

CRB* TODAY

COURT REPORTERS
BOARD NEWSLETTER

GUARDING THE RECORD
FOR CONSUMER PROTECTION



Message from the Chair *Toni O'Neill*

CHANGES SOLIDIFY OUR RESOLVE

“**The Times They Are a-Changin’**” is a song written by Bob Dylan and released as the title track of his 1964 album of the same name. The song was ranked No. 59 on *Rolling Stone’s* 2004 list of “The 500 Greatest Songs of All Time.” It was written during a time of political and social upheaval for America.

While not on the same scale, the court reporting industry in California is surely in the midst of great upheaval. Within the last year, several courts across the state have made the decision to stop providing official court reporters in civil courtrooms. From San Francisco and Alameda to Los Angeles and San Diego, civil litigants are now required to privately hire the services of a court reporter in order to create a record to protect their appeal rights.

Confusion seems to reign as laid-off officials enter the freelance marketplace and freelancers are being hired to report in civil courtrooms. When do statutory transcript rates apply? Can reporters charge for realtime services? What constitutes daily copy? These are only samples of the myriad of questions that have been flooding the CRB office -- and not only from court reporters. Attorneys, too, are trying to find their way through the changes in the industry.

It seems there has never been a time when the need for the CRB has been greater. The ultimate consumer of court reporting services – the litigant – is often removed from the practical decisions of arranging for the court reporting services. The litigants are especially vulnerable as they are often unaware that statutory transcript rates even exist. It’s essential that the CRB continue to educate the licensees as well as our consumers to ensure no one is disadvantaged.

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Message continued from cover

Consumer protection can be a challenge in the best of times. In the current world of budget constraints, the CRB has had to really step up to meet the needs of the consumers despite ever-shrinking resources. It's a time to tighten belts, but never at the expense of consumer protection. The court budget cuts plaguing the legal system throughout California prompted Los Angeles Superior Court Presiding Judge Lee Smalley Edmon to say in a recent news release: "These extraordinary actions cut into the core work of the courts. With risks of more reductions on the horizon, we are already rationing justice. The public cannot tolerate any further major service reductions."

"Rationing justice" is in direct conflict with the Board's goals. We are, and will continue to be, champions of access to justice. It's imperative that the Board continue its focus on its mission of playing a major role in ensuring that court reporters provide the highest quality professional services.

It seems apt to add a line from the lyrics of "The Times They Are A-Changin'": "And don't speak too soon for the wheel's still in spin." We don't know how the changes will shake out; we only know that we're in a state of flux. No matter what happens, however, the CRB remains undaunted in its ongoing effort to protect the integrity of the public records and access to justice.

Bill Bolstering Consumer Protection Chaptered

Assembly Bill 2657, authored by Assemblyman Calderon, was chaptered in July, increasing consumer protection for those utilizing a transcript prepared from an electronically recorded proceeding. Existing law allows courts to use electronic recording equipment in a limited civil case, a misdemeanor or infraction case, or for the purpose of monitoring judicial officer performance. If such recording equipment is used, then a transcript may be created. The recently passed legislation requires transcripts created with electronic recording equipment to designate as inaudible or unintelligible any portions of the recording that contain no audible sound or the sounds are not discernible.

This is a significant improvement to consumer protection. Prior to the passage of this legislation, transcribers could — and often did — simply leave out any portion of the recording that was unable to be heard, whether due to overlapping speakers, extraneous background noise or the speaker simply moving away from the microphone. With no indication that anything had been left out, an attorney or litigant receiving the transcript would have no idea the transcript was anything but complete. With the use of the inaudible or unintelligible notations, the consumer is made aware that there is more contained in the recording than is reflected on the paper transcript. A complete, accurate transcript is essential to our justice system as it forms the basis of all appeals.

The Court Reporters Board was contacted by legislative staff as the bill was being analyzed early on in its trek through the Legislature to find out why court reporters were not also required to use an "inaudible" or "indiscernible" parenthetical when preparing court or deposition transcripts as part of this bill's language. The Board explained that not only are they not required to use such parentheticals, a court reporter who used one would likely be subject to discipline against their license on the basis of incompetency. The court reporter has an obligation to interrupt the proceedings for clarification if he or she does not hear something clearly.

Transcript Reimbursement Fund Pro Per Pilot Project: Money Still Available for Provisionally Approved Transcript Payments

As we reported earlier this year, the second half of the two-year Transcript Reimbursement Fund (TRF) pro per pilot project began in January. The program extends cost assistance for transcripts to indigent persons representing themselves. After processing the numerous requests remaining from 2011 and the flood of applications received through April 2, 2012, 131 requests were approved, and the \$30,000 allowance for the current calendar year has been fully allocated.

Since the inception of the project, staff has approved 261 requests and paid out \$39,975.83. There is currently \$19,529.89 that has been allocated but remains unclaimed. This means that staff is awaiting invoices from the certified shorthand reporters (CSRs) for which payments for transcripts were provisionally approved. If the CSRs choose not to bill the Board, they may release the funds by notifying the Board in writing so that the funding may become available to additional indigent litigants.

At this time, completed applications without deficiencies are being held in the event that previously allocated funding becomes available. Since the TRF was included in the now chaptered sunset review bill, SB 1236, the pro per pilot project was extended to January 1, 2017. Therefore, pending applications will be eligible for the additional \$30,000 that is due to be deposited into the fund on January 1, 2013.

CRB Loses Public Board Member

The beginning of June marked the end of the term for Board Member Lori Gualco. Ms. Gualco, who was appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, had served on the Board since 2007.

“We will miss Lori’s presence at our meetings,” noted Board Chair Toni O’Neill. “As an attorney and ultimate consumer of court reporting services, her perspective was very useful to our policy discussions.”

Board Executive Officer Yvonne Fenner added that Ms. Gualco could always be counted on to state her views, no matter how controversial. “Having a dissonant opinion is good as it ensures the Board has a thorough discussion of an issue before reaching a decision,” said Ms. Fenner “She will be missed.”

Any member of the public who is not a licensed CSR and is interested in applying for the vacant seat should contact Lisa Dominguez with the office of the Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez at (916) 319-3736. The Board encourages anyone with an interest in serving the public to consider putting in an application quickly, as the processing time is quite lengthy.

Public Hearing on Proposed Regulation Change Scheduled

Those in the know — aka subscribers to the CRB e-mail notification list — are already aware that the CRB has begun the process to amend the gift-giving regulation, 16 CCR, section 2475(a)(8). There has been confusion in the industry about how to interpret “per person or entity.” Some have incorrectly interpreted the existing language to mean \$100 per person within an entity. The proposed change will clarify that interpretation.

A public hearing to accept oral or written comments was held on Monday, October 1, 2012, with the public comment period closing at 5:00 p.m. that same day. Possible amendments to the proposed language as a result of comments received will be discussed at the upcoming Board meeting in Sacramento on Friday, October 12, 2012.

For the exact language of the proposed regulation change, visit our Web site: www.CourtReportersBoard.ca.gov or contact Paula Bruning at Paula.Bruning@dca.ca.gov.

CSRs Needed for Exam Workshops

If you currently work as a CSR and your license is in good standing, *we need you*. The CSR exam development process involves a series of workshops that requires active CSR participation. Without valuable subject matter expert input, the workshops cannot take place, and without a good supply of test questions in the test bank, the CRB will not be able to continue to offer the written exam three times per year.

For the health and growth of the industry, please consider accessing the CRB calendar at www.CourtReportersBoard.ca.gov to see if any of the upcoming exam workshop dates might work for you. Each two-day workshop is held from Friday to Saturday in Sacramento. All travel accommodations are arranged by CRB staff. All workshop participants will be provided with a per diem rate of \$150 per day and travel expenses. Those living farther than 50 miles will also be reimbursed for hotel accommodations at the State approved rate.

Please pass this important message on to reporters you know. The future success of the CSR industry lies with you. For more information on participating in an exam workshop, contact Kim Kale at Kim.Kale@dca.ca.gov.

Examination Statistics

Written Exams				
March 1, 2012 - June 30, 2012		Total	Pass	Overall %
English	Overall	105	33	31.4%
	First Timers	54	22	40.7%
Professional Practice	Overall	88	54	61.4%
	First Timers	55	34	61.8%
November 1, 2011 - February 29, 2012		Total	Pass	Overall %
English	Overall	65	17	26.2%
	First Timers	30	11	36.7%
Professional Practice	Overall	66	35	53.0%
	First Timers	29	17	58.6%

Dictation Exam			
June 2012	Total	Pass	Overall %
Overall	144	20	13.9%
First Timers	56	15	26.8%
February 2012	Total	Pass	Overall %
Overall	100	27	27.0%
First Timers	29	17	58.6%

Technology Update: How Small Can You Go?

There are several scientists who are in a contest to see who can store the most data in the smallest space. Can you imagine storing your media library, health and financial history as well as every bit of data relevant to your life on a device smaller than a staple? According to an article by Elizabeth Svoboda published in the May 2012 issue of *Discover*, this could happen within the decade. Researchers are working with atoms, arranging them in such a way that each takes on the opposite magnetic charge of its neighbor, which allows data to be packed far more closely than in current hard drives.

Why would we need such a device? The demand is a by-product of the increased communication between everything, from your refrigerator to your car to your home heating. All of that data exchange is going to require huge amounts of storage.

Will the quote of the future be: “Now, where did I put that little staple device?”

Student Spotlight



A love for typing first attracted Gabriel Hernandez to court reporting. After studying sign language at San Diego Mesa College, he was looking for a more defined career path. He was exposed to the interesting job of a CSR through a friend's daughter who was working as one and decided to enroll in San Diego's Sage College in July of 2010.

Although still working with language, court reporting adds additional challenges, such as putting aside your emotions and focusing on the job at hand. *"You have to forget your feelings temporarily* and just keep going with your job," says Gabriel. "It's amazing how people can do this," he notes, impressed by his fellow students who have mastered this skill.

Hearing heavy subject matter — and not letting it distract you — is all in a day's work for court reporters. "Today, for example, the teacher was reading a very literary transcript dealing with a brutal crime," says Gabriel. "We'll hear it every day as court reporters, and it's easy to feel for the victims, and the challenge is to suspend your emotions," he says. "You just have to keep reporting."

He does hope to enter the court system after graduation next June and is actively networking with teachers and following up on internship leads in order to make it happen.

For others pondering a CSR education, Gabriel has this advice: "Don't get into it just because you think there's nothing else out there. *It's no easy task.* It takes a lot of time and effort, and you really have to put your all into it."

School Review Update

The Board has initiated Phase I of the two-phased compliance reviews of all recognized court reporting schools in California. Each school is required to submit documentation on faculty qualifications, distance instruction, and academic and other classroom requirements.

Phase II will be the on-site component, affording an opportunity to verify the data representing schools and program delivery. Upon arriving, the team will conduct an orientation session with administrators, followed by a review of files and instructional materials, in addition to interviews with students who volunteer to meet with the review team. The areas of review include positive daily attendance records, student disclosure information, academic and skill development progress, qualifier exams, and availability of library and equipment resources.

On-site visits to schools are planned for 2013; however, budget constraints may impact the timeline.

The reviews provide an opportunity for the CRB team and school administrators to exchange information and discuss current issues. It also allows the CRB team to observe and meet with students at all skill levels who are preparing for future careers as certified shorthand reporters.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q The CRB letter of May 14, 2012, that is on the Internet only addresses transcript fees (Government Code sections 69950 - 69954). Government Code section 69948 addresses court reporter fees of \$55.00 per day. Why was that omitted from the discussion in your May 14 letter?

A The court reporter fees set out in Government Code section 69948 are what the court charges as part of a cost recovery program and apply only to court reporters that are hired for and paid by the court. The amount that a privately-hired court reporter may charge for an appearance fee to work in court is not set in statute, unlike the transcript rates which apply to every court proceeding.

Q I reported a deposition of a plaintiff who was a minor child, suing through her guardian ad litem. The questioning attorney advised the witness she would be referred to as Minor A and not by name. However, at one point the attorney mentioned the plaintiff by name. Plaintiff's attorney immediately jumped in and said it should be redacted from the record. Although defense counsel agreed, I mentioned that I cannot redact the record. Plaintiff's attorney explained that he had an order from the court which would authorize me to redact the minor's name. Although everyone agrees to the redaction, I'm just not comfortable. Will I be placing my license in jeopardy if I comply with their request?

A You are to be commended for your dedication to preserving the integrity of the record, but in this particular case and in light of the court order, you must change the minor's name to Minor A. Minors are very broadly protected under the law, as was probably explained in the court order of confidentiality. It's always a good idea to put any stipulation on the record to avoid questions after the fact.

Q I have recently been hired as an official, and I have had a nonparty request a copy of some transcripts, one of a civil matter, another a criminal case (not juvenile). I have looked everywhere, but can't find anything about whether I am allowed to sell transcripts to non-parties. Can you help?

A Unless there is a court order otherwise, court transcripts are public records and may be sold to nonparties.

Q I'm an attorney with a question. I recently had a deposition in which a court reporter hired by my opposing counsel routinely inserted the following at breaks (eight times):

“(A discussion was held between the witness and his attorneys out of the deposition room.)”

My concern is that this insertion is being made by a court reporter, during a break that should be off the record, and the court reporter has no idea what is occurring outside the deposition room because the court reporter is not there and cannot possibly have known whether a discussion was held or not. In this particular instance, the client is diabetic, and on some of the breaks, the client needed to eat a very small snack. It seems completely inappropriate for a court reporter to place in the record information that is not in the record that indicates behavior that may not have taken place. Is this an appropriate parenthetical for a court reporter to use?

A It is not. As you correctly noted, unless the court reporter was outside of the deposition room and observed the discussion, he or she could not possibly know that such a discussion occurred. Even if the discussion was observed, because it took place outside of the deposition room, it is inappropriate for the court reporter to insert such an observation into the deposition transcript.

Parentheticals are to be used only when necessary to clarify the record. Court reporters should keep in mind they are there to preserve the spoken record. It is up to counsel to note on the record anything they believe is important to the litigation. The court reporter should avoid parentheticals describing demeanor or behavior except in cases where it is absolutely necessary for clarification of the record. Parentheticals should be brief and show no interpretation by the court reporter. If an attorney wants a record of what is happening beyond the spoken word, he or she has the option of hiring a videographer or making whatever statement he or she wishes in an effort to demonstrate what has been observed.

FAQs continued from page 6

Q I understand that the transcript rates set out in Government Code section 69950 apply to court proceedings, but as a freelancer I cannot make it on these rates, paying my own insurance and overhead. To solve this problem I enter into an agreement with the attorneys ahead of time, agreeing to a different rate. Am I correct that as long as everyone agrees beforehand, I'm covered?

A Unfortunately, no. You cannot make an agreement that is outside the law, even more so when it affects a third-party, in this case the litigant. For example, consider a situation in which a litigant fires his attorney and complains to the Board that he/she did not agree to such an arrangement and was overcharged for the transcript. While the Board investigates and considers each complaint individually, based solely on those facts, the Board would require the court reporter to refund all but the statutory rate.

CSR Spotlight:

STEVEN LEE KOSMATA, CSR, RPR, CLR

Steven Kosmata wasted no time in deciding to become a court reporter. All it took was attending his high school's career day.

"I was taking a Gregg shorthand class at the time," Steven remembered. "My curiosity was piqued when I was made to wonder how a court reporter could take down words so quickly when I was struggling along at 50 words per minute?"

After hearing the presentation that day from a working court reporter about the types of cases she reported and learning about the career opportunities, *he was hooked*, and he's been at it for more than 25 years.

"I don't know where the time has gone," said Steven. "I can still remember the thrill of opening up the envelope from the Board telling me that I had passed the CSR test. In fact, I still have the letter and my original license, as well as my first check that I ever earned as a court reporter."

Although he went straight from high school to court reporting school at Bryan College, he did have a few different jobs along the way to help with school financing, one of which was in the music department of the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove where he sang in the televised choir. "I also worked at the Marriott hotel at Los Angeles International Airport in the gift shops where I met various athletes," he said. "And the best real-world training I got was in the back office of a deposition agency called Don

Lippman & Associates in Los Angeles. That's where I grew to appreciate the 'behind the scenes' transcript work required to get it out the door for delivery." Steven is now an official reporter for the San Diego Superior Court.

As an outside hobby, he's taken up couponing to help save money. "I get a thrill from watching my register balance go continually down by clipping," he says. "It's nice to keep the money in my pocket instead of theirs." He said he also enjoys sharing his knowledge of Eclipse software with friends and colleagues at work and at conventions.

Steven says the best aspect of being a court reporter is the opportunity to learn so much more than can come from reading a book.

"Because I primarily do complex civil litigation and hear about contracts, nasty bacteria, mold in places it shouldn't be, accidents, doctors — *every trial is full of challenges, hurdles, and ways to improve.* As far as the best aspects of being a CSR in California, it has always been and will remain the people I have met and work with. You truly are surrounded by very smart people in court, and I like a good-hearted debate about the law and how to interpret things. I also enjoy traveling the world, and this job has allowed me the chance to explore outside my box. But believe it or not, the most enjoyable aspect of my job after more than 25 years is I still enjoy walking into the courthouse ready to work all day in Department 72 with Judge Taylor and staff."



Technology Overhaul to Bring Easier Access, More Efficiency

In 2011, the California Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) launched the BreEZe project — the development and implementation of a customer service center Web portal and ad-hoc reporting tool that will create a standardized enforcement and licensing system for consumers and DCA entities to access online.

Once completed, BreEZe will be the largest online enterprise-wide licensing and enforcement solution in the world, bringing with it improved access to DCA's services, greater ease of use for stakeholders, and improved back-office functionality that will greatly enhance licensing and enforcement efficiency.

The integrated, enterprise-wide enforcement and licensing system will support DCA's needs for applicant tracking, licensing, renewal, enforcement, monitoring, cashiering, and data management. In addition, many of the tasks that were paper-based and time-consuming to complete will now be achievable online more efficiently.

The new technology will begin rolling out in the fall of 2012, with the Court Reporters Board transitioning in spring 2013. All of DCA's Boards and Bureaus will be transitioned to BreEZe over an 18-month period.

The new system means users, including licensees, businesses, and consumers, will be able to do the following online 24/7:

- Apply for or renew a license.
- Pay with a major credit card in a secure environment.
- Track the status of an application or licensing request.
- Submit address changes.
- Obtain proof of renewal status.
- Obtain real-time licensee information.
- File a complaint.
- Track the status of a complaint.

If you have a question about the BreEZe project, e-mail BreEZeProject@dca.ca.gov.

CRB Sunset Bill Chaptered

Those following the progress of Senate Bill 1237 (Price) which extends the CRB's sunset date to January 1, 2017, had a brief flurry of excitement when they received the news that it was being held in committee under submission. Luckily for the CRB, the language pertaining to the Board and the TRF was transferred to Senate Bill 1236 (Price), which was enrolled and subsequently chaptered on September 14, 2012. The Board remains steadfastly committed to the consumer protection mandate given to it by the Legislature.

Internet Captioning Gets a Boost

In June, a U.S. District Court judge ruled that online businesses are subject to the American with Disabilities Act, including captioning for the deaf. The decision was made in the case of *The National Association for the Deaf vs. Netflix*. Netflix has contended that it is not subject to the ADA because it has no physical structure. U.S. District Judge Michael Ponsor rejected the argument and is allowing the lawsuit to proceed, finding that the law prohibits discrimination in any venue, including the Internet.

This could be a step toward requiring Netflix to provide closed-captioning on its video-streaming Web site, if the plaintiff can prove that the ADA requires Netflix to do so. A 1996 federal law required closed-captioning for television programs but did not address online videos. The Federal Communication Commission regulations will require captioning on Internet videos of all post-1996 programs produced in the United States by March 2014. That legislation resulted in an increase in demand for captioning services. The captioning industry as well as the deaf and hard of hearing communities will be following this legislation closely.

Transcript Fee Code Amended

The Court Reporters Board continues to work to educate licensees on applicable rates that can be charged for transcripts of court proceedings, especially as more and more courts move toward the privatization of their civil court reporters. Government Code 69950, which lists the fees for transcripts, was amended by the addition of section (c) and signed into law as a trailer to the budget bill.

It is certainly not news to official court reporters that the transcript fees set out in Government Code 69950 are hopelessly out of date, having been in effect and unchanged for over 20 years. Mindful of the State's budget constraints, court reporters in many counties over the years have been able to negotiate with their court administration an agreement as to a predetermined number of words per page the reporters would be able to charge.

Section (c) states that if a trial court had established transcription fees that were in effect on January 1, 2012, based on an estimate or assumption as to the number of words or folios on a typical transcript page, those fees shall be the fees for proceedings in those trial courts, and the policy or practice for determining transcript fees in those trial courts shall not be unilaterally changed.

Freelance reporters going into court to cover a civil proceeding should be aware of what, if any, agreement regarding transcript fees is in effect.

Strategic Plan Update

The 2012-2014 strategic plan was adopted at the last Board meeting in April, along with an action plan, as goals are only dreams until they are accompanied by a plan of action. An item on the action plan under 2.1 — conduct information sessions on CRB laws and regulations — calls for the Board to network with schools as travel restrictions allow.

In June, Board Executive Officer Yvonne Fenner accepted an invitation from Sage College's court reporting program to speak to students preparing to take the license examination. Before a group of attentive listeners, Ms. Fenner presented information on the Board's mission and role in consumer protection, information on how the license exam is developed, as well as the complaint process.

"It's important to interact with students," said Ms. Fenner, "and I found the group from Sage College to be very inquisitive and enthusiastic about their chosen profession. It's a tough field, so it's always interesting to me to see the kind of people who accept the challenge."

Networking with the schools is one area that has been especially challenging with the current travel restrictions. In fact, the Board has been limited to speaking where the school will host the trip. However, Ms. Fenner is hopeful to be able to interact with more schools in conjunction with mandatory school oversight visits which are scheduled to begin again with Phase II of the current review schedule.

Court Reporters Board of California - Citations and Fines Issued March 2012 - August 2012

RESPONDENT NAME - CITY	LICENSE NO.	DATE ISSUED	VIOLATION	SATISFIED
Hamilton, Collette - Redwood Valley, CA	11610	8/21/2012	Business & Professions Code Section 8016: Engaging in the practice of shorthand reporting without a certificate of licensure in full force and effect. (late renewal)	No
Mobley, Kasey - Riverside, CA	13407	8/20/2012	Business & Professions Code Section 8025 (d) and (e): Unprofessional conduct... availability, delivery, execution and certification of transcripts... (failed to timely produce transcript)	No
Culy, Candyce - Fresno, CA	9065	8/01/2012	Business & Professions Code Section 8025 (d) and (e): Unprofessional conduct... availability, delivery, execution and certification of transcripts... (failed to timely produce transcript)	No
Miller, Shelley - Modesto, CA	9194	6/28/2012	Business & Professions Code Section 8016: Engaging in the practice of shorthand reporting without a certificate of licensure in full force and effect. (late renewal)	Yes
Ikeuye, Noreen - San Francisco, CA	3538	5/14/2012	Business & Professions Code Section 8016: Engaging in the practice of shorthand reporting without a certificate of licensure in full force and effect. (late renewal)	Yes
Gallardo, Yvette - Monterey, CA	12889	4/25/2012	Business & Professions Code Section 8025 (d) and (e): Unprofessional conduct... availability, delivery, execution and certification of transcripts... (failed to timely produce transcript)	No
Gadberry, Sandi - Fresno, CA	3482	4/25/2012	Business & Professions Code Section 8016: Engaging in the practice of shorthand reporting without a certificate of licensure in full force and effect. (late renewal)	Yes
Schlotterbeck, Amy - Diamond Bar, CA	12991	4/13/2012	Business & Professions Code Section 8025 (d): Unprofessional conduct... availability, delivery, execution and certification of transcripts... (failed to produce transcript)	No
Schlotterbeck, Amy - Diamond Bar, CA	12991	4/3/2012	Business & Professions Code Section 8025 (d): Unprofessional conduct... availability, delivery, execution and certification of transcripts... (failed to produce transcript)	No
Morales, Kendra - Alameda, CA	7259	3/29/2012	Business & Professions Code Section 8016: Engaging in the practice of shorthand reporting without a certificate of licensure in full force and effect. (late renewal)	Yes
Schlotterbeck, Amy - Diamond Bar, CA	12991	3/21/2012	Business & Professions Code Section 8025 (d): Unprofessional conduct... availability, delivery, execution and certification of transcripts... (failed to produce transcript)	No

The Citations and Fines remain posted for one year from the date initially issued. To find out whether a specific licensee has ever been issued a Citation and Fine prior to the date shown, or to obtain further information on a specific Citation and Fine, please contact the Board office toll-free at 1-877-3-ASK-CRB (1-877-327-5272).

The above respondents' Citation and Fines that reflect "Satisfied" have been satisfactorily resolved. Payment of a fine is not an admission to the violation.

Court Reporters Board of California - Disciplinary Actions March 2012 - September 2012

The disciplinary actions listed below cover the period of time from March 2012 to September 2012. To find out whether a licensee has had disciplinary action prior to March 2012, or to obtain further information on specific disciplinary action for a licensee listed below, please contact the Board office toll-free at 1-877-3-ASK-CRB (1-877-327-5272).

A disciplinary action is a formal proceeding that includes the basis for the action sought against the licensee. These disciplinary actions are held in front of an Administrative Law Judge and allow for attorney, testimony, and challenges as provided in the legal system. The Administrative Law Judge then issues a decision that the Board can accept, reject, or send back for additional information. Disciplinary cases can result in license suspension and/or a probationary status with conditions.

RESPONDENT NAME - CITY	LICENSE NO.	ACTION	EFFECTIVE DATE	CHARGES
Schantz, Leslie - Carpinteria, CA	13471	Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order; 3 years probation; \$2,500 cost recovery.	09/26/2012	Business & Professions Code Sections 8025 (a) and 490: Conviction of a crime; Section 8025 (c) : misrepresentation in obtaining license renewal; Section 8025 (d): Unprofessional conduct, dishonesty.
Gunter, Diana - El Dorado, CA	8431	Decision and Order; license revocation.	09/10/2012	Business & Professions Code Section 8025 (d): Unprofessional conduct; Section 8025 (e): Repeated unexcused failure... to transcribe notes; CA Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 2480 (d): Failure to pay Citation and Fine or comply with Order of Abatement.
Brewer, Stephan - Fresno, CA	13081	Default Decision and Order; license revocation.	05/29/2012	Business & Professions Code Section 8025 (a): Conviction of a crime; Sections 8025 (d), (f), (h) & (j): Unprofessional conduct, failure to deliver stenographic notes; Section 8025 (h): Failure to comply with Citation and Fine; Section (d): Unprofessional conduct, failure to time produce transcripts.

Court Reporters Board Of California - Disciplinary Actions Pending March 2012 - September 2012

Chapa, Sandi - Hayward, CA	11031	Petition to Revoke Probation	09/14/2012	Petition to Revoke Probation: First Cause - Failure to obey all laws; Second Cause - Failure to submit quarterly reports; Third Cause - Failure to submit supplemental reports; Fourth Cause - Failure to prove use of proofreader; Fifth Cause - Failure to perform within competence.
Heard, Patrick - San Francisco, CA	11055	Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation	07/31/2012	Accusation: Business & Professions Code Section 8025 (e): Repeated unexcused failure... to transcribe notes. Petition to Revoke Probation: First Cause - Failure to obey all laws; Second Cause - Failure to comply with Board's probation program.
Dearmore, Diane - Santa Rosa, CA	12736	Accusation	07/24/2012	Business & Professions Code Section 8025 (d): Unprofessional conduct.
Peters, Ronald - Rancho Cordova, CA	2780	Accusation	07/24/2012	Business & Professions Code Sections 8025 (d): Unprofessional conduct; fraud, dishonesty, and/or corruption in or directly related to the practice of shorthand reporting.
Luciano, Catherine	N/A	Statement of Issues	07/24/2012	Business & Professions Code Sections 8025 (a) and 480 (a)(1): Conviction of a crime; Section 8025 (c): Fraud or misrepresentation in obtaining shorthand reporter certificate; Section 480 (c): False statement in license application; Section 480 (a)(2): Act involving dishonesty or deceit.