



CCRA-NJ 2024 March Virtual Convention

Saturday, March 23, 2024

Live, Virtual via Zoom Meeting
8:45am-3:00pm ET

PRICING

Member \$175

Non-Member \$275

For an Additional \$50, Non-Members will receive a 2024 CCRA-NJ Membership - \$325

Associate \$100

Student \$10

CE POINTS: (5.0 NJ CE/ .50 NCRA CEU)

REGISTER HERE!

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PROGRAM

8:45am ET Join Meeting; Welcoming Comments from CCRA-NJ Leadership

SESSION 1

9:00pm-10:00am ET

Hollywood and the Court Reporting World Collide!

(1.0 NJ CE / .10 NCRA CEU)

Everyone's favorite daytime judge, Judge Judy, made sure to have a certified stenographer at her side for her new show Judy Justice. The perfect reporter for the job was Whitney Kumar. She is a California CSR who owns KW Court Reporting with her twin sister Kamryn. Come learn about her unique experience and tips on evolving your court reporting career. This seminar is 1 hour.

Attendees will learn:

- *How can you overcome challenge thresholds?*
- *How can you build confidence in your court reporting career?*
- *Why is getting uncomfortable sometimes the best thing for you?*

Presented by:



Whitney Kumar is the Court Stenographer for Judge Justice, the landmark courtroom program featuring Judge Judy Sheindlin from Amazon FreeVee, Amazon’s free streaming service. Whitney is a graduate of South Coast College and has been a deposition and official reporter in California since 2006. Whitney boasts a highly diverse skill set as a certified shorthand reporter due to her tenure as an official reporter within the Los Angeles Superior Court where she reported many high-profile cases. With extensive experience reporting cases from deposition through the courtroom, Whitney has garnered a deep knowledge of the entire life cycle of civil cases in California. While at the Los Angeles Superior Court, she led the official record for high-profile cases such as Britney Spears v. Kevin Federline, Mel Gibson v. Oksana Grigorieva, and the Los Angeles Dodger owners Frank

McCourt v. Jamie McCourt. Drawing on her love of reporting and her expertise within the courtroom, Whitney founded KW Court Reporting with her twin sister Kamryn in 2013.

10:00am-10:15am ET

BREAK

SESSION 2

10:15am-11:45am ET

Focused Practice with Allie Hall

(1.5 NJ CE / .15 NCRA CEU)

Ever wonder if you are practicing effectively? Whether you are a working reporter, new professional, or a student, this focused practice session will teach you how to build hand speed, how to work on accuracy, how to prioritize your practice, how to keep your anxiety and nerves under wraps, and how to ensure that all practice is focused to maximize results. This seminar is 90 minutes.

Attendees will learn:

- *How to effectively build hand speed*
- *Make the most of every practice session*
- *Tips to keep testing anxiety at bay*
- *How to carve practice sessions into a busy schedule*

Presented by:



Allison M. Hall, RDR, CRR, CSR Allison is a court reporter of 25 years and currently works as a freelance reporter. Allison teaches motivated court reporters how to pass their certification tests. Allison also teaches eager court reporting students at Tulsa Community College, Oklahoma State University Oklahoma City, and The College of Court Reporting.

Allison enjoys public speaking and has taught seminars on shortening writing styles, efficiency, the future of court reporting, how to be an effective mentor, focused practice, and legal education seminars to both judges and attorneys.

11:45am-12:00pm ET

BREAK

SESSION 3

12:00pm-1:00pm ET

Day in the Life of a House Official Reporter

(1.0 NJ CE / .10 NCRA CEU)

Our team will provide a glimpse of the long history of the House Office of Official Reporters, discuss the general organizational structure and types of support services that the House Office of Official Reporters provides to the United States House of Representatives, and finally, offer a synopsis of the day in the life of a reporter working on Capitol Hill, including reporting on the House floor and committee assignments. The team will also provide an overview on the role that the House Office of Official Reporters play for significant historical events, such as the President's State of the Union Address, other Joint Sessions and Meetings of Congress, special investigations and select committees of Congress, and the Inauguration of the President.

Attendees will learn:

- *The different support services and organizational structure the House Office of Official Reporters provide the United States House of Representatives*
- *A synopsis of what it's like to be a reporter working on Capitol Hill*
- *The roles reporters have played in significant historical events*

Presented by:

Katy Zamora, RMR, CRR, has been working at the House of Representatives for 10 years as an Official Reporter supporting committee assignments. Originally from Albuquerque, New Mexico, Katy graduated court reporting school in 2007 and began working as an Official Reporter at the Second Judicial District Court in Albuquerque. In 2009, she moved to Washington, D.C. where she worked as a Freelance Reporter. From 2010 to 2013, Katy began working as an Official Reporter at D.C. Superior Court. She then returned to freelancing until accepting the position as Official Reporter for the House in early 2014. Katy lives in a condo in Capitol Hill with her husband and their dog Wesley. She enjoys traveling and spending time outdoors hiking and biking.

Julie Schoettle, RPR, has been working at the House of Representatives for almost 2 years as an Official Reporter supporting committee assignments. Julie relocated from Lansdale, Pennsylvania with her family to pursue her dream career. Julie graduated from Arcadia University with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, minor in business administration. From there, she enrolled in Orleans Technical Institute for Court Reporting. After graduating, she went to work in the First Judicial District

of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. After about a year working in the city, Julie accepted a position at the Montgomery County Courthouse in Norristown, Pennsylvania for 11 years. She has worked in court providing realtime to counsel and the judge, did some brief work in CART at local colleges helping deaf students. In 2022, Julie accepted a position as an Official Reporter for the House of Representatives. Julie has 4 sons and a cat named Hank. Julie also enjoys spending time in the kitchen making homemade pasta, among other things.

1:00pm-1:15pm ET

BREAK

SESSION 4

1:15pm-2:45pm ET

AI: Court Reporters' New Sidekick

(1.5 NJ CE / .15 NCRA CEU)

In this workshop, Tamara Chapman will guide you through the evolving landscape of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its practical applications for court reporting. You'll gain insights into the history and mechanics of AI, explore essential AI tools for enhancing your reporting skills, learn how to efficiently compile and update your personal dictionaries, and master the art of leveraging AI for both clarifying unclear testimonies and handling various tech-related issues. With Tamara's extensive experience and innovative approaches, you'll be well-equipped to integrate AI into your professional practice, ensuring you stay at the forefront of the court reporting field.

Attendees will learn:

- **AI: A Journey Through Time**
Understand the evolution of Artificial Intelligence, its potential, and its boundaries.
- **Tools of AI**
Delve into the world of chatbots: how to use them, their advantages, pitfalls, and privacy aspects.
- **Beyond Job Prep: Dictionaries**
Uncover strategies for crafting comprehensive word lists and incorporating fresh briefs into your dictionary.
- **AI as Your Assistant for Appearance Pages**
Master the art of enlisting chatbots to locate attorneys, gather their details for appearance pages, and access their bio pages.
- **Demystifying Testimonies with AI**
Learn to harness chatbots for clarifying ambiguous terms or phrases found in testimonies.
- **Hands-On Practice**
Engage in constructing word lists, crafting sample sentences, and developing tailored dictations, inclusive of question-and-answer styles.
- **Self-Service Tech Solutions**
Discover how to leverage AI for swiftly addressing technical problems.

Presented by:

Tamara Chapman, a seasoned freelance reporter since 1998, is a tech-savvy professional committed to innovation in court reporting. With certifications including CSR, RPR, and CRR, she's well-versed in the latest technologies and AI applications. Tamara is known for her dynamic workshops, covering everything from audio setups and CAT software to Zoom functionalities and AI tools. As the Committee Chair for the Texas Deposition Reporters' Association and administrator of a popular tech-focused Facebook Group, she offers invaluable insights and support to the reporting community.

2:45pm ET Raffles; Closing Comments

Don't miss out on the 50/50 opportunity at this year's convention. Tickets must be purchased at the time of registration!

- \$5 for 8 tickets
- \$10 for 16 tickets
- \$20 for 35 tickets



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CEs will be provided for both NJ State (proof of attendance emailed to you for your records) and NCRA (submitted on your behalf). In order to receive CE credit, **you must be registered for the convention and paid in full, logged in via a device that showcases your full name** (edit the name if you are using someone else's device or account / no nicknames or initials), **take the 'are you still with us' poll that will pop up during each session, and answer the evaluation survey questions.**

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