

OFFICIAL CERTIFIED SUPERIOR COURT TRANSCRIPTS

(a) Definitions.

(1) “Authorized transcriptionist” means a person approved by a Superior Court to prepare an official verbatim report of proceedings of an electronically recorded court proceeding in that court.

(2) “Certified court reporter” means a person who meets the standards outlined in RCW 18.145.080.

(3) “Mentorship” means a professional relationship between an experienced, authorized transcriptionist or a certified court reporter and another transcriptionist for the purpose of providing guidance, encouragement, and professional advice.

(b) Official court transcripts may be completed and filed by (1) an official court reporter employed by the court or other certified court reporter; or (2) a court employee with job responsibilities to transcribe a report of proceedings; or (3) an authorized transcriptionist who has been approved by the jurisdiction conducting the hearing to be transcribed.

(c) Each court will determine who has the authority to approve transcriptionists for that jurisdiction.

(d) Except as otherwise ordered by the court the minimum qualification to become an authorized transcriptionist in order to complete and file an official certified court transcript from electronically recorded proceedings is certification as a court reporter or certification by AAERT (American Association of Electronic Reporters and Transcribers) or proof of one year of supervised mentorship with a certified court reporter or an authorized transcriptionist. Courts may require additional qualifications at their discretion.

(e) The certified court reporter or authorized transcriptionist shall attach to the official transcript filed with the court a certificate in substantially the following form:

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the following is true and correct:

1. That I am a certified court reporter (or authorized transcriptionist);
2. I received the electronic recording directly from the trial court conducting the hearing;
3. This transcript is a true and correct record of the proceedings to the best of my ability, including any changes made by the trial judge reviewing the transcript;
4. I am in no way related to or employed by any party in this matter, nor any counsel in the matter; and
5. I have no financial interest in the outcome or end result of the litigation.

(Date and Place)

(Signature)