



CONTACT:
Annemarie Roketenetz
aroketenetz@ncra.org
703-969-6363

National Court Reporters Association
12355 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 610
Reston, VA 20191-3492
Tel: 703-556-6272 • Fax: 703-391-0629
800-272-NCRA (6272) • NCRA.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Annemarie Roketenetz, Director, Communications & Public Relations,
aroketenetz@ncra.org or 703/969-6363 (text or call)

Local Contact: Dolores Rene Wood
drenewood@ocourtreporters.com (951) 777-1200



Local court reporter advocates for the profession on Capitol Hill *Dolores Rene Wood, RPR, meets with lawmakers in Washington, D.C.*

Riverside, Calif., Feb. 11, 2025 — Dolores Rene Wood, RPR, a freelance court reporter from Riverside, Calif., joined members representing state court reporting associations from around the country at the 2025 National Court Reporter Association's (NCRA) Leadership & Legislative Boot Camp, held in Alexandria, Va., Feb. 2-4. She received leadership and advocacy training before heading to Capitol Hill to meet with staff members Phillip Huynh from Rep. Ami Bera's office, Eileen Lee from Rep. Mike Levin's office, Crystal Sung from Rep. Nancy Pelosi's office, Nick Melcher from Rep. Mark DeSaulnier's office, Adrienne Castro from Rep. Mark Takano's office, Collin Nelson from Sen. Alex Padilla's office, and Dahvi Cohen from Sen. Adam B. Schiff's office, on Feb. 4. NCRA is the country's leading organization representing stenographic court reporters, captioners, and legal videographers.

NCRA's Leadership & Legislative Boot Camp is a unique opportunity offered by the Association to teach attendees how to advocate for court reporting, captioning, legal videography, scopist, and associated legal professions. This training is invaluable when it comes to ensuring the efforts of NCRA members at the grassroots, state, or national level are successful when meeting with their legislators, and it prepares them to be skillful in the promotion and protection of the value stenographic court reporters and captioners bring to accurately capturing the record.



CONTACT:
Annemarie Roketenetz
aroketenetz@ncra.org
703-969-6363

National Court Reporters Association
12355 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 610
Reston, VA 20191-3492
Tel: 703-556-6272 • Fax: 703-391-0629
800-272-NCRA (6272) • NCRA.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NCRA Boot Camp attendees have the opportunity to participate in concentrated sessions and training that teaches them the skills and strategies necessary to effectively advocate for their profession in their state legislatures and in Congress, as well as participate in real-life scenarios where they can put their newly learned advocacy skills into practice and network with other NCRA members who are passionate about their profession.

While meeting with the legislative staff, NCRA members advocated for her to support the value of the stenographic profession by sponsoring and supporting a proposed bill that would establish a task force to address the emerging legal and ethical issues related to the potential usage of AI in the U. S. judicial system.

NCRA members shared with her legislators “[Emerging Ethical and Legal Issues Related to the Use of Artificial Intelligence \(AI\), Automatic Speech Recognition \(ASR\), Voice Cloning, and Digital Audio Recording of Legal Proceedings](#),” a white paper by NCRA that highlights the emerging ethical issues related to the implementation of artificial intelligence in the U.S. judicial system. The paper was written to serve as a crucial reminder to courts, lawyers, and justice advocacy groups of the importance of ensuring the integrity of the nation’s court records.

In the past, NCRA Boot Camp attendees have advocated lawmakers for the reauthorization of the Training for Realtime Writers grants under the Higher Education Act passed by Congress in 2009. The Act created a competitive grant program to train realtime writers to provide both captioned information and communication access for the 30 million Americans who are deaf and hard of hearing. Programs established with past grants also aided working reporters in learning and polishing realtime skills.

“It is an honor to participate in NCRA’s Legislative Boot Camp, not only because of the skills we are taught about speaking to members of the House and Senate, but also in speaking to many of our colleagues in other states,” said Wood, a 25+ veteran of the court reporting profession who recently retired from the Riverside Superior Courts to launch her own court reporting firm.

“As we unify with members from other state associations, we are learning about what other states are experiencing with court reporter shortages and what states are implementing to solve those problems. My takeaway from this experience is that you need to believe in your message. Having a clear mind and knowing how to present information to others so that they can understand what you are communicating is a skill. Proper communication – how you dress, how you conduct yourself, how you present an idea, being able to acknowledge how someone is hearing your message, whether they are interested or feeling dismissive – is a skill we were enhancing, and one skill I will continually be learning,” she added.



CONTACT:
Annemarie Roketenetz
aroketenetz@ncra.org
703-969-6363

National Court Reporters Association
12355 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 610
Reston, VA 20191-3492
Tel: 703-556-6272 • Fax: 703-391-0629
800-272-NCRA (6272) • NCRA.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“It helps to be critiqued and guided in the best ways possible to advocate for our profession, and I received that assistance. I think this year’s NCRA Legislative Boot Camp was extremely valuable, and I would encourage more court reporters to participate. We need to stick together to advocate for our amazing profession.”

The court reporting and captioning professions offer viable career choices that do not require a four-year college degree and yet offer good salaries, flexible schedules, and interesting venues. There is currently an increasing demand for more reporters and captioners to meet the growing number of employment opportunities available nationwide and abroad. Court reporters and captioners rely on the latest in technology to use stenographic machines to capture the spoken word and translate it into written text in real time. These professionals work both in and out of the courtroom capturing the official record for legal cases and depositions, providing live captioning of events, and assisting members of the deaf and hard-of-hearing communities with gaining access to information, entertainment, educational opportunities, and more.

To arrange an interview with a working court reporter or captioner, or to learn more about the lucrative and flexible court reporting or captioning professions and the many job opportunities currently available, contact pr@ncra.org.

[About NCRA](#)

The National Court Reporters Association (NCRA) has been internationally recognized for promoting excellence among those who capture and convert the spoken word to text for more than 125 years. NCRA is committed to supporting its more than 12,000 members in achieving the highest level of professional expertise with educational opportunities and industry-recognized court reporting, educator, and videographer certification programs. NCRA impacts legislative issues and the global marketplace through its actively involved membership.

Forbes has named court reporting as one of the best career options that do not require a traditional four-year degree. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the court reporting field is expected to be one of the fastest areas of projected employment growth across all occupations. According to 247/WallSt.com, the court reporting profession ranks sixth out of 25 careers with the lowest unemployment rate, just 0.7 percent. Career information about the court reporting profession—one of the leading career options that do not require a traditional four-year degree—can be found at NCRA DiscoverSteno.org.