BEWARE

Several large national court reporting agencies have begun a campaign to introduce Digital Recordists (or "Digital Reporters" as they prefer to call them) as a substitute for Certified Court Reporters in depositions and hearings. It won't save you any money – but it will save them.

Q	What is a Digital Recordist?
A	**He or she is a person with a digital recording device and microphones. We called them "tape recorders" in the analog days.**
Q	How is a transcript captured?
A	**The Digital Recordist presses "record" at the beginning of the matter, and "Stop" when it's over.**
Q	And then that Digital Recordist types it up later from the audio recording?
A	**No, it's then outsourced, domestically or abroad, to a Transcriptionist, who performs the typing portion.**
Q	What if the Transcriptionist cannot hear or understand what is said on the recording?
A	**Then you get "inaudible" in the transcript.**
Q	Are these Digital Recordists licensed by any governmental body as Certified Court Reporters are?
A	**No, there is no licensing required to press "Record."**
Q	Under what authority can either the Digital Recordist or Transcriptionist "certify" the transcript?
A	**There is no authority.**
Q	Under NJ Court Rules and Regulations, if a Certified Court Reporter is used, the "reading & signing" of the transcript is waived. If I use a Digital Recordist/Transcriber, will the witness be able to correct their testimony through reading and signing?
A	**Yes.**
Q	Are there any rules that I can turn to if I do not want Digital Recordists handling my depositions?
A	**Yes, Rule 45:15B-9, PRACTICE WITHOUT A CERTIFICATE PROHIBITED. *"No person shall engage in the practice of court reporting in this State unless the person has first obtained a certificate from the board as provided pursuant to P.L. 2005, c.308.b."***

CERTIFIED COURT REPORTERS
SKILLED – LICENSED – and LEGAL

THE RECORD IS TOO IMPORTANT FOR SUBSTITUTES