

The New Realities of Court Reporting

A guide to understanding the dynamics of a fast-changing marketplace



THE BASICS



BENEFITS



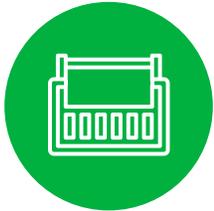
LIMITATIONS



MYTHS VS. REALITY



BOTTOM LINE



STENOGRAPHY

- Stenographer translates spoken words to “shorthand” keystrokes.
- Computer converts keystrokes to text.

- Familiar technology to consumers.
- Real time stenographers can produce instant access to proceedings & expedited transcript.

- Rapidly declining number of stenographers.
- Transcript turn-around time often limited by stenographers who don’t share production duties.
- Many stenographers not capable of real time.

- Stenography is an anachronism—**stenography makes full use of technology.**
- Stenographer shortage can be solved—**it is impossible to replenish number of stenographers** (see related STTI study below).

- A well-trained stenographer sets the standard...
- ...but their ranks are diminishing, quickly.
- The market needs to replace the work of nearly 20,000 stenographers by 2033.



DIGITAL REPORTING

- Digital reporter (or “monitor”) supervises recording of proceedings.
- Transcriptionist team produces transcript.

- Full capability to produce verbatim transcript.
- Expedited transcript production.
- Access to audio, synced to transcript.

- Digital automated speech recognition does not yet yield the level of accuracy to deliver real time in a legal setting.

- Digital audio prone to more errors than steno—**independent microphones & digital reporters ensure adherence to highest standards.**

- Digital audio has seen decades of use in courts.
- Consumers will see no difference in transcript quality or delivery times.
- A future that includes high-quality digital reporting is inevitable.



VOICE WRITING

- Voice writer repeats proceedings word-for-word into insulated microphone, or mask.
- Computer converts recording into text.

- Full capability to produce verbatim transcript.
- Real time voice writers can produce instant access to proceedings & expedited transcript.

- Very limited number of voice writers in the market.
- Unaccustomed consumers sometimes find mask voice writers use to be awkward.

- Murmuring of voice writer is disruptive to proceedings—**a sound-proof mask renders the voice writer’s voice all but silent in any setting.**

- A great system for capturing & converting the spoken word to text.
- Until more voice writers are recruited & trained, won’t become a major part of the solutions to the shortage.



STTI Study: Stenographer Shortage Will Worsen

The established national shortage of stenographers will double to more than 11,000 by 2023, eclipse 18,000 by 2028, and swell to more than 23,000 by 2033. Even if other viable technologies did not exist—but they do—the market still will need alternatives to replace the holes filled by more than 1,000 retiring stenographers each year while no more than 200 stenographers enter the market as court reporters.



SETTING THE STANDARD FOR THE VERBATIM, LEGAL RECORD