

# THE GUARDIAN

ISSUE 3 MARCH 2015

## The impact mentoring can have on court reporting students by: Ahlam Alhadi

As a current student, I have had the good fortune of being mentored by numerous credentialed court reporters, from officials working for the Superior Court to freelancers working for reporting firms. I have found the advice and positive reinforcement to be the most beneficial aspects of interring, given the competitive nature of court reporting. This profession has its perks, but it also has high expectations. Attaining a 95 percent on the Registered Professional Reporter exam and a 97.5 percent on the Certified Shorthand Reporter exam is a difficult and daunting task, so it helps to be surrounded by individuals who encourage you to look on the bright side.

During my internship, I was privileged enough to shadow many seasoned officials, each of whom had gone out of their way to give me as much advice, knowledge, and positive reinforcement as possible. I was taught various software applications, including how to distinguish between multiple speakers as well as different software commands. We discussed different ways to stay organized and how to report during a jury section. Many officials would spend their breaks advising me and would even take me back to their offices to meet other reporters and judges. I felt as though every court reporter I shadowed was taking me under her wing, and each of them had great advice and pieces of knowledge for me. I was so surprised by their willingness to help. I was so appreciative. It wasn't until

then that I realized how important it is to have a mentor and to be among those who have gone through this process and have come out of it and achieved success. One official told me that the hardest part about being a student is that there are times when you become so discouraged and stressed that you negative thoughts often cloud your mind and affect your performance. She assured me that I was doing very well and told me the best thing to do is to stop worrying, continue to do my work, and stick with my schedule. I think of that piece of advice daily as I try to limit my stress and frustration.

Many of the freelancers who I have met have been just as supportive and encouraging. A friend of mine who works for a reporting firm is always there for me when I have a question or a concern. If I text her a brief question, she will respond with a lengthy message or a long phone conversation, and she is always able to give me very beneficial information. She suggests helpful books to purchase, and she stresses the importance of speedbuilding. Not only that, but she is always telling me to stay positive because I am so close to becoming a court reporter, and she reminds me to work very hard and stay persistent.

My court reporting instructor has been great at addressing my areas of strength and weakness in a way that is both constructive and encouraging rather than disparaging. In fact, her critiques often alleviate my stress because they give

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"Have patience with all things, but, first of all with yourself."*

*-Saint Francis De Sales*

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## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

### Brett Schatzle

Brett transferred to CCR in February of last year and resides in Chicago, Illinois. She is a very cheerful and dedicated student who consistently has terrific read-backs. Brett has progressed immensely since transferring and is a great time manager.

You're doing awesome, Brett!

### Kelsey Palmer

Kelsey started in the summer semester of 2014. She is now in her third semester and has already shown us that she has what it takes to become a great court reporter! She is a hard worker and is always striving to better herself as a student.

We're proud of you!

### Katelyn Berch

Katelyn started with CCR in February of this year. She's faithful about her homework and has the progress to show for it! She has consistently climbed that "speed ladder" this term. Katelyn is eager to learn and is constantly trying to improve. Keep up the great work, Katelyn!



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me the opportunity to focus on very specific areas that need more attention. I know that she will always provide me with information that will allow me to make necessary changes. A discussion with her fills me with such relief as she reminds me of all the strides that I have made in my speedbuilding. In particular, my aunt, who is a freelance reporter, has been a wonderful mentor to me. She has given me so many of her briefs and textbooks that once helped her as a student. She never hesitates to take the time out of her busy schedule to meet with me and see how I'm progressing in my work. When my writer suddenly needed repaired, she lent me her student writer in a moment's notice. She is always giving me great advice in regard to which reporting firms to work for, when to intern, and how to make better use of my practice time. Not only that, but she has been very open about her past experiences as a student and has not been shy about telling me how difficult and discouraging being a court reporting student

can be. She has told me that many students worry about the length of time it will take them to finish school and get their credentials, and many think about whether or not it will all be worth it. She assures me that these are all normal feelings to have, and that with time, all the hard work will surely pay off, for a student to hear that is an enormous relief. It is great to know that many reporters have felt discouraged at one time or another, but they were ultimately able to achieve their goals and are very happy in this respected profession.

Knowing that these successful men and women have gone through what I am currently enduring really puts me at ease. I feel lucky to have had such an amazing experience with these reporters. I believe that every student needs to have a reporter or reporters who can mentor and guide them. It can really change your outlook and push you to achieve.

*Reprinted from the JCR*

## SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT

We want to recognize and give a big congratulations to our top students that composed excellent scholarship essay! They put a lot of thought and hard work into their papers. We hope for your continued success.

Claire Baldi

Jessica Frizzell

Amy Krueger

Suleika Olivo

Michelle Kowalsky



## STARBUCKS GIFT CARD WINNERS!

Thank you so much to everyone that participated in our spirit week contest!

Amy Krueger Christine Obermeyer  
 Summer Vaughan Sarah Hamilton  
 Ashley Kramer Hilda Tsai  
 Kristen Gertz Trystan Ratcliff  
 Ashley Guillermo Erica Jenkins



### WINNERS!

Carolyn Collins  
 Jessica Frizzell  
 Katie Jaraczewski  
 Melodie Lewis  
 Kim Murphy

## JANUARY EVALUATIONS PASSED

*These students have all passed one or more SAP evaluations during the month of January.*

### 13 SAPS

Elise Townes

### 11 SAPS

Kelsey Palmer  
 Rebecca Wasser

### 9 SAPS

Kelly Garland

### 8 SAPS

Christine Angel  
 James McAllister  
 Taifa Stephenson

### 7 SAPS

Angelina Goins  
 Claire Baldi

### 6 SAPS

Susanne Gorman

### 5 SAPS

Andrea Whyte  
 Camille  
 Montgomery  
 Erin Claybrook  
 Holly McKay  
 Katelyn Berch  
 Kelsey Michael  
 Sarah Hamilton

Tanya Fariols

Valerie Melkus

### 4 SAPS

Allison Allen  
 Brionca Tate  
 Cassidy Johnson  
 Esperanza Parada  
 Holly Harris  
 Kayde Rieken  
 Kimberly  
 Wilkerson

Kristine Mowery  
 Michelle Dziubla  
 Monica Robinson

Shery Skeen  
 Tracie Blocker

### 3 SAPS

Ashley Kramer  
 Brett Schatzle  
 Carol Casstevens  
 Christil McAllister  
 Denise Chase  
 Kurdziel  
 Ehmey Liggins  
 Jamie Dorgan

Jenna Yokoyama

Jessica Vanatta

Priscilla Romans

Berarducci

Samantha Schieck

Sherrona Williams

Shivone Latortue

Sindee Baum

Susan Steeves

### 2 SAPS

Abby Crouse  
 Amy Powers  
 Deb Gaston  
 Haley Both  
 Joelle Maxfield  
 Kathleen Steadman  
 Kelly Custard  
 Kolby Garrison  
 Lisa Major  
 Mary Orloff  
 Megan Reeves  
 Melanie Segalla  
 Nicole Simchak  
 Shannon Finton  
 Shari Conrad

Suleika Olivo

Suzanne Molloy

Yolanda Pena

### 1 SAP

Alisa Church  
 Amanda Olivares  
 Angela Viray  
 Christine  
 Obermeyer  
 Corree Brooks  
 Danielle Griffin  
 Cadena  
 Debrina Jones  
 Erica Zielinski  
 Gaylynn Smith  
 Holly Reese  
 Jessica Rykhus  
 Josey Loney  
 Cassandra Walter  
 Kathleen  
 Stempeck  
 Keely Nelsen  
 Kristen Stegeman  
 Lisa Jay  
 Lucetta Robertson

Madison Pacana

Melissa Claborn

Michelle Kowalsky

Robin Willey

Ruth Moline

Season Young

Shelley Duhon

Taylor Atchison

Veronica Stewart

## JOB OPENINGS



**Job Location:** Second Judicial District - St. Paul, Minnesota

**Job Category:** Official Stenographic or Electronic Court Reporter

**Status:** Full-time, Monday-Friday, Regular

**Stenographic:**

A high school diploma or the equivalent; Graduate of a court reporting school approved by the National Court Reporter Association (NCRA); and, A Registered Professional Reporter (RPR) designation from the NCRA or compliance with the Minnesota Supreme Court Order 81-876.

**Electronic:**

Graduation from high school supplemented by course work in secretarial sciences or paralegal training and experience in a law or court office.; Ability to successfully complete the Electronic Court Reporter certification exam as administered by the Minnesota State Supreme Court.

Strong preference for someone with skills, knowledge and ability in, or willingness to learn, the latest court reporter technology.

Successful candidate will be required to pass a criminal background check.

**Responsibilities:**

Capture verbatim record of court proceedings; Reads back testimony upon request; Mark and record exhibits as presented at hearings; Types findings of fact, memorandums of law, orders, legal papers and correspondence in the performance of duties as secretary for the judge; Prepares transcripts and court orders; Maintains accurate and complete files and records; Maintains awareness of Rules, Statutes and policy changes/additions/deletions; Serves as confidential assistant and secretary to appointing authority;

\*Some travel may be required.

**Supplemental Information:**

All new reporters will be hired at the base salary. Court reporters with experience may be adjusted upward to the mid-point of the salary range, based upon their experience.

The selection process is a resume-based, skill-matching process. If your skills match the required skills for this position, you may be contacted further.

The 2nd Judicial District Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to the principles of diversity. We actively seek and encourage applications from women, minorities, persons with disabilities and persons from diverse backgrounds.

## NATIONAL COURT REPORTING AND CAPTIONING WEEK AT CCR!

NCRA launched the Take Note campaign in September based on an industry-wide outlook report by the independent research firm Ducker Worldwide. The study determined that over the next five years, some 5,000 jobs in the court reporting profession are expected to become available. The campaign is designed to raise awareness of the profession and future employment opportunities. Here at CCR we celebrated by having spirit week!

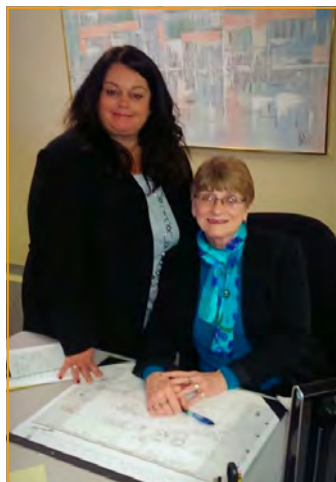
Take a look at our fun-filled week!



Ashley, Sarah, and Christine start off the week showing their red, white, and blue spirit for Presidents' Day!



On Tuesday, in honor of TV and movie character day, Zach Galifianakis had to stop in for all the fun!



Lisa and Kathy looked wonderful and well-dressed on Professional Day!



To finish off our week at CCR, Jay shows his spirit by representing his favorite team!

# #iheartccr

COLLEGE OF COURT REPORTING

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“Work for yourself...Work for the world!”

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.CCR.EDU


**Word Tripper By: Barbara McNichol**

**Stammer, stutter** – Both words are types of speech in which people experience difficulty caused by involuntary pauses and repetitions. While they essentially mean the same thing, “stutter” typically refers to a repetition of the first syllable of a word. The two words can be used interchangeably, although “stammer” is more common in Great Britain while “stutter” is used more often in the U.S.

“He found that singing his sentences helped smooth out his lifelong *stutter* habit. His wife was so surprised to hear him sing without *stuttering*, she *stammered* her delight with words of joy.” – Bobbie Bookhout



*Birthdays are in bold print! Happy birthday, CCR students and faculty!*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>Julie Balog</i>	2 140-160 Multivoice <i>Gina Keener</i> <i>Shari Conrad</i>	3	4	5 <i>Kristen Stege-</i> <i>man</i>	6 <i>Employee</i> <i>Appreciation</i> <i>Day</i>	7
8 <i>Daylight Saving</i> <i>Time begins</i> <i>Melissa Claborn</i>	9 <i>Mock</i> <i>Deposition</i>	10	11	12 <i>Valerie</i> <i>Melkus</i> <i>Faculty</i> <i>Meeting</i>	13	14
15	16 <i>I-Class Midterms</i> <i>(D &amp; E)</i> <i>Kendra</i> <i>Farmer</i> <i>Katie</i> <i>Jaraczewski</i>	17  <i>St. Patrick's</i> <i>Day</i> <i>Christine</i> <i>VanDam</i>	18	19 <i>I-Class Midterms</i> <i>(D &amp; E)</i> <i>Andrea Davis</i> <i>Gunn</i>	20 <i>Kirstie</i> <i>Anderson</i>	21 <b>Spring</b> <b>Break</b> <b>Begins</b> →
22 <i>Angela Viray</i>	23 <i>Sarah</i> <i>Hamilton</i> →	24 →	25 <i>Bonny</i> <i>Roggenbauer</i>	26 →	27 <i>Paulina</i> <i>Alanis</i>	28 <i>Amanda</i> <i>Clidence</i> <i>Lucetta</i> <i>Robertson</i> →
29 <i>Spring Break Ends</i> →	30 180-200 Multivoice <i>Classes Resume</i>	31 <i>Jamie</i> <i>Johnson</i> <i>Cassidy</i> <i>Johnson</i>				