

FROM THE GROUND UP: Understanding Our Past to Promote Our Future

Friday, April 4, 2025

Sarah Nageotte, FAPR, RDR, CRR, CRC

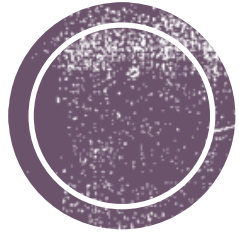


Goals for today's session

- Overview of court reporting and captioning in Ohio
 - Formation and timeline history of the now Ohio Court Reporters Association and the role it has played in the growth of the profession within Ohio
 - Highlighting key programs and successes over the past century
 - Identifying future opportunities and growth for the next century



OHIO STENOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION



At the meeting in September last, at Cincinnati, of the International Association of Shorthand Writers of the United States and Canada, the stenographers present from Ohio organized a State society, to be known as the Ohio Stenographers Association for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a *"standard of proficiency in the profession, and to promote the interests of the same by all proper means."*

Brown & Holland Shorthand News

November 1882

BROWN & HOLLAND

SHORTHAND NEWS.

Vol. I.

NOVEMBER, 1882.

No. 9.

- It is hardly necessary to state to the members of the profession that such an organization can be made of great value to the stenographers of the State, both those who are engaged in court reporting and those who are employed in office work; but to make it as beneficial as it should be it should embrace in its membership a majority of the active stenographers of the State.

November 1882



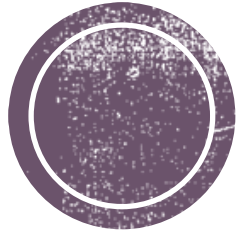
BUREAU OF EDUCATION.
CIRCULAR OF INFORMATION NO. 1, 1893.

SHORTHAND INSTRUCTION AND PRACTICE.

OHIO.—Ohio State Stenographers' Association. President, J. G. Pomerene, Cleveland; first vice-president, Charles J. Hall, Dayton; second vice-president, H. K. Sauder, Akron; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. S. Louise Patteson, Cleveland; librarian, Jerome B. Howard, Cincinnati.

OHIO.—Ohio Stenographers' Association; organized August 14, 1883; membership at date of organization, 70. President, John Collins, Dayton; first vice-president, W. H. Pritchard, New Lisbon; second vice-president, H. K. Sauder, Akron; secretary, Mrs. S. Louise Patteson, Cleveland; librarian, Jerome B. Howard, Cincinnati.





“Ohio stenographers are certainly not backward or bashful about making themselves known, and they can now boast of three associations in the State, and more to come, no doubt.”

Browne's Phonographic Monthly
March 1889

- Ohio State Stenographers' Association
- Cincinnati Stenographers' Association
- Cleveland Stenographers' Association

“HAMMOND” TYPEWRITER.

FAR AHEAD IN SPEED.

689 WORDS

IN

Five Minutes.



144 WORDS

IN

One Minute.



1889



What is phonography?

- **Phonography:** A written or printed representation of the sounds of speech; phonetic spelling or transcription. any system of shorthand based on a phonetic transcription of speech; esp., the system invented by Sir Isaac Pitman.

<i>P</i>	<i>pee</i>	\	<i>T</i>	<i>tee</i>		<i>Ch</i>	<i>chay</i>	/	<i>K</i>	<i>kay</i>	—
<i>B</i>	<i>bee</i>	\	<i>D</i>	<i>dee</i>		<i>J</i>	<i>jay</i>	/	<i>G</i>	<i>gay</i>	—
<i>F</i>	<i>eff</i>	∪	<i>Th</i>	<i>ith</i>	(<i>S</i>	<i>ess</i>)	<i>Sh</i>	<i>ish</i>	∩
<i>V</i>	<i>vee</i>	∪	<i>Dh</i>	<i>thee</i>	(<i>Z</i>	<i>zee</i>)	<i>Zh</i>	<i>zhee</i>	∩
<i>M</i>	<i>em</i>	∩	<i>N</i>	<i>en</i>	∪	<i>Ng</i>	<i>ing</i>	∪	<i>H</i>	<i>hay</i>	6
<i>L</i>	<i>el</i>	∩	<i>R</i>	<i>ray, ar</i>	/∩	<i>W</i>	<i>way</i>	∩	<i>Y</i>	<i>yay</i>	∩



**THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE OHIO STENOGRAPHERS'
ASSOCIATION.**

The following letter has been sent out by
President Sauder, of the Ohio Stenographers'
Association :

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,
OHIO STENOGRAPHERS' ASSOCIATION, }
AKRON, OHIO, June 15; 1895.

“But whether or not you find time to prepare anything, we earnestly hope to meet you. The stenographer’s employment almost compels him to be a recluse; but there is no reason why we may not enjoy the society of our fellow-workmen for a few days, comparing notes, extending our sympathies to each other, and strengthening the bonds of friendship in which we rejoice.”



Mr. Howard reported that pursuant to call issued by him as Executive Committeeman for Ohio, the Ohio stenographers had met at Put-in-Bay, and that the Ohio State Stenographers' Association, which had been dormant for about three years, had been revived, and the proper officers elected and presented the formal application for affiliated membership.

Ohio—Through the kindness of Mr. Howard, I have a synopsis of the statutes of Ohio regulating court reporting. There seems to be a different statute or provision for almost every county. The compensation ranges from \$5 to \$10 per diem, and from \$300 to \$1,800 per year. Transcript fees appear to be uniform at eight cents per folio.

National Shorthand Reporters' Association

2nd Annual Convention/Meeting

August 14-16, 1900

Put-in-Bay, Ohio





W. L. JAMES, Editor.

Volume V

SEPTEMBER, 1910

Number 12

Ohio Shorthand Writers' Organization

BY T. C. JEFFERIES,

Rockefeller Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio.

The Ohio Shorthand Writers' Association!

Why not!



Interesting read from 1914

THE SHORTHAND WRITER

A Magazine for Ambitious Stenographers

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

An Illustrated Monthly Magazine
Devoted to the Interests of Shorthand
Writers of All Standard Systems
of Shorthand

WILLIAM L. JAMES
Editor and Publisher

723 Schiller Building, Chicago

VOL. X. MAY NO. 5

The Shorthand Writer—Advertising Section

STENOTYPY

To Labor **MORE** and Accomplish **LESS**

*Reprinted from the February, 1914, issue
of THE SHORTHAND WRITER.*

A careful exposition by the Editor showing what Stenotypy really is and why it is inferior to Shorthand.

Every shorthand writer should read it and then send copies to friends and acquaintances who may be interested and benefited by it.

*Fifty copies postpaid to one address, \$1;
twenty copies to one address, 50 cents; single
copy, 5 cents.*

THE SHORTHAND WRITER

723 Schiller Bldg., CHICAGO

Tidbits leading up to 1920

Up through 1914, references to different associations (or perhaps the same association but called differently) are found throughout archived journals and magazines:

Ohio Reporters' Association

Ohio Shorthand Writers' Organization

Ohio Shorthand Reporters' Association

Additional references are made and found throughout the early 1900s that the Ohio association had not held meetings for two or three years or the association was essentially dormant.



1920 – Ohio Shorthand Reporters Association

Charter Members

- Miss Nettie Nulton, Zanesville
- Miss Elsie Canby, Xenia
- Mr. Claude M. Johnson, Akron
- Mr. Fred W. Dellenberger, Youngstown
- Mr. A.W. Keplinger, New Philadelphia
- Mrs. Katherine Walsh, Portsmouth
- Miss Woodie Chambers, McConnellsville
- Mr. W.F. Copeland, Cincinnati
- Mr. Rex Bracy, Norwalk
- Mr. A.C. Armstrong, Columbus
- Mr. Glenn P. Bracy, Fremont
- Mr. Walter Watts, Elyria
- Mr. Paul Wisenall, Cincinnati
- Mr. J.F. Bean, Cincinnati
- Mr. Walter Scott, Lima
- Mr. Meade C. Robinson, Marysville
- Mr. John M. Martin, Springfield
- Mr. Charles J. Hall, Dayton
- Mr. Frank I. Brown, Dayton
- Mr. F.B. Hubbard, St. Clairsville
- Mr. Frank Hackett, Toledo
- Mr. Percy H. Howe, Toledo
- Miss Julia S. Howard, Hamilton



1920s

- In 1920, Mr. P.H. Howe, a reporter in Toledo, wanted to start an Ohio Association. He wrote to the National Shorthand Reporters Association and got a list of the Ohio reporters who belonged to the National Association and he wrote a letter asking any reporter interested in forming an Ohio Shorthand Reporters Association to meet him in Columbus on a certain date to discuss the idea.
- Beginning in 1920, an Annual Convention has been held in Ohio except for two years during World War II, and now also in 2020 during the beginning period of COVID-19.
- In 1924, the reporters of the Association recognized the old adage “the record never forgets” and started *The Record*, which modestly announced it would be “issued every once in a while.”



1920s Continued

- In the 1920s, in Ohio, there were 120 officials and 100 independents, as they were known then. Of that number, 42 were paid-up members of the Association – 27 officials and 15 independents representing 33 of 88 Ohio counties.
- In 1925, OSRA's first legislative success came when the then governor signed into law a bill which raised salaries in counties having two or more judges from \$2,400 to \$3,000 per year and the maximum salary in one-judge counties from \$1,800 to \$2,000 per year.
- In the same bill of 1925, the folio rate was increased from .08 cents to .12 cents, and it also changed the designation of stenographer to shorthand reporter in some of the statutes.
- In the mid 1920s, the first efforts of the Association to push for a CSR were seen.



1930s

In 1938, OSRA President Fred Davey and Secretary John Mehler joined NSRA and numerous other state associations in providing testimony and a statement against House Bill 9789

H.R. 9789 was introduced to:

Provide for the recording of the proceedings in one of the courtrooms of the District Court of the United States for the District of Columbia by sound-recording equipment.



1940s

- In 1947, some attorneys were trying to take depositions and some hearing examiners were playing with recorders. Only then it was wire.
 - Demo at 1947 OSRA convention
- On February 23, 1948, John Robert Gregg, age 80, inventor of the Gregg shorthand, system died. As an aside, this was about the time the stenotype machine became accepted as an “acceptable substitute” in the court reporting field, although “that black box” still engendered nervous misgivings in certain members of the bar and judiciary.
- Bill for increases
- Bill for municipal reporters to keep transcript income



1950s

- CSR bill introduced along with statewide notary bill
- June 1951, Ohio houses passed statewide notary and CSR bills
 - Governor vetoed the CSR bill
- Membership and dues stats
 - 1952 dues were raised to \$10
 - First OSRA savings account created with \$500



1960s

- Electronic reporting – tape recorder installation in Ohio courts
 - Use of recordings at depositions – Cuyahoga County case throwing out transcript from tape recorded deposition *Einstein vs. Friedman*
- *The Buckeye Record* introduction
- Legislative action
 - Bill lifting ceiling on official salaries
 - Bill defeated which would have allowed ER in juvenile courts
- CSR Board created to continue work on attaining certification in Ohio



1970s

- Videotape Task Force (KSU)
 - Franklin County experiment
- NSRA delegates
- NSRA proficiency testing
- 1976, Glenn Stiles, “Whether you are a reporter of past or current generation, you must be cognizant of significant trends that are taking place. The most effective way is through an association.”
- OSRA incorporated by state of Ohio
- *The Buckeye Record* gets a new look
- In 1977, OSRA membership was 300 strong



1970s Continued

- Enactment of a new Constitution and Bylaws making Ohio one of the first three state associations to become affiliated with NSRA.
 - *What does this mean?*
- Fall 1978, Ohio Supreme Court studying issue of allowing cameras and tape recorders in courtrooms at all levels on a regular basis



1980s

- Technological age for reporters in Ohio
 - 1981, one of the first CAT seminars presented
- Efforts to secure a CSR once again attempted through the Ohio Supreme Court Rules of Superintendence
- 1982, Bench and Bar luncheon sponsorship began – continued for many years
 - *Groups invited: OSRA, bar associations, paralegal groups, court administrator groups, Ohio Judicial Conference, and Ohio Supreme Court*



1980s Continued

- In 1984, OSRA defeated HB 244, and amendment to ORC Section 119.03(c), which would have allowed state agencies to use electronic monitoring for hearings
- Vendor booths at the Ohio State Bar Association conventions
- 1988, OSRA sponsored a multi-state conference with the executive boards of Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New York – Re: compare notes on the mutual problem of ER and video
- On December 27, 1988, a fire in the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Reporting Department headquarters resulted in the loss of stenographic notes and exhibits for the years 1985-1988
- In 1986, dues were now \$75 and membership was at 463!
- OSRA Cardinal Foundation was founded in the late 1980s



1990s

- Ohio hosts NSRA 1995 convention in Cleveland
 - 1,494 reporters in attendance – 405 were from Ohio!
- 1991: Ohio Court Reporters Association
 - *Controversial change from OSRA to OCRA*
- 1992: Public Relations and Technology Committee endeavors
 - *Presentation with the Ohio Judicial College focusing on the Americans with Disabilities Act*
- 1996: OCRA adopted a contracting policy at the same time the issue was revisited by NCRA
- Ohio reporters on the NCRA board and/or NCRA president during the '90s
 - Familiar names, such as Bruce Matthews and Rosalie Stevens
- Ohio Supreme Court Court Personnel Education and Training Committee
 - *Still exists today*



The new millennium – 2000s

- Final passage of RCP 28(C)
 - *Ohio Rules of Civil Procedures 28(C) and (D) defining prohibited relationships. No blanket contracts.*
- OCRA (Sue Terry and Board) creates BRATS
 - *Bringing Realtime Around The State*
 - *NCRA's TRAIN Task Force was formed off Ohio's BRATS*
- Proactive Planning Task Force
 - *What was it? What did it involve?*
- March 2006, Ohio Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer creates the creation of the Supreme Court of Ohio's Task Force on the Certification of Court Reporters
 - *June 2007 recommendations of task force*
 - *All methods of producing the record were to be certified in Ohio if implemented*
 - *What happened?*
 - *Status?*
 - *Say what?*



Certification of Court Reporters June 2007

The Task Force recommends the following individuals be included in the definition of “court reporter” and be required to obtain certification:

- **Electronic operators - Individuals who operate the electronic recording equipment used to record proceedings for a court of the state and prepare logs of those proceedings.**
- **Electronic recorders - Individuals who operate the electronic recording equipment used to record proceedings for a court of the state and prepare logs and transcripts of those proceedings.**
- **Stenographic reporters - Individuals who use a stenographic machine or shorthand to record proceedings for a court of the state and prepare logs and transcripts of those proceedings.**
- **Transcriptionists - Individuals who prepare a printed transcript to be filed with a court of the state.**
- **Verbatim reporters - Individuals who use a mask or voice-writing system to record proceedings for a court of the state and prepare logs and transcripts of those proceedings.**



2010-2019

- 2011 – House Bill 153 (successfully defeated)
- 2012 – House Bill 487
 - What changed from 2011?
 - Why did this pass?
 - Implications in effect today
 - Future plans and goals



Ohio Revised Code

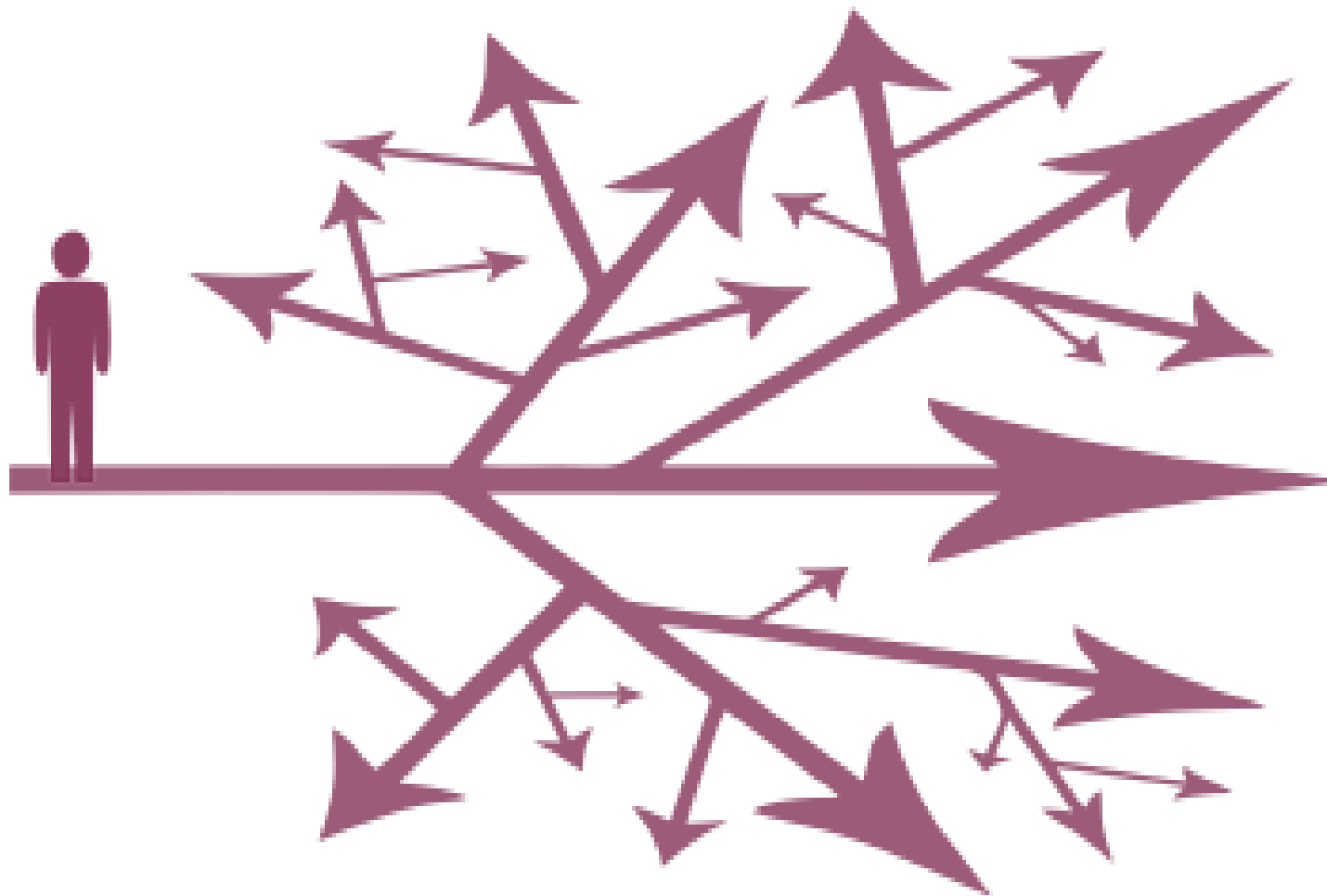
2301.18 – 2301.25

2011 HB 153 ***Successful removal of proposed modifications***

2012 HB 487 ***Unsuccessful removal – current law***

- Opposed by OCRA
 - OCRA provided verbal testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committees in both 2011 and 2012
 - Retained lobbyist
 - Fought extensively against amendments
- Opposed by the Ohio Judicial Conference
 - Letters of support to OCRA
 - Letters of opposition to Senate and House
 - 2017 revisions to 2301.18 – 2301.25 prepared
 - *No substantive action taken since 2017 by Ohio Judicial Conference*





AFTERMATH OF HB 487

**88 counties
88 interpretations**

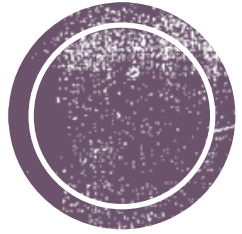


2019 - present

- Vendor commitments
 - CTC
 - OACA
 - All Ohio School Counselors
 - Career Days
- Court Reporting and Captioning Weeks in Ohio



2019 - present



Ohio Notary Public Modernization Act

Senate Bill 263, 132nd General Assembly

Signed into law by former Governor Kasich on December 19, 2018

Most provisions effective as of September 20, 2019

What did the Act do?

a *summary* ...

effective 9/20/2019

- Eliminates the 88 separate county notary applicant criteria
 - All notary applications and renewals will be handled directly through the Secretary of State and will be processed online
 - No longer a need to record notary commissions with the county Clerk of Courts
- Prohibits notary commission to be issued/held by those with certain felony convictions
- Creates and permits remote/video notarization program (*i.e. online notary*)
- Notary applicants (and renewals) will be required to:
 - Receive three hours of mandatory training (first-time applicant and first-time renewal under new law) *This includes new attorneys!*
 - Pass a statewide, uniform examination
 - Pass a national background check, with fingerprints, administered by the Ohio BCI





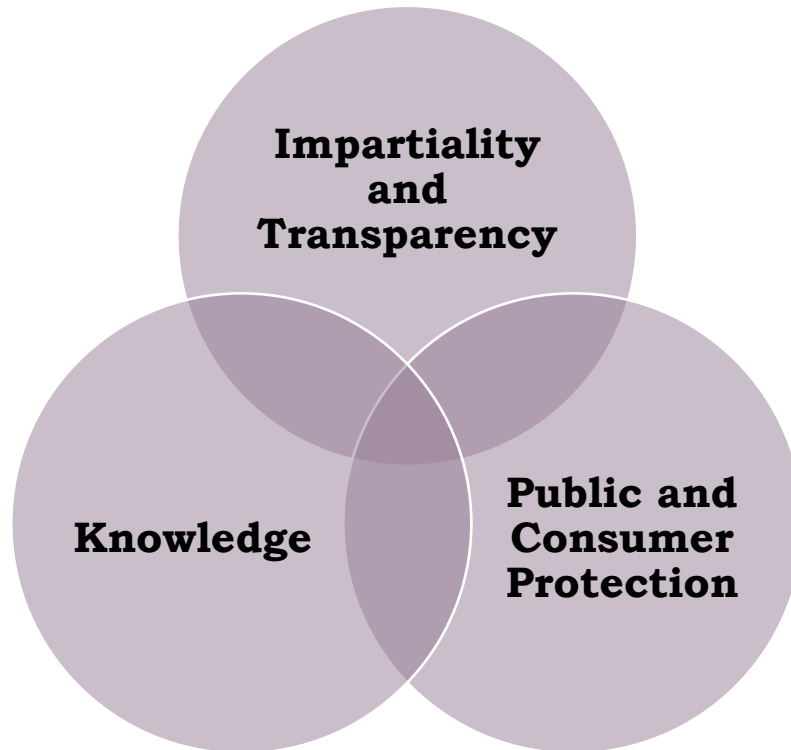
**OCRA looked at
new notary law as
possible opportunity**

- Mid 1920s, first certified shorthand reporter (CSR) discussions and attempts for certification in Ohio began
- January 1951, Ohio CSR legislation passed both the Senate and the House (*along with the first statewide notary bill*) but the CSR legislation was vetoed by the then governor of Ohio
- In the 1980s, CSR efforts were reintroduced in Ohio; however, through the Supreme Court and not legislatively
- June 2007, the Report and Recommendations of the Supreme Court of Ohio Task Force on the Certification of Court Reporters was released
 - Backed by then Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer
 - Created five classes of individuals to be included in the definition of **court reporter** in Ohio and required to obtain certification:
 - Electronic operators
 - Electronic recorders
 - Stenographic reporters
 - Transcriptions
 - Verbatim reporters
 - Extensive education and promotion, in addition to proposed modifications, occurred from 2007-2010 in an effort to finalize certification in Ohio.
 - Then Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer passed away unexpectedly in April 2010 and no further action was taken on the last attempt of certification of court reporters in Ohio

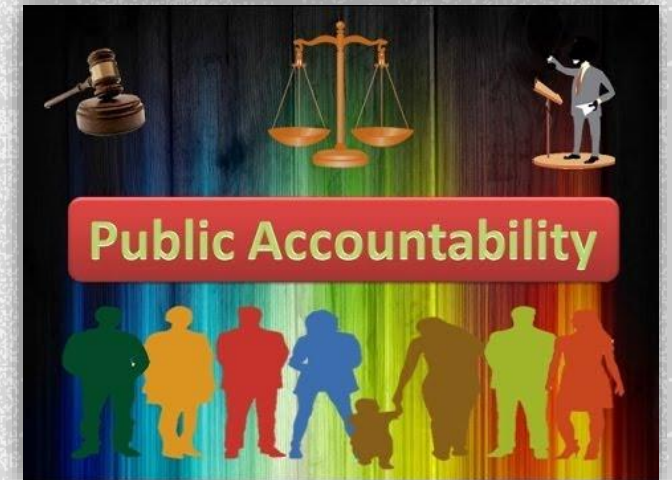
Registry of court reporters in Ohio?



- A registry would allow for identification of whomever is involved in making/taking the record in Ohio
 - *Method of record making/taking*
 - *Certifications, if any*
 - *Notary carve-out for verified individuals on the registry*
 - *Requirements for updating contact information*
 - *Provide for disciplinary/ complaint process to remove individuals from registry*



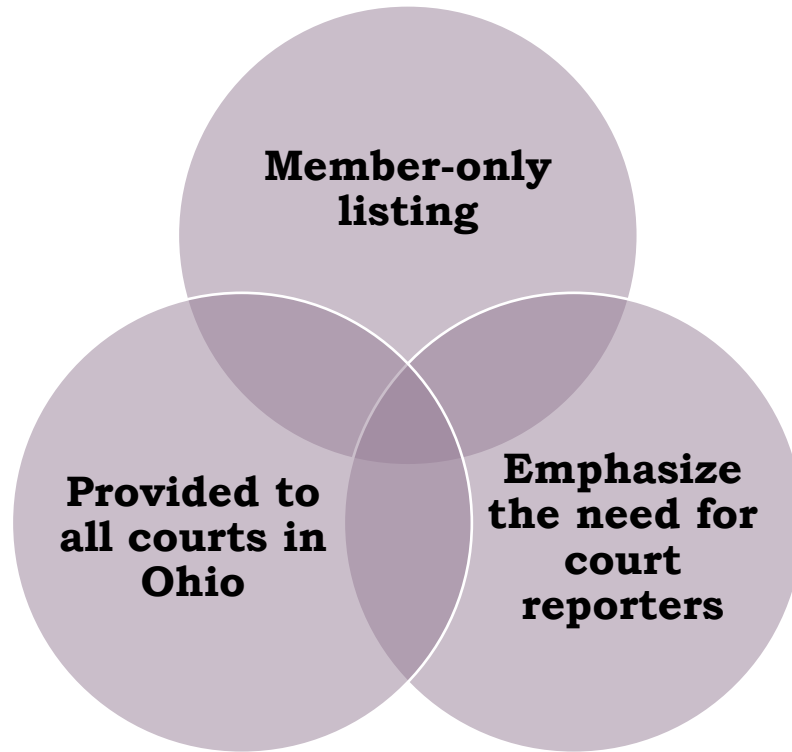
What could a registry have done?



What's can we do moving forward?

Let's move ahead together for our profession's future!





Options moving forward?

- Develop a database of OCRA members willing to transcribe Ohio's court recordings
 - *Request from multiple courts/contacts with OJC*



- Expand OCRA membership to include voice writers
 - Process
- Explore options other than traditional conference setting
- Stay informed and in the know!
- Increase revenues



RULE 28. Persons Before Whom Depositions May be Taken.

(A) Depositions within state

Depositions may be taken in this state before: a person authorized to administer any oath by the laws of this state, a person appointed by the court in which the action is pending, or a person agreed upon by written stipulation of all the parties.

(B) Depositions outside state

Depositions may be taken outside this state before: a person authorized to administer oaths in the place where the deposition is taken, a person appointed by the court in which the action is pending, a person agreed upon by written stipulation of all the parties, or, in any foreign country, by any consular officer of the United States within the consular district. Depositions may also be taken of witnesses located outside this state via remote means before a person authorized to administer any oath by the laws of Ohio.



BUILD AND MAINTAIN ALLIANCES ACROSS OHIO WITH ALL ASPECTS OF THE PROFESSION

Bar Associations

Ohio Judicial
Conference

Hard of Hearing
and Deaf
Associations

Guidance Counselors and
Vocational Schools

Law Schools

Ohio Court Reporters Association



It is time to revitalize Ohio's Proactive Planning Task Force?

- ❑ Ohio task force developed in early 2009 to:
 - ✓ provide support to official court reporters in Ohio to protect their positions
 - ✓ promote the stenographic realtime profession in Ohio
 - ✓ develop promotional materials for use by all reporters in Ohio
 - ✓ raise awareness of the profession and form partnerships with alliances

- ❑ What could a 2025 version of Ohio's Proactive Planning Task Force look like?
 - ✓ create overarching task force for general promotion
 - ✓ maintain subsets of the task force to focus on specific profession areas
 - ✓ CART and broadcast captioning
 - ✓ freelance
 - ✓ officials
 - ✓ each area would have a liaison to prevent duplicative efforts and provide updates between subsets

VOLUNTEERS WOULD BE NEEDED!





Professional advancement and member benefits





**HERE
FOR
YOU™**



Ohio Court Reporters Association

Real People. Real Quality. Realtime.

Member Login



Search OCRA

Find

Add your
company
here.

Home

About Us

Awards

For the Public

Resources

Education

Members Only

Be a part of your OCRA
Join or Renew

Career Opportunities
& Marketplace

OCRA Reporter
Referral Service

Career Opportunities & Marketplace

Have a posting for a career opportunity or a court reporting item you would like to sell?
Postings are FREE for OCRA members for 60 days.

>> [Submit your listing here.](#) <<

Current Listings

03/07/2019

For Sale: Diamante writer

Ohio

Lunar white Diamante in excellent condition for sale

[Details >](#)

03/06/2019

Court reporter position

Parise & Associates

Cleveland, Ohio

Parise & Associates has a full time court reporter position available

Did you know ...

- Job listings
 - Free for all court positions in Ohio
 - Complimentary listings for all OCRA members
 - Nonmembers \$45
- Marketplace listings (equipment, etc.)



A to Z programs in Ohio

Student and New Reporter
Scholarships

Mentorships

Internships

**Advancing the
profession ...**



Member Center Resources

*Have samples to share with your Ohio colleagues?
(All personal information will be redacted)*

Home About Us Awards For the Public Resources Education **Members Only**

Member Center

- [CHANGE MY PASSWORD](#)
- [Members-Only Forum](#)
- [OCRA Membership Directory](#)
- [Renew Your Membership](#)
- [Update Your Membership/Account Information](#)
- [Member Discounts & Benefits](#)

Sample Documents

- [Signature Letter - to attorney with transcript \(Word\)](#)
- [Signature Letter - to witness to appear \(Word\)](#)
- [Signature Letter - to witness with transcript \(Word\)](#)
- [Signature and Certificate Page - Notary With Rule 28 language \(PDF\)](#)
- [Signature and Certificate Page - Notary \(PDF\)](#)

Research Guides



A rectangular sign with a black background and a yellow border. The sign is tilted and hangs from a string. The text on the sign is 'Sorry WE'RE CLOSED'. 'Sorry' is in a cursive font, while 'WE'RE' and 'CLOSED' are in a bold, sans-serif font. The sign is set against a white circular background with a dark grey border.

Sorry WE'RE
CLOSED

FROM THE GROUND UP: Understanding Our Past to Promote Our Future

Friday, April 4, 2025

Sarah Nageotte, FAPR, RDR, CRR, CRC

