



IL

CRA

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ad infinitum

ILLINOIS
COURT
REPORTERS
ASSOCIATION

SUMMER

2021

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President's Message

As we emerge from the pandemic that plagued our entire world and begin to regain some sense of a normal life, I have noticed how fast I was flung back into our fast pace of work and editing, all while keeping up with home life.

Personally, I managed to accomplish what I would have otherwise considered impossible before the middle of May 2021. I completed almost 900 pages of trial testimony for an expedited post-trial motion in a matter of days.

I will admit, I am not your typical Type A court reporter. If I had to grade my ambition for workaholic, I would give myself a solid C. As my mother always told me, I always did just enough to get by in high school. Thankfully, once I found court reporting, I did become an overachiever by my own standards. However, I still value balance and self-care when achieving the impossible.

I did edit until the letters started dancing on the page. When I knew it was time to shut down, but I wasn't quite tired enough to go to sleep, I did all of the things that otherwise



distract me from transcript work. I vacuumed at 10:30 at night. I folded laundry. And for my own sanity, I watched Bob's Burgers to relax me enough to be able to fall asleep. And seriously, if you haven't watched Bob's Burgers yet, I highly recommend. It is mindless toilet humor and a great escape from the stress of what we do.

And it seems like that pace just keeps picking up as we get on into the years, beyond when the court reporting shortage became a critical issue. It's not news that most of our demographic is either ready to retire or retirement-eligible (and still working because they love what they do – incredible!), and we are all painfully aware of how much our profession would be impacted should all these people, who have

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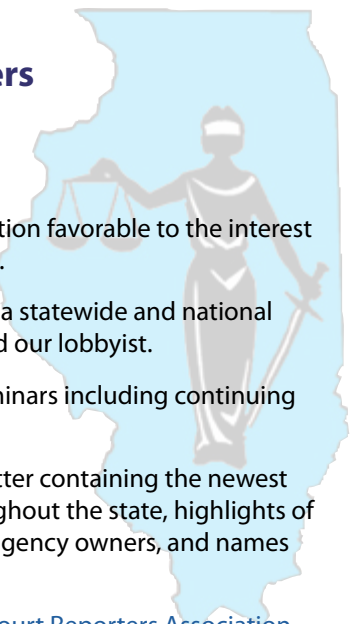
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What ILCRA Does for Illinois Reporters

- **Works** to maintain your right to be certified.
- **Monitors, promotes, and lobbies** to pass legislation favorable to the interest of court reporters, captioners and CART providers.
- **Monitors** legislation affecting our professions on a statewide and national basis through both our Legislative Committee and our lobbyist.
- **Sponsors** an annual conference and one-day seminars including continuing education and the latest in reporting technology.
- **Publishes** *Ad Infinitum*, a quarterly online newsletter containing the newest up-to-the-minute reporting developments throughout the state, highlights of board meetings, advertisements of vendors and agency owners, and names and telephone numbers of ILCRA officers.
- **Serves** as an affiliated state unit of the [National Court Reporters Association](#).
- **Offers** members significantly reduced rates for the conventions and seminars.
- **Awards** Student Scholarships, a Distinguished Service Award, an Award of Excellence for an Outstanding Educator, and conducts [speed contests](#) each year.
- **Provides** resources on the ILCRA website, including the CSR Act, Court Reporters' Act, Rules and Regulations of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Transcript Act, and ILCRA Bylaws. It also includes officers' names and contact information as well as Committees and Committee Members. ILCRA Member Information is included on the website under "Find a Reporter."
- **Offers** an Online Student Mentor Program.
- **Promotes** student recruitment.
- **Organizes** letter-writing campaigns on issues affecting our professions.
- **Sends** representative members to legislative boot camps, leadership conferences, and the national convention for training and education.
- **Provides** reporters for demonstrations on request and attends career days throughout the state.
- **Provides** free CART brochures to its members.
- **Provides** a court reporters network through Constant Contact which allows ILCRA to immediately be in touch with members via email.
- **Serves** the membership with the phone number 703-729-4861 and a [website](#).
- **Provides** an association management company to assist members.



ILCRA MISSION STATEMENT

To maintain standards of excellence in verbatim shorthand reporting, to provide continuing educational opportunities and advocate technological advancements, and to promote a spirit of mutual assistance between the profession of verbatim shorthand reporting and its consumers.



2021 ILCRA Annual Convention

October 14-16, 2021

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Chicago - Oak Brook
1909 Spring Rd | Oak Brook, IL 60523 | (630) 472-6000

[**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER TODAY**](#)

1.1 NCRA CEUs/11 Illinois CSR Hours pending approval

We Are Back in the Saddle! 2021 Annual Convention is a Go!

By Dave Wenhold, ILCRA Executive Director

ILCRA's IN-PERSON convention is back after our long COVID pause and we are excited to get back to some level of normal and see our colleagues again. What the past 18 months has shown us is that there is no substitute for in-person gatherings.

As humans, we have looked forward to social gatherings with each other since the beginning time of our species. Gatherings were something to look forward to and celebrated as the joining of ideas, sharing of stories and the opportunity to learn from others as a way of survival. Over tens of thousands of years not much has changed, (except they didn't have Wi-Fi in their caves) and the information sharing and networking continues this year on October 14-16, 2021 at the Doubletree Hilton Oak Brook, IL.

ILCRA has secured an amazing room rate and have kept the conference registration prices really low. We are planning on having an epic reception on October 15 to celebrate our members and ILCRA getting back to a new normal. If you have been to a previous convention you know that ILCRA always has awesome speakers, exhibitors and celebrations of those that compete in the contests. If you have not been to one, then now is your chance to check out an amazing convention and be with your peers.

This year's seminars will be focused on the tools you need to sharpen your skills and hopefully make you more money while increasing your quality of life. We will have an update from our lobbyist on the latest that is going on in Springfield and the things that you need to be aware of that are a threat to your livelihood. These are sessions you simply don't want to miss.

Rooms are limited at the hotel so make sure you book them early and let them know you are there for the ILCRA conference to receive the special discount. For that and the registration information you can find it all by clicking on the link below. See you in Oak Brook on October 14-16, 2021!

Get more information on the ILCRA Convention [HERE](#).



Step By Step

By Kathryn A. Thomas,
RDR, CRC, ILCRA Immediate
Past President

Finances.

Fitness.

Fsteno Fskills.

Alliteration is hard.

What do these three have in common? Daily discipline. Incremental change. And NO QUICK FIXES.

A couple extra bucks a month put toward your debts, and the bill is paid off sooner.

Exercising regularly every week, and practicing healthier eating, and eventually your body works better than it used to.

Do a few takes a day of a challenging speed, and practice a few new briefs or phrases every week or so, and before long you've increased your skills.

About a year and a half ago I wrote a bit about this phenomenon on my blog, www.stenoray.com, and I'll insert some of it here for introduction.

If you're a big fan of the show Lucifer, you'll notice that Tom Ellis, who performs the titular character, got incredibly ripped between season 3 and 4. Heck, I certainly noticed. (What?? You seriously think this is an entirely professional blog? You have a lot to learn about this town, sweetie.) In this article for Men's Health (Author note: clickable link in my blog post,

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or go to <https://www.menshealth.com/entertainment/a27363357/tom-ellis-lucifer-workout-photos/>) he described how he achieved incredible results in a short period of time. His trainer said that as long as he faithfully kept to the system, "...there'll be a point when you wake up one day and your body will look different."

What does Tom's training have to do with my training? Honey, I went to Bible college. I can relate any illustration to any sermon. Here's the connection: If you plot the lines for fitness training and stenography training, (Author note: and financial health) you'll see they are parallel.

We started slow -- 80 words a minute was my first speed class after theory -- and worked our way up. When we were in theory class we asked the teacher to dictate at 225 words a minute, just to hear how fast our exit speeds were, and we couldn't even comprehend writing at such speeds.

Then when we were in our 160s, we asked the teacher to dictate at 80, and it was incomprehensible that we once struggled at that speed. We woke up and our writing skills were different.

Same with strength. I started bench pressing with a bare 45-pound barbell, and my personal best at my peak was 110 pounds. I wasn't conscious of getting stronger over time -- I simply followed my plan, and as time passed, it felt like I could suddenly achieve more.

Now, I haven't been to the gym since March 2020 like the rest of the planet, but since October I have been working out regularly at home, with online workout videos, and keeping most junk food out of my house. If it's not there, I won't eat it. What the trainer said was true -- you don't notice the change until one day you DO. I can do a chin-up now!

A little each day adds up.

Finances. Start slow. Maybe you like Dave Ramsey's strategy or Suze Orman's strategy or the advice from your cousin who thinks he's Warren Buffett because he went to one Rich Dad Poor Dad seminar or whatever. Almost every financial strategist can agree on one thing:

The key is: money in > money out.

It takes slow, incremental time to build an

emergency fund, but the results are worth it. Pay down your debts, if not eliminate them entirely, so you aren't constantly borrowing from your future self. You can't increase "money in" if you're always increasing "money out." Jeff Bezos has enough of your money. You've eaten out six times this week; maybe it's time to scale back on the spending a bit.

Results don't happen immediately. But they do happen -- over time. And it's slow. And it's tiring. And it's discouraging when it's been several months and you haven't seen results.

Whether it's in finances
or fitness
or your steno skills.

It takes time to get to 0 to 225 to 260 to 280 to 360 wpm. And it takes discipline. EACH AND EVERY DAY. A common question is "how do I get motivated to --" practice, exercise, keep the spending under control.

You don't.

Because this is a steady gain that only happens over consistent time spent, over a long period of time.

You don't sit on your couch for weeks bingeing Grey's and then get up to do one full day of training, and now you can bench-press a cow.

You don't put in eight hours of practice and suddenly you've gone from 225 Q&A to 280.

We've all heard the stories of people who win the lottery or have a gigantic increase in income, only to become bankrupt months later.

Quick fixes don't stick.

Good, lasting change doesn't happen immediately. It stinks, but that's how it works.

But if you do a little every day, it adds up. And a year or two later you look back and think.... Dang. I've really accomplished quite a bit!

And then you return to your discipline. So you can make even MORE progress over the next year.

In conclusion, I'll give you one more quote from my blog: *From day to day, it's hard to see improvement. Until you look back a few months later and see just how far you've come. Trust the system and results will follow. Don't focus on the goal; focus on the system.*

Backing Up Your Backups

By Carla Letellier

Imagine you've been asked to produce a transcript from a deposition that took place six months ago. You go to produce the job and you find...nothing. No notes, no audio, no trace of the job you took.

It's a nightmare scenario for every court reporter, and one I hope no one ever has to go through. It can definitely be easy to offload notes from your machine and forget about it until it's needed (if it's ever needed). But, maintaining good data management habits can ensure that you'll never have to face a worst-case situation. It starts with good practices and good routines after all your jobs. But what can you do besides copying files off of your machine?

Local Backups

The easiest and most cost-effective backup solution is to buy an external hard drive. They are available at many online and brick-and-mortar retailers, and drives come in sizable capacities for less than \$100. Most drives are plug-and-play, meaning you can connect the drive to your computer and immediately copy important files to the drive. The drive can also be configured to automatically back up your files via Windows File History.

Unfortunately, these drives are prone to damage and errors; if the drives experience any sort of jolting or movement, the drives could become unusable. They work well as an affordable option provided that you have your data stored in other locations. Newer and more expensive external hard drives use solid state, which is much more reliable and significantly less prone to failure, but are also much more expensive. Flash storage such as SD cards do not work well for long-term storage, and your files should not be kept solely on these devices.

Cloud Backups

Cloud backups provide a great solution for offsite file storage, which greatly reduces your chances of losing files due to a physical calamity like fires and floods. Services like Dropbox and Google Drive are easy to set up and configure, and anyone can easily set up automatic backups for these services. Microsoft Windows includes its own cloud backup program, OneDrive, and Stenograph's Case Catalyst now includes built-in cloud backup services.

If you choose to upload a larger number of files, cloud backups can become financially cumbersome as the subscription price increases based on the number of files you upload. Cloud backups also rely on a stable, fast internet connection to upload your files. If you are traveling, it may be difficult to back up your files on the go. While cloud backups can be automated where all

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ILCRA Official Business

If you are planning on attending the ILCRA Annual Conference, please feel free to join the ILCRA Board meeting which will be held on Thursday, October 14 at 6 p.m. at the hotel. Please contact us at contact@ilcra.org.

Additionally, the ILCRA Nominating Committee has announced the new members of ILCRA new Board members.

President-Elect: Mary Ann Casale

Vice President: Stephanie Battaglia

Secretary: Lorie Kennedy

Treasurer: Tammie Sefranek

Region 1 Freelance: Greg Weiland

Region 1 Official: Angela Miller



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files in a specific folder upload automatically, it is best to ensure the files show up on your cloud service provider when logging onto the website; this will show that your file upload succeeded.

Agency Backups and Solid-State Drives

A few other parting thoughts. If you're working for an agency, many provide their reporters with the ability to upload your job files to their cloud service. This would ensure that your files are backed up at no extra cost to you. If needed, the agency could then produce the job files to you in the event they are needed.

While it's beneficial to ensure the functionality of backup strategies, it also helps to mitigate the risk of losing your primary drive on your computer. One such

upgrade you can make to your primary computer is to ensure you're using a solid-state drive. Solid state drives, or SSDs, do not contain mechanical spinning parts like older hard drives, which are prone to failures. If you do not have a solid-state drive in your computer already, drives can be purchased at any electronics stores, and your data can be migrated to a new drive and have the drive installed by any technical support company (or tech-savvy relative). You'll also see benefits in the speed of your computer.

Ultimately, each reporter needs to figure out the strategy that fits his or her needs. With proper data management techniques and good habits, you can ensure that key data is never lost and avoid that nightmare scenario.

President's Message

Continued from front page

already put in 30-plus years, decide they were ready to leave full-time employment, or leave freelancing. The heat is on all of us, in one way or another, and it's not going to get any better until we are able to swing that proverbial pendulum back in the other direction.

I've had the privilege and the encouragement of my peers to have been engaged in public outreach, even before I began my career. I have to say, it is a lot easier to do when you don't have to do it on your own. This October, I'm excited to be presenting my grassroots seminar on how to get started and what it really means to begin a "grassroots" movement. It is the little things that we end up choosing to do for our profession that will amount to the biggest changes!

Speaking of October, ILCRA is thrilled to announce its in-person convention in Oak Brook from the 14th to the 16th! Please know we are aware that is when S.T.A.R. is doing their convention in California. The unfortunate reality of coming out of COVID is that we were very constrained on dates with the hotel we had originally booked for March of 2020. Their limited availability left us with just a few options, and we had to settle on this particular weekend.

We will also be installing a new executive board this year, and I look forward to passing the torch to incoming president Kim Cottrell of Quincy. She made such an impression the first time I met her, and I know I am leaving you in good and capable hands as we move forward.

There is so much to consider as we shift out of lockdown mode and back into working and socializing. There are legislative issues pending, we have a real crisis with the lack of qualified court reporters, and there is a call to action we all must heed in order to protect our profession and protect the record.

I do hope you'll join us this October as we hear from our new lobbyist about what's happening in Springfield, and gain some insight into how you (yes, you!), can get involved in your own areas to help propel us forward successfully. This convention will have much more to offer, too, so stay tuned! And as always, stay safe, stay healthy, and ILCRA is very much looking forward to seeing all of you October 14-16 in Oak Brook!

Georgia Long

Lake Land College Introduces Court Reporting Degree Program

In light of the increased demand for court reporters and captioners, Lake Land College in Mattoon, Illinois, has announced the introduction of their new court reporting degree program, beginning fall, 2021.

Application requirements for this special-admission program include:

- Admission to Lake Land College
- Completion of an interest survey
- English and grammar exam
- A timed typing exam

Special-admission testing will be open September 7 through October 5, 2021, for consideration for the spring 2022 semester class.

All classes are available online, but many will offer a virtual component where students can attend Zoom sessions. If a student cannot attain the required target speed for a given class, the student can retake the half credit hour lab.

The final semester of the program, students will complete a one-hour internship course where students will be placed in courtrooms or in the deposition setting under supervision of a court reporter.

Upon graduation, students will be prepared to sit for the Illinois Certified Shorthand Reporter (CSR) or the National Court Reporters Association Registered Skilled Reporter (RSR) and Registered Professional Reporter (RPR) certification exams.

Lake Land College will host a court reporting First Steps class on July 28 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Web Hall, room 081. The class is a free three-hour introductory course and is open to anyone interested in learning about the court reporting profession. Those interested in attending the First

Steps class are asked to register at ilcrs.com/firststeps.

The college will be hosting a virtual information session for this program September 1 at 6:00 p.m., with instructors on hand to answer questions. All are welcome to attend, so if you know someone interested in a court reporting career, please invite them to register for the session at www.lakelandcollege.edu/visit.

A Lake Land College Court Reporting page has also been set up on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/LakeLandCollegeCourtReporting>.

The announcement of this program is great news for Illinois, so please help spread the word.

And don't forget that ILCRA has an Online Mentors Program, which will be a wonderful opportunity for you to share your experience and help keep a student motivated!

For more information about the special-admission Court Reporting Technology Degree program, contact Lisa Earp, business instructor/director of court reporting/program coordinator office professionals, at learp@lakelandcollege.edu.



2021 ILCRA Annual Convention | October 14-16, 2021 | [Click here to register today](#)

In One Ear and Out the Other?

By Samantha Brown

We've all heard it – "I don't know how you can stay awake during this!" "If I did your job, I'd miss stuff just zoning out." So on and so forth. Once, before a dreadful civil hearing was scheduled to take place, a bailiff (whom I adore) told me, "I've got two bullets with me for my gun. I'll take one, and you can have the other. Don't worry, only a foot shot." Tempting!!!

Am I the only one, though, that doesn't retain much content-wise? I have done a lot of demonstrations for the people I work with – curious deputies, circuit clerk employees, bailiffs. I ask them if they've ever played an instrument, and I tell them it's kind of like that – it's an automatic response. When I hear words, my brain processes it and my fingers "type". I'm always alert, thinking and moving, but sometimes I'm also in my own little world thinking about what groceries I need to get.

When I first started reporting, admittedly I did really listen. I retained. We hear horrible stuff, guys. I'm pretty convinced that most of us don't retain this information because our brains are just too full. It's a survival mechanism. Compartmentalizing is real, and that is one skill I can say I exceed at (good or bad).

The downside of this in-one-ear-and-out-the-other behavior is sometimes I don't remember the

good stuff. The funny stuff. And I have had SO many funny moments through the years. I started keeping a notebook of things that made me laugh, and I only remember to write in it, like, 5% of the time, but I love looking back at it now and then. If you don't do this, it is never too late to start. I just bought a regular notebook for \$1, and when something "notebook worthy" happens, I try my best to remember to write it down.

One of the funnier things that comes to mind in my notebook happened several years ago. I was working with a judge who I shall not name, but he is one of those people who has a dry sense of humor and doesn't try to be funny, but he is even funnier because of the sarcasm that some don't pick up on. I was reporting a pro se family case, and the judge was admonishing dad on what he needed to do to avoid contempt. Dad kept responding "yeah" and "uh-huh" and nodding his head enthusiastically, continually interrupting the judge. The judge looks down and mumbles, "I feel like I'm at a Grateful Dead revival." I had to turn my head away and try not to laugh out loud. Notebook worthy!

In my office, I have a quote framed that reads, "The only way to get through life is to laugh your way through it. You either have to laugh or cry. I prefer to laugh. Crying gives me a headache." – Marjorie Hinckley.

Consider getting yourself that \$1 notebook and write those moments down. You'll appreciate it someday!

ILCRA Distinguished Service Award

It is our pleasure to once again to seek nominations for the ILCRA Distinguished Service Award. The purpose of this award is to encourage and recognize work amounting to distinguished service for the benefit of the court reporting and captioning industries by an individual of ILCRA. That may include work as a member, committee member, officer of the Association, for *Ad Infinitum*, in state or local affairs, or public relations. We are seeking someone who has added to the quality of our profession, improved the way it is perceived by other professional or the general public, or who has helped our fellow reporters and captioners to focus on how they can better meet the demands of technology and the changing judicial and captioning industries. Take time now to nominate that special person who deserves to be the next DSA award winner.

[Click her for the DSA Nomination Form.](#)

First Steps Program

By Melissa Clagg

The First Steps program was created by Court Reporting Services' Past Director, Tammy Bumgarner, who saw the looming shortage of court reporters in the court system. After determining the shortage was not due to a lack of schools but, rather, to dwindling enrollment because of the misperception that the profession was antiquated and would be replaced by recording equipment, Tammy put on her innovative cap and came up with a resolution to help remedy the shortage. She developed a program whereby career information could be shared statewide by the working reporters themselves. The information relayed to the class participants (called registrants) was designed to be real about the challenges a court reporting student would face. The idea was not to disillusion anyone thinking this was an easy task. Along with the relayed information, the class would also provide a unique hands-on portion where the registrant can type on an actual steno writer provided by First Steps. The registrants would use the writer while viewing a real theory lesson provided courtesy of an online training program called Court Reporting and Captioning at Home. This would allow the registrant an opportunity to see if the career was a good fit for them before they committed to any tuition fees.

Another innovative notion by Tammy was shooting a YouTube video highlighting the steno machine. The views on that video continue to soar. Currently, there are over 780,000 views! That tells us people are interested in this career! The next step was to get classes scheduled throughout the state and spread the word. Reporters sprang into action, and we had a momentum going. Unfortunately, COVID put a halt to that momentum. But now that restrictions are lifting, many of our class instructors have retired, which has left many locations uncovered for those awaiting a class.

Since the launch of First Steps in 2019, we have had over 1,300 people register for classes. The unfortunate



part is we have not yet been able to share our information to all those registrants. They continually wait for classes to be scheduled, most of which are in areas where we lack instructors. While we have seen a small increase in student enrollment numbers, we will not stop. Our goal is to reach everyone who has shown and will show an interest.

To disseminate our information more effortlessly for the instructor, we have designed a "Recruitment & Career Kit." We know reporters are extremely busy with the backlog of cases due to the COVID shutdown. To minimize the burden on class instructors – and the possibility we can reach that potential student quicker – we have developed a presentation that can be shared in one class. We saw the importance of having less class prep for the instructor and less time commitment for the registrant. The class can be conducted in 2-3 hours, depending on class participation.

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EQUIPMENT

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First Steps Program

Continued from page 11

First Steps would like to invite all reporters, whether an official, freelancer, CART provider, or captioner, to partner with us to help spread the word so our profession can continue to thrive.

The responsibilities of an instructor would be to set up the location (with audio/visual for the PowerPoint presentation), coordinate the anticipated class date with First Steps to secure the steno writers, and correspond with potential registrants. The instructor would also help promote the class in their area by using social media, talking to high schools, and/or the local media outlets about the class.

The "Recruitment & Career Kit" includes:

- Contact information of past registrants in the specified area – to provide all an opportunity to attend a class.
- Press release (editable) – for dissemination to local media announcing the class date/time.
- All class materials...
 - PowerPoint presentation – covering all types of information relating to court reporting, strength and weakness analysis, and a steno segment featuring a theory lesson provided courtesy of *Court Reporting and Captioning at Home*.
 - Both a bound workbook and PDF of the PowerPoint presentation.
 - PDF packet of handouts – covering a wide variety of information, as well as flyers from local and online schools.
- 11 steno writers to use during a First Steps class (transported at class time by CRS staff).

While First Steps has created this kit to make it easier on those who wish to instruct a class, no one is required to use our format. Whether it is in a class setting or not, I encourage all of you to share your story with others in the hopes that someone will see your excitement and want the same for themselves.

If anyone is interested in being a class instructor, you can reach out to First Steps Program Coordinator, Melissa Clagg, at stenoschool@gmail.com. You will be provided with the Recruitment & Career Kit so that YOU can conduct your own class. You can also visit our "Instructor/Mentors" website for more information.

On that note, we are also looking for mentors for the registrants who do enroll in a school/program. As you well know, having the support of someone who has experienced what they are about to experience might be the ticket to keep that student from dropping out.

Many reporters have inquired about donating their old writers to First Steps. So that we may provide the registrant with the most realistic view of what their training would be like, we would like to provide them with the most current technology; therefore, we would respectfully only accept computerized writers.

I would also like to mention we have a new Director of Court Reporting Services, Dustie Spradlin. Dustie has been in the administrative office alongside Past Director Tammy Bumgarner since the start of the CRS office. Dustie has been an integral part of the First Steps program and will continue to serve the needs of the CRS office as well as promoting the court reporting profession.

LINKS:

First Steps page – <https://www.ilcrs.com//firststeps>
Instructor/Mentors page – <https://www.ilcrs.com/mentors>

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Meet ILCRA's New Lobbyist

Brittan Bolin is the principal of her own consulting firm specializing in government relations. She brings over 25 years of experience in legislative communications and the lobbying process. In addition to lobbying, Brittan has assisted clients with marketing and procurement, grass roots and grass tops outreach, strategic communications, association management and editorial oversight.

Prior to launching her own firm, Brittan served as Director of Government Relations for Ronan Potts, LLC, where she provided communications services and lobbying for a variety of legislative clients ranging from state associations to multinational corporations. She also served as Vice President of Government Relations at McGuireWoods Consulting from 2006 to 2009 before returning to sole practice.

Before joining the private sector, Brittan served as the Chief Legislative Liaison for Illinois State Comptroller Loleta A. Didrickson and Illinois Lieutenant Governor Corinne Wood. She began her legislative career as a member of the House Republican Staff where she focused on constituent communications.

In her own lobbying practice, she concentrates on healthcare advocacy, education and local government issues and has represented several state professional associations. Additional information regarding Brittan's capabilities can be found on her website: www.brittanbolinconsulting.com.

Brittan is based in Springfield, IL where she lives with her husband and daughter.

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Ad Infinitum is published quarterly by the Illinois Court Reporters Association, 43150 Broadlands Center Plaza, 152-269, Ashburn, VA 20148. ILCRA assumes no responsibility for statements or claims made in Ad Infinitum. Subscription is included in annual membership dues paid by a member.

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ISSUE	PUBLICATION DATE	DEADLINE
Fall	October 15	September 15
Winter	January 15	December 15
Spring	April 15	March 15
Summer	July 15	June 15