

# 5 REASONS

## WHY YOU SHOULD CHOOSE A LICENSED COURT REPORTER

In our state, certified shorthand reporters—commonly referred to as court reporters—are licensed by the Court Reporters Board of California (CRB). To be licensed, a court reporter must demonstrate competency. Using a licensed court reporter is a smart investment to help ensure you receive accurate, timely, and competent transcription service. Here's why:

**1 ACCURACY**—You've only got one chance to accurately capture the legal record. A licensed court reporter provides a word-for-word record and is trained and empowered to ask participants to repeat words, to speak up when necessary, and to clarify technical terms.

**2 QUALIFICATION**—Licensed court reporters must pass a three-part licensing exam and must complete hundreds of hours of training in English, legal and medical terminology, and transcription preparation, plus a minimum of 60 internship hours.

**3 CERTIFICATION**—Not all transcripts are created equal: Only certified transcripts created by a licensed court reporter are guaranteed to be accepted in court.

**4 DOCUMENTATION**—For appeals, the accuracy of transcripts taken during the original proceedings is critical and may impact the ability of your appeals to move forward.

**5 REGULATION**—If a problem or disagreement arises with a licensed court reporter, you can file a complaint with CRB to investigate on your behalf and to ensure the law is followed.

If you need the services of a court reporter, make sure they are licensed by CRB. Find out more about California licensed court reporters, their training and regulation, and their vital services at [www.courtreportersboard.ca.gov](http://www.courtreportersboard.ca.gov); to check a court reporter's license, visit <https://search.dca.ca.gov>.

“First, take great care to prepare a complete record; second if it is not in the record, it did not happen; and third, when in doubt, refer back to rules one and two.”

Justice Rebecca Wiseman, *Protect Our Water v. County of Merced*



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