brain where they get translated, very quickly, into another language of sorts, and then that other language comes out through my fingers onto the keys of my cash register - er, steno machine. I do all of this while simultaneously and continuously taking in more information. And yes, I did go to school for this.

It's called machine shorthand. Picture a piano player playing chords. A stenographer, commonly known today as a court reporter, presses several keys at once to represent an entire word or phrase in one keystroke. This enables us to write faster than typing on a standard QWERTY keyboard. Oh, and our keyboard doesn't have letters on the keys either.

In 2020, in this electronic age, the digital recording device does just that - records.

I spent my morning preparing a special dictionary for trial. I scoured the witness lists and other trial documents as it is important to me that names are spelled correctly and that they translate for the real-time feed that goes to the judge. Just like the closed-captioning you see on your TV (yes, that's an old-fashioned stenographer doing that, too) the spoken words I write into my steno machine get translated by my computer-aided software dictionary into English. My judge relies on the real-time feed to assist him during trials.

The digital recorder can't do any of that. Not even Dragon, no. Have you seen how your iPhone translates your voicemails lately? Can you imagine that in a fast-paced courtroom or deposition? Not only that, voice recognition software cannot distinguish foreign accents and dialects or multiple voices in rapid succession like an old-fashioned stenographer can.

Attorneys, when I saw which table each of you sat at in the courtroom, I told my computer that every time I write this special code on my steno machine, I want it to display your names. I watch you all as you talk, but I also learn your distinctive voices and speech patterns. Your speaker identifications reflect that you, in fact, are the person talking. And you never have to identify yourself as the speaker. I just know it's you.

The digital recorder relies on you to identify yourself as a speaker, and when you don't - because who does every time they speak in court? - it's left up to whoever transcribes that trial months down the road. That human being, who probably doesn't know you from Adam, has to transcribe that recording while not being able to see you. You might sound quite similar to the other attorney. The decision as to who is speaking will come down to context alone sometimes. And then someone unexpected enters the courtroom and speaks. They will be the UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER. Helpful.

You were a little soft-spoken today. Did you see me leaning my ear towards you as a hint? I always try to be subtle before I ask you, politely, "Could you speak up, please?" I really do want to report every word you say. I am charged with it. I am a verbatim old-fashioned stenographer.

The microphone wasn't quite close enough to you and didn't catch much of what you said, if anything. That compelling argument you made today will be peppered with (inaudible).

I reminded you all to speak just one at a time. I can only report one voice at a time. When you see the transcript, you will be grateful for that request. Dashes sprinkled across the page indicating interruptions do not help the future readers of the transcript.

Click [here](#) to continue reading



BE THE PERSON TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Help MAVRC make a positive impact and volunteer for one of the following committees:

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: S. Ryan Ziegler
srziegler@gmail.com

Reviews the financial records of the Association.

CAREER ADVANCEMENT

Board Liaison: Lynzie Zempel
Deanna Oaks

lynzie.zempel@gmail.com
oaksdeanna@gmail.com

Assists in the coordination and facilitation of the various NCRA certifications.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Board Liaison: Deanna Oaks
oaksdeanna@gmail.com

Helps plan educational seminars and/or educational opportunities for reporters and students.

STUDENT INTERNSHIPS/SCHOOL LIAISON

Board Liaison: Jeanna Zunker
jeannazunker@gmail.com

Assists with student internships and administers a mentoring program.

CART/CLOSED CAPTIONING

Board Liaison: Deanna Oaks
oaksdeanna@gmail.com

Handles issues affecting CART providers and broadcast captioners.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Board Liaison: S. Ryan Ziegler
srziegler@gmail.com

Reviews and suggests necessary changes to the bylaws of the Association.

ETHICS COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Laura Pelletier
ljpelletier@comcast.net

Helps promote and monitors ethics among court reporters.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Shelby Brown
shelby.delta@gmail.com

Stays abreast of technological advances in the court reporting field.

FREELANCE COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Deanna Oaks
oaksdeanna@gmail.com

Deals with issues affecting court reporters in the freelance field.

LEGISLATIVE/GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Board Liaison: Laura Pelletier
ljpelletier@comcast.net

Acts as a liaison on behalf of both official and freelance reporters with the state legislature, judicial districts, SCA's Office, and others.

OFFICIAL COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Shelby Brown
Shelby.delta@gmail.com

Deals with issues affecting official court reporters.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Shelby Brown
shelby.delta@gmail.com

Prepares and issues the official publication of the Association.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Lynzie Zempel
lynzie.zempel@gmail.com

Helps raise funds for the Association.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Shelby Brown
shelby.delta@gmail.com

Works to increase the membership of the Association and assists in developing an annual membership directory.

PRO BONO COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Christine Clark
chrisclarkzimm@gmail.com

Facilitates court reporting services to low-income people.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Board Liaison: Lisa Wurtinger
lisawurtinger@hotmail.com

Represents MAVRC in forming relations with legal associations to further the interests of the Association.



LET'S RECAP...



COURT REPORTING & CAPTIONING WEEK 2022

To celebrate CCRW 2022, MAVRC teamed up with ATC to hold a virtual celebration of all things steno. Over 60 participants joined, which comprised of students, prospective students, and working reporters.

Participants played steno karaoke and court reporter trivia to win prizes. Two student scholarships of \$250 were also given away as prizes! One scholarship donation was anonymous, and one was donated from Pelletier & Associates. Thank you so much to the donors!

Several judges from Ramsey County also stopped by the celebration to show their support for stenographic court reporters. Thank you so much to the following judges for supporting reporters and motivating students!

Judge Aligada
Judge Sheu
Judge Olmstead
Judge Adam Yang
Referee Clysdale
Judge Guthmann
Judge Hilgers

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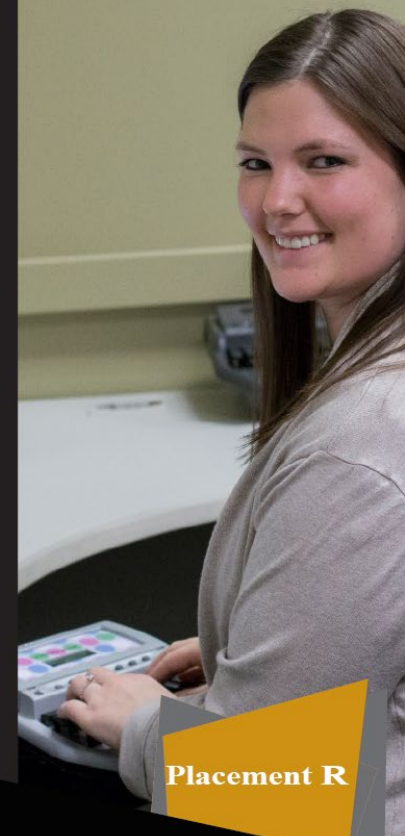
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Thanks for your support!

MAVRC MISSION STATEMENT



The mission of MAVRC is to promote the use of stenographic reporters to capture the record in depositions and courtrooms and to provide closed captioning and cart services.

MINNE-strokes Publication Team

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To submit articles, send to:

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NEXT NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: May 1ST, 2022

Hello Spring



If you are interested in providing pro bono reporting services, contact:

Christine Clark, MAVRC's Pro Bono Coordinator.

Phone: 952.250.4030

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