

Agenda

7:00 – 8:00	Registration/Breakfast	
8:00 – 9:00	Julia Bammel	Finding your Inner Ninja
9:00 – 10:30	Al Sternberg	Evidence and Real Criminal Minds
10:30 – 11:00	Morning Break	Raffle/Board Nominations
11:00 – 12:30	Tori Pittman	We are More Alike than Different
12:30 – 2:00	Business Lunch/Town Hall Meeting	Debbie Dibble, NCRA
2:00-4:000	Jeffrey Breit	Deepwater Horizon Continued
4:00 – 4:30	Afternoon Break	Raffle/Heads-or-Tails
4:30 – 5:30	Mary Ann Payonk	If you want me to do something, TELL ME I CAN'T

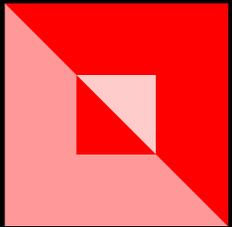
(Dave Stanley will be available for one-on-one Case Catalyst and Eclipse training with reporters throughout the day. Sign-up sheet will be at registration table)

Order of Sessions subject to change

NCRA - .80 CEU*

NVRA - .70 CEU*

*pending approval



Speakers

Jeffrey Breit, Esquire

Working with a Federal Court Judge in New Orleans while he was in college fueled Jeffrey Breit's interest in the law. A native of the Tidewater area, his father, brothers and even his wife have all been attorneys at one time or another. In 1988, he left the firm where his father had practiced and together with Jack Drescher started Breit, Drescher & Breit specializing in representing injured victims. As past president of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, Jeffrey has been instrumental in persuading Virginia's General Assembly to raise the cap on damages plaintiffs may receive in medical malpractice suits. Throughout a successful career he has continued to work hard to improve the reputation of attorneys representing injured people. Jeffrey is an adjunct professor of law at William & Mary Law School. He has been characterized as tough, fair and honest.

Professional Honors & Activities:

MDL Deepwater Horizon (BP Oil Spill), Member of the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee

The Litigator Awards, Ranked Top 1% of Lawyers - 2014

William & Mary's St. George Tucker Adjunct Professorship Award Recipient, 2008

Adjunct Professor of Law, William & Mary Law School

Voting Member of the GRAMMY Awards

Fellow, National College of Advocacy, AAJ Michele E. Eddy, RPR, CRR, CRI, CLR, Realtime Systems

Administrator Certificate

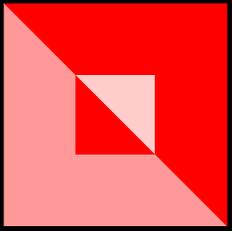
Tori Pittman, BA, FAPR, RDR, CRI, CVR-CM-M, RCP

Tori has been a part of the court reporting profession since she answered an ad for office manager for a boutique freelance agency in Raleigh, North Carolina. She has served in many different capacities, including scopist, reporting student, CART provider, freelance reporter, official reporter, state leader, mentor, and CAT software trainer since that fateful day in 1990.

While originally starting her reporting career as a machine reporter, she cross-trained to voice reporting in the mid-2000s after a diagnosis of tendinitis in both arms. She has attained the highest certifications in both methods and continues to work toward the realtime certifications as well. In 2014, she achieved the Realtime CART Provider certification using open microphone in voice technology.

She currently manages her own local freelance agency, The Amanuensis, LLC, d/b/a Pittman Stenography, from her home base in Wake Forest, North Carolina, where she provides both deposition and hearing reporting and also scoping and transcription services.

Over the past several years, Tori has taken on new challenges and started moving in new directions, which included becoming certified in another state, working remotely, and creating seminar content in which to share her experiences with Intersteno, CAT software, and with the practice of voice writing. She takes seriously the opportunity to showcase voice writing technology to steno reporters whenever she has the chance because it's the skill, ethics, and the brain of the court reporter that sets us apart, not our method of practice.



Speakers

Al Sternberg, NCJT

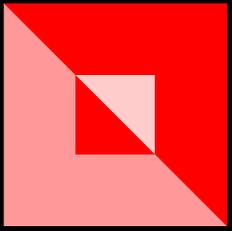
Al Sternberg, retired from Wake County Sheriff's Office, 1988-2017. Experience with Patrol, Crime Prevention/ Public Relations. Decade as fraud and major crimes detective 2001-2011. Promoted to Sergeant and later Lieutenant, last 7 years managed the Evidence Room, a CSI dream place! Taught cadet deputies and colleague officers about basics and of highly advanced criminal investigation subjects. Starting in 2017 made transition full time into scoping, transcription with Eclipse. Training to become court reporter using voice method

Julia A. Bammel, RPR, CSR, CCR

Julia is a reporter who hails from Michigan and has been a freelance court reporter for over 13 years. She holds an RPR, CSR, and CCR with Virginia Court Reporters Association. Julia has given presentations at the Kentucky Court Reporters Convention, Greater Washington Shorthand Reporters Association, and the Reporter Empowerment Conference, as well as sitting on a panel with judges and attorneys to discuss how to make a clean record.

Mary Ann Payonk, CCR

Mary Ann is a 1977 graduate of Central Pennsylvania Business School in Summerdale, Pennsylvania, and she has worked for over 20 years in the Richmond area. Mary Ann is currently working in the Greater Washington, D.C. market. She served as president for two terms in the Greater Washington Shorthand Reporters Association. She is a former RPR, RMR, RDR, CRR and CCR with NCRA, when she voluntarily chose to cancel her membership approximately 5 years ago. Mary Ann is an independent Freelance Realtime Reporter and is a certified reporter and certified realtime reporter in California. Mary Ann advocates for reporters every single day and believes in giving back to the profession. Mary Ann has now begun an annual Empowerment Conference in Old Town Alexandria, contributing her own time and money, all while striving for a Firm Owners Conference type event for the working reporter.



Topics

Deepwater Horizons Continued

Virginia Beach attorney Jeffrey Breit returns to elaborate further on his involvement in representing hundreds of Gulf Coast fishermen whose livelihoods were imperiled by the BP oil spill.

He happened to be in New Orleans to deliver a speech at a conference, and a skipper sought out the attorney because of his work representing menhaden fishermen in personal injury matters and contract disputes. Believing he had agreed to help a few commercial anglers, he was surprised to learn that his name had been passed to 260 watermen. His client roster continued to grow, and he represented more than 500 fishermen.

He will speak on his experience in not only litigating the cases, but also to the technology used and the role the court reporters played in the process.

Finding Your Inner Ninja

Schools train students to be machine shorthand writers, but it's the reporting community that teaches them to be court reporters.

We all have a responsibility to the profession at large to share what we know to help ourselves and those around us to be better at what we do. Everyone has something to offer. We need to disabuse ourselves of the notion that rookies have nothing to offer and that experienced reporters have nothing to learn.

Whether through life experience, work in the field, tricks we've picked up along the way, or just learning things the hard way, everyone knows something that will make another reporter better. Whether it's software tricks, technology updates, dealing with a difficult attorney, formatting for unusual proceedings, or handling that delicate work-life balance, everyone needs a little help sometimes.

This presentation is about why this unique profession requires community support, how to both offer and receive that support constructively, the various settings to exchange information, and just how important that information exchange can be to reporters at all levels of this profession.

Even though we tend to be seen and not heard, "Finding Your Inner Ninja" then discusses ways to use the "silent warrior" mentality in creative ways in our daily work encounters to make the job easier and more enjoyable.

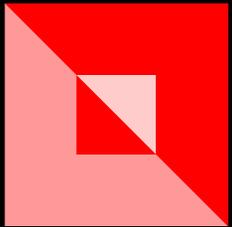
Silent Steno Warrior

Evidence and Real Criminal Minds

Ever wonder what it would be like to be a major crimes/fraud detective or an analyst like Garcia on Criminal Minds?

Retired Lieutenant Al Sternberg lays it out, presenting on how theory and fiction meet reality. He presents on his special practical approach to understanding and exploiting behavior of offenders to identify them, build a case, hunt them, and bring them to justice: burglars, identity thieves, arsonists, robbers, drug offenders, major white collar criminals, child porn producers and collectors, con men, espionage offender, computer hackers, murderers, sex offenders, and other criminals.

How he worked with other detectives, state agents, federal agents, crime scene agents, crime lab staff, and "Garcia." Capped off with an array of behavioral, financial and electronic analyses made during the notorious Michelle Young murder case of 2006.



Topics

We're More Alike Than Different:

What is voice writing technology and how does it work?

Welcome to a voice writing technology primer. During the course of this program, you'll learn about the hardware and software that a voice writer uses to take down the record. We'll discuss the similarities and differences in how voice writers and machine writers do their jobs on a daily basis. We'll explore areas like certification, education, ethics, general practice, macros and theory.

By the end of the session (which I promise will fly by!), you'll have a much clearer understanding of how voice writing works and how voice writers really do the same thing that steno writers do, just with a different manner of input. You may even be inspired to contact your CAT company to see about adding the voice module to your software license so that you can try it out to take out "insurance" for your profession should you develop a repetitive stress issue.

Bring your questions and Tori will do her best to answer them for you. Oh, yeah... there will be a realtime demonstration too so bring your tablet, phone, or computer and get the draft realtime feed.

If you want me to do something, TELL ME I CAN'T

Playtime's Over! A seriously funny look at what we do and how we do it. I'll talk about some of the most concerning issues facing working freelance reporters today through the use of humorous memes and offer suggestions on how to survive in our changing world of reporting. Did you take my advice and spend 2018 getting good at what you do? Well now it's time to get better, time to get tough with agencies and start running your business LIKE a business. Let's GET GOING!