

THE STENO TECH WORKSHOP: NEW PROFESSIONALS/STUDENTS EDITION

SPEAKER BIOS

Anna Mar-Lazo, TX CSR, RPR

Anna Mar-Lazo is a five-year freelance court reporter from San Antonio, Texas. She is a wife to Jose Lazo and mother to Kat and Julian who prides herself on helping court reporting students in a very non-traditional way. From being a single mom to quitting court reporting school, then becoming a stay-at-home mom of two on one income before earning her certification during COVID, Anna has openly shared her journey on social media for years. Using Instagram as her preferred platform, she shares daily stories about life as a new freelance reporter working both remotely and in person. Anna is an ACI graduate and holds her Registered Professional Reporter (RPR) credential.

Desiree Cooks, CA CSR

Desiree Cooks, CSR, is a California Certified Shorthand Reporter (CSR No. 14075) with more than a decade of freelance experience specializing in depositions, arbitrations, and trials. Highly skilled in realtime reporting, expedites, and record preservation, she maintains a certified realtime transcription accuracy rate of 97.5%. Throughout her career, Desiree has partnered with top-tier legal agencies and court systems, delivering accurate verbatim records under tight deadlines. She holds a degree in Court Reporting from Sage College and maintains active memberships in both the Deposition Reporters Association (DRA) and the California Court Reporters Association (CCRA).

Kerry Murphy, CA CSR, RPR

Kerry Murphy is a freelance deposition reporter with more than 15 years of experience. She began her career in 2010 providing CART and captioning services for hard-of-hearing college students before transitioning into freelance deposition reporting in Southern California in 2011. Kerry also served as a federal grand jury reporter for the Central District of California and later freelanced for the Los Angeles County Superior Court. Now based in Indiana, she enjoys working remotely while traveling back to Southern California and giving back to the court

reporting community. Outside of work, Kerry is a proud mother of two boys and enjoys roller skating.

Molly Cooper, CA CSR, RPR, CVR-S

Molly Cooper is a California Certified Shorthand Reporter, Registered Professional Reporter, and Certified Verbatim Reporter Specialist (CVR-S). She holds a bachelor's degree in Linguistics from the University of California, Santa Cruz. Molly is the co-owner of The Record Keeper and creator of The Record Keeper Job Tracker. With a background in teaching languages and study skills, she is passionate about helping court reporters improve organization, workflow, and efficiency. She also served for many years on the California Deposition Reporters Association Board of Directors.

Patricia Nilsen, RMR, CRR, CRC, CRI

Patricia Nilsen is a two-time World Champion Stenographer based in Middle Tennessee. She is licensed in Tennessee, California, Washington, and Texas and specializes in realtime, daily copy, and rough drafts in complex litigation. A court reporter since 1995, Patricia has experience in every aspect of the profession, including 14 years as a federal official court reporter in the Southern District of New York, where she regularly reported high-profile and complex litigation. Her career has also taken her internationally, with several years spent reporting in the courts of The Bahamas, England, and Ireland.

Rashonda Price, CSR (OK, WA, ID), RPR

Rashonda Price is a nationally certified court reporter whose career reflects determination, adaptability, and a passion for lifelong learning. A mother of four and proudly neurodivergent, she earned her bachelor's degree in nursing before discovering her passion for court reporting. She completed court reporting school in just 17 months and began her career in December 2025. In 2026, she was honored with the Steno in the City Trailblazer Award in recognition of her dedication and accomplishments.

Rashonda currently holds the Registered Professional Reporter (RPR) credential and is licensed in Oklahoma, Washington, and Idaho. She is actively pursuing her California Certified Shorthand Reporter (CSR) license and plans to continue advancing her career by earning the Registered Merit Reporter (RMR) and Certified Realtime Reporter (CRR) certifications.