

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024

.5 CEU (Full weekend: 1.5 CEUs NCRA Approved)

8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Location: Cleveland Room

OCRA Board of Directors Meeting

10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Location: Atrium

Registration and Vendor Setup

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Location: Salon V, VI

Karoscik Realtime Contest Warmup and Karoscik Realtime Contest

12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Location: Salon V, VI

Hagestrom Cup Speed Contest Warmup and Hagestrom Cup Speed Contest

** Lunch on your own **

Session 1 (.15 CEU)

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Location: Salon I, II, III

Future Outlook: Estate and Succession Planning*(Ref. Article III, Sects. 3.08 and 3.10 of the CE Program Rules)*

The goal of the presentation will be to review some basics and help the attendees get started with their estate planning or think about how they can refine or update their estate planning. The message will be that estate planning is not a "one and done" process. It is a natural and important part of ongoing financial planning that individuals, families, and businesses do to meet their goals, whether it's planning for education, retirement, business succession, their estates, or the unexpected. Topics will include wills, trusts, powers of attorney, probate, and will substitutes. Selection of fiduciaries will be discussed, and planning for specific assets such as life insurance, retirement plans and IRAs, digital assets, business interests, and real estate will be addressed. Questions are encouraged.

Michael G. Riley, Esquire**Senior Of Counsel****McDonald Hopkins LLC**

Mike has practiced law in Cleveland at McDonald Hopkins LLC since 1987 as an associate, partner, and now senior of counsel. It has been his privilege to advise professionals, business owners, executives, and their families in the areas of estate planning, incentive compensation, and business succession. Mike also works in estate administration. A Cleveland native, he delivered the Cleveland Press to Captain Penny. Mike graduated from the College of the Holy Cross (AB), Brown University (MAT), and Syracuse University College of Law (JD) before returning to Cleveland to join McDonald Hopkins LLC. He has continued his education and professional development after joining the firm, earning a master of tax law degree from Case Western University School of Law, and qualifying as an OSBA Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law. Mike is a happy resident of the greatest location in the nation with his wife, and they are fortunate to have two children and three grandchildren (who live too far away).

2:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Location: Atrium

Vendor and Refreshment Break

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024 CONTINUED
.5 CEU (Full weekend: 1.5 CEUs NCRA Approved)

Session 2 (.15 CEU)

2:45 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Location: Salon I, II, III

Computers and Technology: Friend or Foe?
(Ref. Article III, Sects. 3.04 and 3.05 of the CE Program Rules)

Buying a new computer? Wondering which antivirus software is best? Which cloud storage service should you use? What is cloud storage? This webinar will bring you face-to-face with the technology of 2023 covering a range of topics to make you as tech savvy and cyber wise as you want - or need - to be! Topics include but are not limited to: What to look for in buying a new computer, cloud storage options, secure networking at home and at the office, and so much more!

Sarah Nageotte, FAPR, RDR, CRR, CRC
Supervisor/Chief Court Reporter
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio

Sarah is the Court Reporter Supervisor and an official court reporter for the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio. In addition to her current employment with the federal court system, she has also worked in courts in Pennsylvania and Ohio and is celebrating her 26th year as a court reporter in 2024. Sarah is a past President of NCRA (the youngest!) and a past Director of the Ohio Court Reporters Association (OCRA) and currently serves as its Executive Director. She has extensive committee work at both the state and national levels. In 2017, Sarah was inducted as an NCRA Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters, and she has received the OCRA Distinguished Service, Diplomat, and Legislative Awards, the Miami Jacobs Alumni Award, and was recognized as one of the "Top 5 Under 45" by the Ashtabula Area Chamber of Commerce.

4:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Location: Atrium

Vendor and Refreshment Break

Session 3 (.2 CEU)

4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Location: Salon I, II, III

The Impact of A to Z and Career Days
Your Role in Expanding the Profession
(Ref. Article III, Sects. 3.02 and 3.10 of the CE Program Rules)

YOU are the greatest resource, the greatest asset our profession has. Learn about NCRA's A to Z Intro to Machine Shorthand program and how you can help recruit and introduce future court reporters and captioners to the profession. Our panel of presenters will walk you through the program materials and equipment available to conduct an intro program in your area. Whether one-on-one or large group training, your assistance is needed in Ohio! In addition, OCRA has received tremendous feedback from our appearance at the All Ohio Counselors Conference in late 2023. As such, the demand is soaring for court reporting and captioning presentations at high schools, vocational schools, and trade programs throughout Ohio. Learn what is needed from you to fulfill this demand and present the wonderful profession to our next generation!

Panel Presentation

Max Curry, RPR, CRI

Susan Coots, RPR

Sara Clark, RMR, CRR, CRC

Cindy LaRosa, RPR, CRI

Douglas Bettis

Ann Ford, RPR

See Session 3 panel bios on next page

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024 CONTINUED
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Session 3 Continued

R. Max Curry, Jr., RPR, CRI

Max is attending the conference on behalf of NCRA's Board of Directors and is a past president of NCRA (2019-2020). He holds a bachelor's degree of court reporting from the University of Mississippi and in early 2023 sold his firm, Elite-Brentwood Reporting. Max continues as a freelance reporter in Tennessee with more than 34 years of experience. He has also taught court reporting to students at the Tennessee Career College in Nashville.

Susan Coots, RPR

Susan has been a freelance court reporter since 1985 in the Columbus, Ohio area where she has covered many different types of proceedings, including magistrate hearings and federal grand jury in the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Ohio, and common pleas court trials. She has had the opportunity to travel to Modena, Italy, and Chautauqua, New York for depositions in the course of her 38-year career. Susan is the current OCRA president and attended NCRA's Legislative Boot Camp. She received the Martin Fincun Award in 2016. Susan has also enjoyed teaching A to Z classes for OCRA. Her main goal as president this year was to spread the word about our profession by attending the All Ohio Counselors Conference and high school career days and job fairs.

Sara Clark, RMR, CRR, CRC

Sara has been a freelance court reporter for over 27 years and is the owner of Clark Realtime Reporting, LLC. She is a past OCRA Board member and a recipient of OCRA's Diplomat Award in 2007. When not working, Sara enjoys spending time on her family farm with her husband, Chalaco, and their three beautiful children.

Cindy LaRosa, RPR, CRI

Cindy is an official court reporter for the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court and is a Registered Professional Reporter with the National Court Reporters Association (NCRA), a Certified Reporting Instructor, and has taught court reporting theory at a local college. Cindy is a member of the OCRA Board of Directors, has attended NCRA's Legislative Boot Camp, and has been slated as the 2024-2025 OCRA President.

Douglas Bettis

Doug is an official court reporter for the Summit County Common Pleas Court. Prior to his current position, he worked as an official reporter with Carroll County covering criminal, civil, domestic relations, and grand jury proceedings. Prior to that, he was an assistant to the court reporter coordinator for the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio, in Cleveland and a stenographer for two juvenile courts. Douglas is a regular presenter at OCRA's Annual Conferences. Douglas also serves as the OCRA Supreme Court Liaison and serves on the Ohio Judicial Conference CPET Committee. Douglas completed the 2017-2018 State Leadership Training through the National Court Reporters Association in Saint Louis, May 2017, and the 2018 NCRA Legislative Boot Camp, March 2018. He also coordinates A to Z programs for OCRA.

Ann Ford, RPR

Ann Ford has been a freelance court stenographer since 1985 and is the owner of Ann Ford Reporting, Inc. Ann is a current OCRA board member and spends some of her time mentoring her sister Amy in her quest to join the profession. Her role as "Ging Ging" to her four grandchildren will find her playing dress-up, riding bikes, baking goodies, reading children's books, and attending tea parties! Her grandkiddos have access to her "older" steno machines and love to "write" away when visiting!

** Dinner on your own **

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024

.7 CEU (Full weekend: 1.5 CEUs NCRA Approved)

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Location: Atrium/Salon I, II, III

Registration and Continental Breakfast**Session 4 (.2 CEU)**

8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Location: Salon I, II, III

Domestic Terrorism: The Who, What, When, and Why*(Ref. Article III, Sects. 3.02, 3.10, and 3.01 of the CE Program Rules)*

The threat posed by terrorism - both international and domestic - has evolved significantly since 9/11. As the threat to the United States and U.S. interests evolves, we must adapt and confront these challenges by building partnerships that support the detection of and response to threats of terrorism, targeted violence, and hate crimes. This timely session will discuss the evolving threat environment; focus on the transition of domestic radicals from activism to extremism and to terrorism; evolving group threats and threats by lone actors inspired by groups or movements; the decentralized and informal nature of group and individual interaction; and their reliance on social media and funding to carry out violent terrorist acts. As an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, **Duncan** will address local terrorism cases, the process from investigation to conviction, and the important role that court reporters and their transcripts play in these cases.

Duncan T. Brown, Assistant United States Attorney**National Security and Cyber Unit****Office of the US Attorney, Northern District of Ohio**

Duncan T. Brown is an Assistant United States Attorney with the Office of the United States Attorney, Northern District of Ohio. He is currently assigned to the National Security and Cyber Unit and is the International Affairs Coordinator. He also serves on the National Working Group for the Department of Justice's Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section. Duncan led the trial team that successfully prosecuted three Romanian cybercriminals responsible for generating the largest amount of malicious spam in the year 2016 and defrauding victims around the world of over 40 million dollars. He was also the lead prosecutor in the prosecution of five anarchists who unsuccessfully plotted to blow up the Route 82 Bridge in Macedonia, Ohio. Duncan regularly provides overseas trainings to prosecutors and law enforcement officials on behalf of the Department of Justice.

10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Location: Atrium

Vendor, Silent Auction, and Refreshment Break**Session 5 (.15 CEU)**

10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Location: Salon I, II, III

Maintain Control and Make It Count*(Ref. Article III, Sects. 3.03 and 3.10 of the CE Program Rules)*

Are you someone that has been suffering from urinary issues in silence? Have you ever wondered what kind of things we can do to prevent urinary issues as we age or improve issues that are already present. You may be surprised to know that over 50% of women over the age of 18 suffer from urinary incontinence and more than 10% of men over the age of 18 suffer from urinary incontinence. Urogynecologist Dr. Adonis Hijaz, Pelvic Floor Physical Therapist Karen Connor, and Registered Nurse Melody Loechler will define different types of urinary incontinence, talk about lifestyle and behavioral modifications that may help to improve or prevent symptoms, exercises that are helpful for maintaining a healthy pelvic floor, and treatments that are currently available to treat symptoms.

Panel Presentation

Adonis Hijaz, MD

Karen Connor, PT DPT, PRPC

Melody Loechler, BSN, RN, CN, CCRP

See Session 5 panel bios on next page

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024 CONTINUED
.7 CEU (Full weekend: 1.5 CEUs NCRA Approved)

Session 5 Continued

Adonis Hijaz, MD

Dr. Adonis Hijaz is a board-certified urologist at University Hospitals, director of the Center of Female Pelvic Medicine and Surgery, and Vice Chair of Academics and Research for University Hospitals Urology Institute. He is the Lester Persky Professor of Urology at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Dr. Hijaz's career path took a distinct turn when he recognized the opportunity for specialization within the field of urology. During his fellowship training, female urology was in its early stages, emerging as a growing subspecialty. Understanding the significant gaps in knowledge, he committed himself to becoming a master in this evolving field. He specializes in a wide range of urological disorders and treatments, including female pelvic disorders, pelvic reconstruction and robotic-assisted prolapse surgery. While his clinical contributions are substantial, Dr. Hijaz's impact extends profoundly into the realm of research. He has orchestrated and contributed to numerous projects backed by notable institutions like the National Institutes of Health (NIH). His contributions span over 100 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, and abstracts in renowned medical publications. Dr. Hijaz has also lent his expertise as a reviewer for esteemed journals such as the Journal of Urology and the Journal of Pelvic Medicine and Surgery. Dr. Hijaz is a proud member of prominent societies including the American Urological Association, the American Urogynecology Society, and the Society of Urodynamics and Female Urology.

Karen Connor, PT DPT, PRPC

Karen Connor works as a pelvic health clinical specialist at University Hospitals. In addition to her doctorate, she holds a certification pelvic floor rehabilitation. Her passion is demystifying the pelvic floor and pelvic floor function. She has presented at local universities, community groups and professional organizations on topics including physiology of stress, yoga and the pelvic floor, pregnancy, and common pelvic floor dysfunctions (urinary/bowel dysfunction). Dr. Connor is currently developing several health initiatives for patients at University Hospitals including sexual health, chronic pelvic pain and postpartum recovery. She treats all genders.

Melody Loechler, BSN, RN, CN, CCRP

Melody Loechler is a research nurse and study coordinator for the Urology Department at University Hospitals. In addition to working for Urology, Melody has past experience working on a research unit providing care to multiple populations, working as a postpartum nurse while she lived in Wisconsin, was a school nurse for a number of years, and even taught community nursing classes for a local university. Her favorite part of nursing is providing education and positive outcomes to her patients.

12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Location: Salon IV, V, VI

2024 Business Meeting, Scholarships, Member Awards, Installation of Board, and Luncheon

** Plated Lunch Provided **

Session 6 (.2 CEU)

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Salon I, II, III

Empower Yourself

Situational Awareness and Self-Defense for Everyday Life

(Ref. Article III, Sects. 3.10 and 3.11 of the CE Program Rules)

This presentation aims to empower individuals by enhancing their situational awareness and providing practical self-defense strategies tailored for daily situations. Explore the importance of being alert in various environments and learn effective techniques to navigate and respond to potential threats. From personal safety tips to hands-on self-defense practices, this session equips participants with valuable knowledge and skills to confidently navigate their everyday lives. Join us for an empowering experience focused on fostering a sense of security and self-confidence.

Will Ashcraft

Meet Coach Will Ashcraft, a Taekwondo Master with an impressive 38 years of training and coaching experience. As a seasoned USA boxing coach, he brings a wealth of knowledge to the world of martial arts. Coach Ashcraft is also the dedicated owner of Mpower Gym and Mpower Academy, where he passionately empowers individuals, fostering physical and mental strength beyond the training mats.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024 CONTINUED
.7 CEU (Full weekend: 1.5 CEUs NCRA Approved)

4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Location: Atrium

Vendor, Silent Auction, and Refreshment Break

Session 7 (.15 CEU)

4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Location: Salon I, II, III

Steno Self-Improvement: Challenge Yourself

(Ref. Article III, Sects. 3.01, 3.02, 3.04, and 3.10 of the CE Program Rules)

What does 100+ years of court reporting experience look like? In this session, you will find out! Our panel of presenters have over a century of working experience in the profession and will discuss how, after decades, they continue to learn the trade and improve their skills. Lance, Shirle, and Yolanda will share their combined knowledge on practice groups, software training, and more ... giving you tips and tricks to continue growing within this amazing profession.

Panel Presentation

Lance Boardman, RDR, CRR

Shirle Perkins, RMR, CRR

Yolanda Walton, RPR

Lance Boardman, RDR, CRR

Lance is a graduate of Champlain College in Vermont and has been court reporting in various capacities for over 40 years. He is currently a federal official court reporter for the Northern District of Ohio. Lance has served as a Director on the NCRA Board and on several of NCRA's committees, including the NCSA Governing Committee, Education Content, Policies & Procedures, and Finance. He currently serves as a Trustee on the National Court Reporters Foundation, as well as OCRA's Vice President. Lance is an NCRA Speed and Realtime Contest Qualifier and OCRA Realtime Contest champion.

Shirle Perkins, RDR, CRR

Shirle is a graduate of Cuyahoga Community College and has been a court reporter for 44 years. She has worked as a federal official court reporter for the Northern District of Ohio for 32 years. She loves the profession and works daily on self-improvement. At the age of 61, she joined Rich Germosen's practice group and participated for the first time in the OCRA Speed Contest and qualified.

Yolanda Walton, RPR

Yolanda is an official court reporter for Huron County Common Pleas Court and is a Past President of the Ohio Court Reporters Association. She has been instrumental in helping OCRA stay the course as one of the leading court reporting and captioning associations in the country. She also is a past Director on the NCRA Board of Directors. Yolanda has received the Ohio Court Reporters Association Glenn Stiles Distinguished Service Award, Martin Fincun, and Diplomat Awards for her outstanding service to the profession and association.

6:00 p.m.

Location: Salon I, II, III

Hagestrom Cup Speed Contest and Karoscik Realtime Contest Results

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Location: Atrium

Silent Auction Ends at 6:00/Pick Up Winning Items

Vendor Wrap-Up

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024 CONTINUED
.7 CEU (Full weekend: 1.5 CEUs NCRA Approved)

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Location: Salon IV, V, VI

Submerge Yourself!
President's Saturday Reception
Main raffle winner announced
** Dinner Provided / Cash Bar Available**
Live Entertainment

A CALL FOR TALENT !!

Yes, we are going live at the 2024 Annual Conference at the Cleveland Marriott East this year. Court reporters, captioners, students, and friends, display your musical talent on stage at the Saturday night reception. This year's theme, Between the Shadows, relates to the Total Solar Eclipse, which will happen the day after our convention, so the sun and/or moon could be featured in the musical selections.

You are invited to participate in entertaining your fellow OCRA family! Email Tim Meinke at meinke.timothy@gmail.com for more information and to sign up today!!



SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024

.3 CEU (Full weekend: 1.5 CEUs NCRA Approved)

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Location: Atrium

Continental Breakfast

Session 8 (.15 CEU)

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Location: Salon I, II, III

The Importance of Court Records in Shipwreck Research
(Ref. Article III, Sects. 3.02 and 3.10 of the CE Program Rules)

When discovering shipwrecks, many people envision donning scuba gear, jumping into the water, and descending to discover a lost shipwreck on the bottom. However, the truth is that shipwrecks are usually only found after many years of research in libraries and archives. One of the most valuable and important sources of research are court records and testimony, which inevitably follow the loss of any property or lives. These records are important not only for understanding the events surrounding a shipwreck but are also highly valued because of their reliability. Sworn testimony and evidence that is presented in a courtroom are unlike those found in newspapers and other sources. Thus, court records and testimony have figured prominently into several shipwrecks found in Lake Erie. This talk will look at those cases and show why record preservation is so important, even over a hundred years or more.

Cindy LaRosa

Cindy began diving the Great Lakes in the early 1990s and has over 1,000 logged dives and holds numerous dive certifications up through Advanced Nitrox. She is an official court reporter for the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court and is a Registered Professional Reporter with the National Court Reporters Association (NCRA), is a Certified Reporting Instructor, and has taught court reporting theory at a local college. Cindy is a member of the Cleveland Underwater Explorers (CLUE), the National Museum of the Great Lakes (NMGL), Maritime Archaeological Survey Team (MAST), Lake Erie Wreck Divers (LEWD), and the Bay Area Divers (BAD).

Kevin Magee

Kevin was certified for scuba in 1984. He moved to the Cleveland, OH, area in 1993 and discovered shipwreck diving in the Great Lakes shortly afterwards. He enthusiastically practices diving shipwrecks in Lake Erie as well as the other Great Lakes. He was trimix certified in 1999 and has visited many of the pristine deep-water wrecks that technical diving allows. In 2001 he co-founded the Cleveland Underwater Explorers (CLUE), which has found over 35 shipwrecks in Lake Erie. Kevin is a member of the National Museum of the Great Lakes (NMGL), Maritime Archaeological Survey Team (MAST), Lake Erie Wreck Divers (LEWD), and Bay Area Divers (BAD).

10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Location: Atrium

Refreshment Break

Session 9 (.15 CEU)

10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Location: Salon I, II, III

Artificial What? Test Your Intelligence!
(Ref. Article III, Sects. 3.02, 3.04, 3.05, 3.09, and 3.10 of the CE Program Rules)

Can ChatGPT hold its own in a debate with you? Can you trust it? Does it have a sense of humor? We'll play with it a little together and see what you think. We will follow it up with an important STRONG update and discuss why you need to stay abreast of developing technology.

See Session 9 panel bios on next page

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024 CONTINUED
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Session 9 Continued**Panel Presentation**

Sue Terry, FAPR, RPR, CRR, CRC
Lin Riffle, RDR, CRR, CRC, Realtime Systems Administrator
Kim Falgiani, RDR, CRR, CRC, CSR (HI)
Douglas Bettis

Sue Terry, FAPR, RPR, CRR, CRC

Sue currently serves as the official court reporter for the Greene County Common Pleas Court in Xenia, Ohio. She is a Past President of the National Court Reporters Association, the Ohio Court Reporters Association, and the StenoCat Users Network. She has served and chaired numerous NCRA committees and task forces. Sue is a Registered Professional Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter and Certified Realtime Captioner. She has been awarded the distinction of being a Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters by the National Court Reporters Association and is the only person in NCRA's long history to receive both the NCRA Distinguished Service Award and the Jim Bouley Family Altruism Award in the same year.

Lin Riffle, RDR, CRR, CRC, Realtime Systems Administrator

Lin has been a freelance realtime stenographic court reporter in Columbus, Ohio, since graduating from Bliss College in 1987, first working for an agency and now self-employed. She primarily covers depositions, arbitrations, and administrative hearings. Lin enjoys and has placed in realtime and speed contests at the state and national level. She currently serves as the Treasurer and Contests Committee Chair for the OCRA and is a member of the NCRA STRONG Committee. In 2022, Lin attended NCRA's legislative Boot Camp.

Kim Falgiani, RDR, CRR, CRC, CSR (HI)

Kim has been in the court reporting profession for 44 years enjoying work as an official, freelance reporter, business owner, and is currently an Independent Contractor providing Captioning services. Her passion for equal communication access led her to work in the broadcast captioning field, then working with the Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing community and the Visually Impaired community providing Captioning and CART remotely and on-site for the past 22 years. Kim is currently the Secretary for OCRA, a member of NCRA's STRONG Committee, and NCRA's Chair of the Captioning Committee.

Douglas Bettis

Doug is an official court reporter for the Summit County Common Pleas Court. Prior to his current position, he worked as an official reporter with Carroll County covering criminal, civil, domestic relations, and grand jury proceedings. Prior to that, he was an assistant to the court reporter coordinator for the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio, in Cleveland and a stenographer for two juvenile courts. Douglas is a regular presenter at OCRA's Annual Conferences. Douglas also serves as the OCRA Supreme Court Liaison and serves on the Ohio Judicial Conference CPET Committee. Douglas completed the 2017-2018 State Leadership Training through the National Court Reporters Association in Saint Louis, May 2017, and the 2018 NCRA Legislative Boot Camp, March 2018. He also coordinates A to Z programs for OCRA.

** Conference Ends **

SAVE THE WEEKEND FOR THE OCRA 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE