

# STENOGRAPHERS GETTING BACK TO OUR FUTURE



## NORTH CAROLINA COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION

The Graylyn Estate

1900 Reynolda Road, Winston-Salem, NC

April 5 - 6, 2025

**Total Credits: 1.00 (pending)**

### Saturday, April 5, 2025

- 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Registration (Light continental breakfast provided)
- 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. Zoom Off For Depositions! (.15 credits)  
(by Lerryn Horton Roberds, RPR, AZ CCR)
- 10:00 - 10:30 a.m. Break - Visit the Silent Auction!
- 10:30 - 12:00 p.m. Engaging with the Bench and Bar: What You Need to Know, Part 1  
(by Jeopardizing Justice Panel) (.15 credits)
- 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided
- 1:00 - 1:15 p.m. NCCRA Business Meeting
- 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Engaging with the Bench and Bar: What You Need to Know, Part 2  
(by Jeopardizing Justice Panel) (.15 credits)
- 3:00 - 3:30 p.m. Break - Get those bids in on your favorite auction items!
- 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. Inside the Alex Murdaugh Trial: Steps to take to  
Maintain Order in Chaos (by Mike Watkins) (.15 credits)

Dinner on your own - Have a good evening!

### Sunday, April 6, 2025

- 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. (Light continental breakfast provided)  
Official or Freelance? That is the Question!  
(by Lerryn Horton Roberds, RPR, AZ CCR) (.15 credits)
- 10:00 - 10:30 a.m. Break - Silent Auction final bids - Ends at 10:25 a.m.
- 10:30 - 12:00 p.m. War Stories (with Kristy Clark) (.15 credits)
- 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. Lunch will be provided with Brief Bingo (.10 credits)

Saturday, April 5, 2025

8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Registration (Light continental breakfast provided)

8:30 - 10:00 a.m. Zoom Off For Depositions! (.15 credits)  
(by Lerryn Horton Roberds, RPR, AZ CCR)

With the onslaught of Zoom depositions, more and more reporters are becoming unwilling to hit the road and take on the in-person depositions. In this presentation, Lerryn will discuss how we need to get back to our roots and cover these remote depositions, including how to be prepared for the often unexpected issues that can arise when on the road. The attendees will be presented with the advantages to the in-person deposition as opposed to Zoom, and then be reminded of the old ways of court reporting which creates memories unsurpassed by a computer screen. Lerryn will talk about her amazing travels around Northern Arizona to include the Grand Canyon, the vast Navajo Nation, the stunning Lake Powell, and many experiences too voluminous to list here. Don't miss this one!

10:00 - 10:30 a.m. Break - Visit the Silent Auction!

10:30 - 12:00 p.m. Engaging with the Bench and Bar: What You Need to Know, Part 1  
(by Jeopardizing Justice Panel) (.15 credits)

Designed to prepare stenographers for meaningful discussions with judges, attorneys, and court administrators about the potential challenges and risks of Automated Speech Recognition (ASR) in legal proceedings. Participants will learn how to effectively articulate the limitations of ASR, including concerns over accuracy, confidentiality, and the potential impacts on justice. The seminar will provide practical tools for court stenographers to advocate for the continued use of stenography, emphasizing the unique value that skilled stenographers bring to preserving reliable and precise court records. Join us to gather information to craft your best elevator speech!

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided

1:00 - 1:15 p.m. NCCRA Business Meeting

1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Engaging with the Bench and Bar: What You Need to Know, Part 2  
(by Jeopardizing Justice Panel) (.15 credits)

Designed to prepare stenographers for meaningful discussions with judges, attorneys, and court administrators about the potential challenges and risks of Automated Speech Recognition (ASR) in legal proceedings. Participants will learn how to effectively articulate the limitations of ASR, including concerns over accuracy, confidentiality, and the potential impacts on justice. The seminar will provide practical tools for court stenographers to advocate for the continued use of stenography, emphasizing the unique value that skilled stenographers bring to preserving reliable and precise court records. Join us to gather information to craft your best elevator speech!

3:00 - 3:30 p.m. Break - Get those bids in on your favorite auction items!

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

**INSIDE THE ALEX MURDAUGH TRIAL: STEPS TO TAKE TO  
MAINTAIN ORDER IN CHAOS (by Mike Watkins) (.15 credits)**

\*Mike will talk about keeping inventory of 800 plus exhibits...including many rifles and a lot of ammunition...in a very small area.

\*How to ease stress by maintaining your daily routine while working out of town

\*Being able to navigate in a small town while being part of a high profile media event

\*Keeping your composure while the whole country...or world for that matter...watch daily

\*Trust your training when the pressure is on

\*Dealing with the prosecution and the defense in a professional manner

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**Sunday, April 6, 2025**

8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

**Official or Freelance? That is the Question!**

**(by Lerryn Horton Roberds, RPR, AZ CCR) (.15 credits)**

Lerryn has under her belt 21 years as an Official Court Reporter and 25 years as a Freelance Firm Owner, with three of those years overlapping. Lerryn will discuss the pros and cons of each role and how they relate to each other. During this presentation, Lerryn will talk about high-profile jury trials she has taken and challenges encountered in that role as an Official. Lerryn will also discuss her experience of being a freelance reporter and firm owner and the different experiences she's encountered, as well. After this presentation, without a doubt, the attendee will have a grasp on where they feel they fit in our profession and understand the challenges that each role presents!

10:00 - 10:30 a.m.

**Break- Silent Auction final bids - Ends at 10:25 a.m.**

10:30 - 12:00 p.m.

**War Stories (with Kristy Clark) (.15 credits)**

Please join us for this interactive seminar about all the adventures and perils faced by court reporters. Our North Carolina Court Reporters Association vice president, Kristy Clark, will lead this seminar where our members will be asked to share their own stories as she shares some of her most interesting experiences. We will cover some of the strangest, heart-breaking, and funniest assignments we have been on. This seminar will also focus on teaching each other and our new and student reporters through the experiences and challenges shared by our seasoned reporters and myself; i.e., addressing overspeaking, combative attorney(s), requesting read and sign but no order, unusual location circumstances, unusual requests, equipment hiccups, how we look to and follow the North Carolina and NCRA rules.

12:15 - 1:15 p.m.

**Brief Bingo (Lunch will be provided) (.10 credits)**

Who doesn't love a good bingo game? Come prepared to learn MANY new briefs as we get creative on the bingo card and provide prizes for finding the matches. Share your briefs as well with your tablemates and take home your bingo card after to learn all the new briefs!

## Speaker Bios



**LERRYN HORTON ROBERDS, RPR, AZ CCR**, attended Legal Arts of Arizona, a premier court reporting school in Phoenix, Arizona, graduating in 1982. Upon completion of school, Lerryn traversed the country to work for the State of Maine Courts assigned to the circuit court northern district traveling from Bangor north to Caribou. After two years traveling the circuit in Maine to the most remote and historic courthouses imaginable, Lerryn was contacted by the Honorable Barry DeRose in Gila County, Arizona, and asked to “Come Home”. That began the stint in the Arizona Superior Courts where Lerryn spent the next 18 years covering Superior Courts in seven counties. In 1999, Lerryn made a change and started Performance Reporters in Flagstaff, Arizona, and continues to work as a freelance Court Reporter traveling the vast area of Northern Arizona and the most unique assignments one could imagine.



**MIKE WATKINS** started his court reporting career in 1991, when he began working in Jasper, Alabama for Walker County Court Reporting. From there he moved to Florence, Alabama, to work with Clark and Bishop Court Reporting. He stayed on with Bishop Court Reporting until 1995 when he began an officialship for Lauderdale County, Alabama. There he worked for Judges Don Patterson, Alice Martin, and Mike Jones.

In 2000, he moved to the Upstate of South Carolina, where he worked in Charlotte, freelancing with the firm of Adams and Holt. In 2002, Mike realized he missed the courtroom and applied to the State of South Carolina to be an official court reporter, and he held that position until March of 2024 when he resigned to file to run for the office of Clerk of Court of Lancaster County, SC. He was elected November 5, 2024, and was sworn in on January 2, 2025.

In the last 21 years, Mike has worked several high profile cases, two of which were State versus Jamie Baldwin (featured on Dateline) and the State versus Alex Murdaugh (featured on Court TV, Netflix, Dateline, 20/20, and others.)



**KRISTY CLARK, RPR, CRR, CSR**

Kristy Clark began her court reporting career in August of 2001 in Las Vegas, Nevada, where she spent her first 10 years doing primarily freelance deposition work. During her last seven years in Las Vegas, she worked with a judge covering medical malpractice, personal injury, breach of contract, and construction defect trials and providing the judge with a daily real time output. This trial work enabled her to begin providing real time and daily transcripts for a firm covering federal trials across the country. In 2018, Kristy moved to Charlotte, North Carolina, and has been covering freelance deposition work as well as still traveling to cover federal trials. Also, during her career in Nevada, she served on the Nevada Court Reporters Association for 10 years in various positions, including president. Kristy also served on the NCRA TRAIN Committee in 2014 and has attended annual NCSA meetings as the Nevada delegate. Currently she holds her RPR, Nevada CCR, California CSR, as well as Notary Public for the states of Maryland, Virginia, Washington DC, and North Carolina.



## Jeopardizing Justice Panel (possible presenters)



**PHYLLIS CRAVER LYKKEN, FAPR, RPR, CSR**

Phyllis Craver Lykken began her reporting career in 1980 as a freelance reporter. She is a former firm owner. She holds the nationally recognized certification of Registered Professional Reporter (RPR), and is certified to practice in WA and OR. She is a Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters (FAPR). At the national level, Craver Lykken served as chair and member of the National Court Reporters Association (NCRA) STRONG Committee. She has served on numerous other NCRA committees, on the National Congress of State Associations Governing Board, as an NCRA Regional Representative, and on the NCRA Board of Directors. She's presented at NCRA's Annual Conference & Expo, numerous webinars, and multiple state association seminars. She was one of the authors of NCRA's White Paper on the risks emerging surrounding the use of AI/ASR in legal settings. At the state level, Craver Lykken has held many positions with the Washington Court Reporters Association (WCRA), including serving as president on three occasions and co-president once. She's been a fierce legislative advocate, serving as WCRA's Legislative Committee Co-chair for many years. She once appeared before the Washington Supreme Court (WSC) to brief a proposed court rule amendment. She played an instrumental role with WCRA, the Washington State Bar Association (WSBA), and the WSC in enacting an emergency order to allow for remote oath administration during COVID. In addition, she was appointed by the WSC to serve on the WSBA Character and Fitness and Limited Licensed Technician (LLLT) Boards.



**DEBBIE DIBBLE, FAPR, RDR, CRR, CRC, CSR/CCR**

Debbie has been serving our profession for over two decades on a state level and national level, serving as the 2021-2022 president of NCRA. During those years she has been a sought-after speaker for state associations, national leadership events, as well as legal bar and paralegal associations sharing information gathered during her participation in national and state platforms invested in researching the impacts and risks being promulgated by the undocumented and unchecked use of artificial intelligence and digital recording that is depriving citizens of their rights, risking the accuracy of the record, and jeopardizing justice.



**SUE A. TERRY, FAPR, RPR, CRR, CRC**

Sue presently serves as an official court reporter in the Common Pleas Court of Xenia, Ohio. She is a past president of the National Court Reporters Association, the Ohio Court Reporters Association, and the StenoCat Users Network. She has chaired and served numerous NCRA committees and task forces, including Technology Evaluation, Discover Steno, Nominating, Finance, Distinguished Service Award, Education Content, TRAIN Task Force, Communications and Outreach, and numerous additional task forces. Sue chaired the NCRA STRONG Committee, the authors of the NCRA White Paper. She has served on the Gigatron Advisory Committee, the SUN Liaison Committee, Thomson Reuters Livenote Advisory Committee, and is a frequent presenter for the National Court Reporters Association, Ohio Court Reporters Association, the Ohio Supreme Court, bar and paralegal groups, and many state court reporting associations. Sue is a Registered Professional Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter and Certified Realtime Captioner. She has received the distinction of being inducted as a Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters. She is also the only person in NCRA's long history to receive both the NCRA Distinguished Service Award and the Jim Bouley Family Altruism Award in the same year.



### ELIZABETH HARVEY, FAPR, RPR, CCR, CSR

Liz has been a freelance stenographic reporter for over 25 years. Based in Seattle, Washington, she has held multiple positions in her state association, including one term as president. Liz currently serves as WCRA's legislative co-chair. As a member of the National Court Reporters Association, she was named a Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters. She has served on NCRA's Committee on Professional Ethics and the Congress of State Associations, including one term as chair. As a member of the NCRA Strong Committee, she helped author NCRA's white paper on issues surrounding the use of AI and has participated in many seminars and panels on this topic.



### DOUGLAS BETTIS

Doug is an official court reporter for the Summit County Common Pleas Court. Prior to his current position, he worked as an official reporter for Columbiana and Carroll Counties covering criminal, civil, domestic relations, and grand jury proceedings. Prior to that, he was a stenographer for two juvenile courts. Douglas is a regular presenter at the Ohio Court Reporters Association's Annual Conferences. He also serves as the Ohio Court Reporters Association Supreme Court Liaison and serves on the Ohio Judicial Conference CPET Committee.



### KIMBERLY FALGIANI, RDR, CRC, CRR, CSR

Kim has been a court reporter for 44 years. She has been an official, freelance reporter, business owner, broadcast captioner, CART provider, and is currently an official court reporter. Kim is secretary of the Ohio Court Reporters Association, Chair of the NCRA Captioning Committee, and was a member of the NCRA STRONG Committee. She was a contestant in the 2021 attempt at the Guinness world record in Las Vegas, Nevada.



### LILLIAN FREILER, FAPR, RMR, CMRS

Lillian started her career as an official court reporter for the common pleas court in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. Having retired from that position in 1997, she continued in the profession as a freelance reporter until 2023. Lil is presently scoping and doing transcription work for the courts of Utah. She continues to be an active member of the National Court Reporters Association. Lil has served as past president of the Pennsylvania Court Reporters Association. She has served on many



### MARY E. PIERCE, CA CSR

Mary has been licensed in the State of California since July 1983 as a certified shorthand reporter. From 1983 to 2001, Mary worked as a staff reporter for two different agencies in the greater Los Angeles area. Since January 2002, she has owned and operated Pantera Court Reporters in Huntington Beach, California. Mary served on the Board of Directors of the Deposition Reporters Association of California (CalDRA) from February of 2018 until April of 2022 in various capacities, including as president from 2020 to 2022. She is now the co-chair of the legislative committee for CalDRA.

Mary has published several articles, including the April 2022 article in The Daily Journal entitled “Make Sure Your Court Reporter Is Really A Court Reporter,” a widely circulated article that she co-authored with Melissa Buchman, a family law attorney in Beverly Hills. From 2022 to 2024, when it was disbanded, Mary was a member of the highly respected and incredibly hard working NCRA STRONG Committee, a group dedicated to exposing the truth and educating all those who use court reporting services about the pitfalls, shortcoming and dangers of digitally recording legal proceedings and the use of AI/ASR in the transcript thereof.



### ROBIN L. NODLAND, FAPR, RDR, CRR, CSR, CCR

Robin has been a court reporter since 1980. She and her business partner, Carol Studenmund, founded LNS Court Reporting in 1987 and LNS Captioning in 1992. Robin is a past president and current treasurer of the [Oregon Court Reporters Association \(OCRA\)](#). She has chaired several OCRA committees, including Annual Convention Committee, Spring Convention Committee, Seminar Committee, Public Relations Committee, and Nominating Committee. In 2016 Robin was honored by OCRA with the William W. Tremaine Distinguished Service Award. She also served on the Oregon State Court

Administrator’s Certified Shorthand Reporters Advisory Committee for over a decade. Robin is a longtime member of the [National Court Reporters Association](#). She co-chaired NCRA’s Technology Committee and has served on the Finance Committee, Education Content Committee, Firm Owners Strategic Planning Committee, Nominations Committee, the Distinguished Service Committee, and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. Robin has competed in NCRA’s realtime contest, placing fourth overall in 2005 and winning a third place Q&A medal in 2008. In 2015 Robin was named a member of NCRA’s Fellows of the Academy of Professional Reporters (FAPR). Robin and Carol are longtime NCRF Angels.



### SIERRA ZANGHI, RSR, CCR

Sierra began her career as a freelance reporter before becoming an official reporter at Snohomish Superior Court in Everett, Washington. She served on the NCRA Strong Committee for two years and is currently a Washington State delegate to the NCRA Congress of State Associations (NCSA). She also acts as the Student Outreach Coordinator for the Washington State Court Reporters Association.





### STEFANIE ALLISON, RPR, CSR

Stefanie Allison, RPR, CSR, is an official court reporter in the Omaha, Nebraska metro area. Stefanie served on the Nebraska Court Reporters Association board as the official member at large for four years, and currently serves as president elect. Stefanie spearheaded organizing Nebraska's official reporters to push for a salary study which resulted in increases in page rates and salaries. Stefanie presented at NCRA's National Conference in 2022 and has served on the STRONG committee. Stefanie remains a liaison to the Nebraska Administration of the Courts and Probation on behalf of the court reporters and participates in as many bar association events and Supreme Court functions as possible to keep herself apprised of any happenings that could or would affect court reporters.



### DYANN BERNDT, CSR, RPR

Dyann Berndt is a certified, licensed freelance stenographic court reporter working in the Chicago area of Illinois. She has enjoyed using her skills in various ways within the field of court reporting as a CART (Communication Access to Real-Time) reporter for students who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as an official court reporter for the Circuit Court of Cook County. She is a current member of the Certified Shorthand Reporters Board in Illinois. She is also an Illinois State Board of Education trained advocate for students with disabilities. In her precious little spare time, she enjoys political activism and gardening.



### LISA MIGLIRORE BLACK, CCR

Lisa Migliore Black, CCR-KY, served as vice chair of NCRA STRONG and has served on NCSA, Ethics First, and the Task Force on Contracting. She is a past president of the Kentucky Court Reporters Association and has received the KYCRA Distinguished Service Award.