



Tennessee Court  
Reporters Association



## The Volunteer Reporter

### First courthouse in Franklin County 1807 - 1814 Reconstructed in April 1975

In breaking with the traditional format of TCRA's quarterly publication of The Volunteer Reporter this month, we are also breaking with the traditional photograph of a modern-day courthouse on our cover.

This photograph of the first county courthouse in Franklin County, Tennessee, was contributed by Martha Davis.



### President's Message

Hello to All!

This new year is going by so fast! It's already March! I hope you are great and staying busy during these crazy times! I know life has been fulfilled with COVID and snow and some sunshine!

I have been working a lot on the convention that's coming up in May! I'm looking forward to our convention in Gatlinburg this year. It will be awesome to see your smiling faces in person.

Please reach out to me if you need anything at all and I hope you have a wonderful few months leading up to the convention!

See you soon!

Your TCRA President,  
Misty Brigham

### Greetings from Convention Central!

It's Convention Time in Tennessee!!

We are gearing up for TCRA's 2021 Convention at Margaritaville Resort in Gatlinburg, TN on May 14 & 15, 2021. This resort is absolutely gorgeous and in the middle of all the action in Gatlinburg! With a new addition and upgrade to their pool area and St. Somewhere Spa available, please make your hotel reservation as soon as possible. We have a limited number of rooms reserved and they are at an unbelievable cost savings for this time of the year.



Each One, Reach One! Whether you can make the trip in person or attend virtually, your Convention Committee has done it again. Our speaker lineup is pending approval from NCRA, but we are too excited to keep quiet much longer about who we have joining us this year. We have great content with a focus on this year's theme. Passing our knowledge to each other in honing our own skill set and bringing in and lifting up the next generation of court reporters are the keys to our success!

- We have our presenters' bios and seminar content available on Convention Central, which is where you will once again find everything convention related. We will be offering a minimum of 1.2 CEUs this year, over half of our 2-year requirement.
- Silent Auction will be back, but this year it will be completely online. We will have further details on that coming soon.
- We look forward to seeing you all, whether in person or virtual, for our Friday Night Social. Let's all find our Lost Shaker of Salt together!
- Although the voting procedure for membership is still only allowable in person at the moment, our Annual Business Meeting will be available for viewing purposes only. If you wish to cast your vote, you will need to plan for your attendance in person.
- We will be accepting Convention Sponsors this year with advertisement spaces available.
- Also keeping the Each One, Reach One movement going, the Fundraising Committee will have T-Shirts and Masks available for purchase. These items have been carefully designed and priced to advertise our commitment to the goal of outreach, recruitment and continue the work of our association.

Please visit Convention Central for complete registration information and finding out about all things convention. We would LOVE to see you all in person, but Margaritaville Resort is, of course, limiting our attendance and implementing all current COVID-19 restrictions and procedures. When we have reached our maximum number for in-person attendance, our registration form will indicate we can accept virtual attendance only from that point forward. Convention Central will open April 2, 2021!

We look forward to another successful event and hope to see you all there!

April Lassiter-Benson,  
TCRA Vice President and Convention Committee Chair

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## TCRA Annual Business Meeting 2021

Our Annual Business Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 15, 2021, at the Margaritaville Resort in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. TCRA Board members will be elected and important bylaws changes will be discussed and voted on at this meeting. TCRA professional members please submit any Bylaws changes through the Bylaws Resolution link below by the deadline, March 31, 2021. Nominations must be submitted by April 15, 2021. You do not have to pay any fee to attend the meeting.

[Bylaws Resolution Form](#)  
[Nomination Form](#)

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## Welcome to TCRA

We extend a warm welcome to new Student member Elizabeth White of Pikeville, Tennessee, and to new Professional member Tami Leckie of Crossville, Tennessee.

And welcome back to Student member Emily Wyer of Franklin, Tennessee, and to Professional members Toni Miller of Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, and Carissa Boone of Nashville, Tennessee.

[Join or Renew Membership](#)

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## Committee Reports

### Fundraising Committee

As we approach convention time, the fundraising committee has been busy and its creative juices have been flowing, coming up with ideas for you to enjoy taking part in while at the same time contributing back to TCRA so that we can continue being there for you!!! As promised, the T-shirts have been designed, a few have been ordered, and soon will be rolled out for sale! Be on the lookout for THE. CUTEST. SHIRT. EVER! We are extremely proud of them and you will be excited to have one! Also soon to be available are the masks that we ALL will love to wear, even if you hate wearing masks!

What our committee is looking forward to most is seeing all of you very soon and sharing opportunities to have fun with all your fellow reporters!! Hope you all stay safe and healthy till then!

### Scholarship/Mentoring Committee

Each year TCRA sponsors a scholarship for court reporting students. Students may participate in the program by writing a short essay. The student scholarships are awarded to deserving students each year at our Annual Convention.

The deadline for the submittal of essays is 15 days prior to our annual TCRA Convention. If you have any questions regarding this program, please address questions to our Administrative Director or Carol West, carolxwest@aol.com, Chairman of Scholarship and Mentoring Committee.

General Guidelines for TCRA's Court Reporting Scholarship

1. Student must be a current student member of TCRA (Dues are \$25/year).
2. Student must provide proof of enrollment (signature of instructor) at an institution or online program that has been approved by the TCRA Scholarship/Mentoring Committee.
3. Student must provide official transcript from a TCRA-approved court reported school.
4. Student must write an essay of 100-300 words entitled Why I want to be a Court Reporter, Why I want to be a Captioner, or Why I want to be a CART Provider.
5. Applications must be submitted via an online form 15 days prior to our Annual Convention. Go to TCRA website and see student corner, scholarship opportunity and scholarship application form.

Hope to download and read many applications for student scholarship essays soon.

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## Job Listings

**The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Kentucky** is currently accepting bids for per diem court reporting services in Louisville, Bowling Green, Paducah, and Owensboro. Please contact Dena Legg at dena\_legg@kywd.uscourts.gov if you have any questions or want further information.

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## Quick Links

[Join or Renew Membership](#)  
[TCRA Board of Directors](#)  
[TCRA Committees](#)  
[Bylaws Resolution Form](#)  
[Nomination Form](#)

[CCR Application](#)  
[CEU Submittal Form](#)  
[CCR Extension Request](#)

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**Kristin Burke, LCR**  
**TCRA President-Elect**  
**TCRA Newsletter & Social Media Committee Chairperson**



The Volunteer Reporter is a publication produced quarterly for members of TCRA and other interested parties and is dedicated to the improvement of our profession and to provide a link between TCRA and its members.

Letters for the newsletter are welcomed and will be printed according to space availability. The Newsletter Committee reserves the right to edit letters according to space and formatting requirements or as ethics require, so long as the original meaning remains intact. Additionally, research articles may be written to earn TCRA CEU credits. Author must submit online and receive approval of such in order to earn CEUs. Contact the Newsletter and Social Media Committee for details.

Submission and advertising deadline is 15 days before publication date. Material received after deadline will be held for next issue.

Statement of fact, opinion, and all advertisements are made on the responsibility of the author and do not imply endorsement on the part of TCRA or its officers. Reprint rights are granted to all NCRA-affiliated publications, with appropriate attribution.

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