



Affiliated Court Reporters

Affiliated Court Reporters Highlights Role of Real-time Reporting in Accurate Legal Records

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Affiliated Court Reporters is drawing attention to the importance of accurate transcripts and real-time court reporting as legal teams across Minnesota and Western Wisconsin prepare cases that depend on a complete official record. The firm notes that errors in transcribed testimony can delay proceedings, complicate appeals, and weaken case strategy, making precision in the written record a central concern in litigation.

Realtime reporting allows attorneys and legal staff to view testimony as it is created on laptops, tablets, or other devices. The live feed supports immediate review of statements, keyword searches during a proceeding, and faster adjustments during depositions or hearings. Affiliated Court Reporters also provides rough drafts for same-day reference and expedited transcript options when court deadlines require faster delivery of a reviewed record.

Patricia A. Hulse, RPR, CRR, CRC, owner of Affiliated Court Reporters, described the connection between speed and accuracy. "A reliable transcript is the foundation of the official record, and real-time reporting gives legal teams access to that record while testimony is still unfolding," Hulse said. "The goal is to capture every word with the precision courts expect, then make that information available when attorneys need it."

Hulse has more than four decades of experience as a court reporter and has held full ownership of the firm since January 2020. Affiliated Court Reporters has remained a reporter-owned business with a Minnesota heritage dating to the 1950s. The firm is an independent member of the National Court Reporters Association and a member of the Minnesota Association of Verbatim Reporters and Captioners.

All of the firm's reporters are certified Remote Online Notaries, allowing them to swear in witnesses and verify identity through secure platforms when proceedings take place remotely. That capability supports virtual and hybrid depositions while addressing notarization requirements that can affect the admissibility of a record. Encrypted systems are used for transcript delivery and storage, with online access to transcripts and exhibits through a secure repository.

The firm's reporting work covers a range of practice areas, including class actions, construction, employment law, family law, medical malpractice, patent law, personal injury, pharmaceutical law, and workers' compensation. Realtime services are used in both in-person and virtual settings, including last-minute assignments and proceedings that involve multiple participants.

Hulse added, "Accuracy is not a separate step from reporting. It is the purpose of the work, whether the proceeding is in a conference room, a courtroom, or a remote session."

Additional tools that support the record include word indexing, hyperlinking of exhibits, and professional legal videography with text-to-video synchronization. These features help legal teams locate testimony and related materials after a proceeding concludes. Online scheduling is available for depositions and related services.

The emphasis on accurate transcripts reflects an industry need rather than a change in the firm's core function. Litigation continues to depend on a record that opposing counsel, judges, and appellate courts can rely upon. Affiliated Court Reporters positions real-time reporting, certified notaries, and secure delivery as part of that documentation process.

The court reporting company serves Minnesota and Western Wisconsin and maintains conference rooms in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area for in-person sessions when they are required. Reporters also travel to locations convenient to a case. Long-term client relationships, some spanning several decades, have been built around consistent delivery of timely and accurate transcripts.

Affiliated Court Reporters remains a locally owned, reporter-run firm focused on certified reporting, confidentiality, and complete legal records. The current discussion of realtime access and transcript accuracy underscores how documentation practices continue to shape preparation, strategy, and outcomes in the region's courts.

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Affiliated Court Reporters

Our dedicated reporters use cutting-edge technologies to ensure that the most relevant and up-to-the-minute information is available to you.

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