

Tracy, Mary

From: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK
Sent: Friday, August 19, 2016 8:48 AM
To: Tracy, Mary
Subject: FW: Court Reporter amendments

Forwarding.

From: Judy Steenberg-Webb [mailto:jwebb@yomreporting.com]
Sent: Friday, August 19, 2016 8:46 AM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: Court Reporter amendments

Dear Members of the Supreme Court:

As a certified court reporter in Washington State, I am writing to urge you to adopt CR 28(d), (e), and CR 30(b)(1) for all of the reasons outlined in the GR 9 cover pages.

****Please look closely at who submits these letters. We are court reporters certified to do the job. There will be letters from the insurance companies' lobbyists and national firms contracting with these insurance companies that are not certified and do not attempt to adhere to the rules. As certified court reporters we must abide by the rules or lose our licenses, while there are no repercussions for the national firms contracting with the insurance companies when they change the final transcript from the court reporter****

I believe the adoption of CR 28(d) will provide quick remedies for violations of equal terms outlined in CR 28(c) that are regularly being engaged in by nationwide firms here in the state of Washington.

I believe the passage of CR 28(e) will prevent court reporting firms from making changes to transcripts after the original transcript has been completed. It will prevent unethical and unscrupulous "stretching" of transcripts by reducing the characters per line established in RAP 9.2 and WAC 308-14-135 guidelines in order to create a longer transcript and charge higher fees for same to the consumers of our product.

I think the adoption of CR 30(b)(1) requiring transparency and notification within the deposition notice to disclose the existence of any known contractual relationships between the noticing party, its counselor, a third party paying to record the noticed deposition and the person, court reporting firm, consortium, or other organization providing a court reporter for the noticed deposition is necessary to ensure all parties are aware of what could be considered a violation of CR 28(c), in that a court reporting firm that has a long-term contract with one of the parties is not a disinterested person under CR 28(c).

Thank you for publishing these proposed rules. I very much hope they will be adopted.

Sincerely yours,

JUDY STEENBERGEN-WEBB
RPR, CCR NO. 2495

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