

Maximize Your Potential



Maryland Court Reporters Association | Annual Conference | September 23 – 25
Marriott Residence Inn | 192 Waterfront Street, Forest Heights, Maryland
National Harbor

- *Friday – September 23*
- *8 am - 4 pm - (.6 CEUs)*

★ *Eclipse Training with Michael Starkman* ★



How do the developers for Eclipse continue to outdo themselves with each new version? I don't know, but they managed to do it again with Version 10! We'll take a look at some of the highlights in Version 10.

In this six-hour training, Michael is going to touch on a wide variety of editing features, including auto replacements, the automated proofreader, how experienced Eclipse users can benefit from the info bar, moving through the transcript faster and easier, better utilizing job dictionaries to improve translation accuracy and reduce editing, setting up auto includes, how to create your own editing shortcuts. From there we'll look at one of the most valuable features in the software, AutoBrief. After all, what could be more valuable to the shorthand reporter than the software suggesting shorthand? If you're interested in building your writing speed, you don't want to miss this. And for those who are currently using the feature, trust me when I tell you this will still be a valuable learning experience!

Bio: **Michael Starkman** is a former freelance reporter from Pennsylvania. In 1997 he joined Eclipse as a sales representative and has moved up to Director of Sales for the Mid-Atlantic Region. Michael is a certified advanced Eclipse software trainer with 25 years of experience presenting and teaching Eclipse. During this time, Michael has done countless seminars, they include regular presentations at the ESP Network Meetings (the Eclipse Users' Group), and for Eclipsewebinars.com, as well as appearances as a speaker at both NCRA's national conventions and at numerous state conventions. He has also provided many training seminars in the Mid-Atlantic region.

****Hotel provides a complimentary breakfast for Hotel Guests from 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
Lunch On Your Own***

- ***Friday – September 23***
- ***8 am - 4 pm - (.6 CEUs)***

★ ***Case Catalyst Training with Teresa Bautz*** ★



Learn and freshen up your knowledge of Case CATalyst with Teresa! She'll provide Realtime tips & tricks, training on editing from the writer, recommended dictionary entries for number conversion, power defines, and Realtime commands. Also, Teresa will explain and demonstrate RealTeam, and explain or add to your knowledge of auto includes, macros, Accelerwriters, speaker identifications, and Cloud backup in this informative and skill-building session.

Bio: **Teresa J. Bautz** has been a certified court reporter for 29 years, working for various agencies in NJ, PA and DE, as well as being an official in SC. She has an Associate in Applied Science in Business Administration-Computer Studies. She has been a Certified Independent Case CATalyst Trainer from 2003 to 2013 and now since 2019. She is certified on Case

CATalyst Versions 4 through 21.5 as well as an approved continuing education provider for NCRA. Her experience as a trainer includes personal remote and small group trainings along with in-person larger groups, workshops, conferences and seminars.

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*****Vendor Hall is open from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Ballroom)*****

*****Steno Machine TUNE UP by Worth Steno Service:*** A FULLY Certified and Factory-trained company that works on steno machines. They will be happy to overhaul your paperless writer to bring back that smooth, quiet action that you liked when you first used the machine. They will take your machine apart, clean all old grease, oil and dirt, replace the pads on the inside of the machine, adjust and calibrate everything back to factory spec. Then they will test the machine to make sure that everything works the way it should and put your key settings back to where you had them.

Call 773-777-1474 or Email worth4154@msn.com to put your name on a list. Everyone with a name on the list, they will finish at the convention. They will take other machines, if they have time, if you forgot to call to put your name on the list. At convention, drop off your machine at the Vendor table and they will take care of you.

Note: Onsite Parking is \$24 a day.

PARKING INFO FOR THE MCRA CONFERENCE FOR THE RESIDENCE INN MARRIOTT, SEPT 23rd to 25th. There is off-site parking available for overnight guests and for those not staying at the hotel. Garage parking is \$24 a day.

*If you are staying at the hotel, you will have the opportunity to enter/exit the parking garage daily without paying an additional \$24 a day, but parking is still \$24 a day if your car stays parked in the parking garage all day and overnight.

*If you are NOT staying at the hotel, you will have the opportunity to enter/exit the parking garage daily, but there will be a PARKING FEE every time you enter and exit the parking garage on a given day and the parking fee is still \$24 a day if you stay parked overnight. There is also street parking.

Below are the hourly parking rates for the garage as well. The closest parking garage to the hotel is the Mariner garage. "

**NATIONAL
HARBOR -
MARINER
GARAGE**

PARKING ENTRANCE
164 Mariner Passage
Oxon Hill, MD 20745



0-1 1/2 hours	\$5.00
1 1/2 - 3 hours	\$15.00
3-6 Hours	\$20.00
6-24 Hours	\$24.00

Register for the conference at
<https://marylandcourtreporters.org/conference-registration/>

- **Friday – September 23**
4:00 p.m - 7:00 p.m



Professional Headshots (only) by Photographer Abby Rufai

Featured in Essence.com, Abby, a powerhouse photographer, has an artistic gift and passion of capturing the very essence of you frozen in time for visual appeal. **Please Book your Appointment at <https://paparazzionsite.square.site>.**

*If you prefer both a Headshot with added Makeup Services, we'll have that available Saturday 12:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. and Sunday 10:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m.

- **7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. OPENING RECEPTION (Included in Conference Registration.)**
\$50 if not registered for the conference.
(.10 CEUs) Speakers Keith & Rebecca Scott @ Opening Reception
We will have Giveaways, Raffles, Silent Auction & Vendor Gifts

★ **Self-Talk & Communication** ★



Keith Scott and Rebecca Klein Scott of TALLsmall Productions

The villain that often throws hurdles in our paths is not someone else. When we get stressed, it's our own self-talk that fills our brains with running commentary to the tune of "I'll never get this certification," "This case is too big," or "They will never listen to me."

It's time to silence that voice when it creeps up. Learn to take control of your self-talk when it comes to how you believe others perceive you when taking on challenging assignments, providing Realtime, navigating stressful conversations with agencies and attorneys and obtaining certifications. Learn to use your self-talk to soar instead of sabotage. Leave this interactive course with immediate hacks to put into place!

Bios: **Keith Scott and Rebecca Klein Scott** co-founded TALLsmall Productions with the mission of helping people, at every career level, communicate in a clear, concise and engaging style that results in action. TALLsmall Productions leads communications workshops for court reporters around the country and in London and deeply admires everyone's drive and loyalty to protecting the record.

- **Saturday – September 24**
 - **6:45 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. MCRA Buffet Breakfast included for Conference registrants (Ballroom)**

8:00 – 9:30 a.m. (.15 CEUs)

★ **Maximize Your Potential with Milton Hunt** ★
Keynote Speaker



In our Premier Session, learn how to be more effective, acquire improved interpersonal and leadership skills, and increase productivity and morale, both personally and professionally. Utilize seven master keys to Maximize Your Potential. Learn how to integrate these practices into your daily life and how to set and achieve goals.

For more than 20 years, **Milton Hunt** has lived all that he teaches and speaks in his Employee Training, Motivational Speaking, and Employee Coaching services and programs. Hunt is a Native American, a member of the Lumbee tribe, the ninth largest in the United States. Having embraced his heritage, the principles, methods, and messages he utilizes and shares with clients and audiences are a blend of both professional expertise and personal experience. Hunt possesses a unique perspective and remarkable ability to recognize vulnerabilities among populations and unify cultural and generational differences among individuals and groups of all ages. Hunt has trained and coached in the corporate, government and private sectors. He also is a keynote and

motivational speaker, an “edu-tainer,” known for delivering powerful and proven ideas in informative, captivating, and exciting ways. In all endeavors, Hunt performs with high energy and immense dedication.

****Vendor Hall 9:30 a.m. – 7 p.m. (Ballroom)****

- **9:45 – 10:45 a.m. (.10 CEUs)**

★Realtime is Your Super Power with Saba McKinley★



Realtime is a Super Power. Are you using your Super Power wisely? Realtime writers have saved the profession of court reporting and will continue to save it from audio-to-text technology threats for many years to come. So, the question becomes: Are you in this industry for the long game? If so, your writing-skill goal must include Realtime MASTERY.

Bio: **Saba McKinley Roberts** is a freelance court reporter and holds a degree in court reporting from Downey Adult School, Downey, CA, in 1990. She holds the nationally recognized professional certifications of Registered Professional Reporter (RPR) and Court Reporting Instructor (CRI). She launched her own agency, Divine-Scripts, LLC in 2014. Since moving to Tennessee, she has rebranded her agency with the name McRob Realtime Reporting, Inc. At the national level, McKinley Roberts has presented on CART captioning and her Realtime Mastery program. She also served on NCRA’s Captioning Committee from 2011 through 2020.

At the state level, McKinley Roberts is a past chair of the California Court Reporters Association’s (CCRA) Mentoring Committee, and she served on the organization’s board of directors from 2013-2015 with a focus on inclusion of captioners into the association. She has also chaired on CCRA’s Captioning Committee and holds membership in the Deposition Reporters Association. McKinley Roberts has also authored numerous books on CART and Realtime skill building.

- **11:00 – 12:00 p.m. (.10 CEUs)**

★CART for Court Reporters with Joshua Edwards★



Court reporting and CART captioning may be united by the stenographic method, but they are completely different industries. This session will focus on those differences and describe the key factors a court reporter must master to successfully transition into CART captioning. These include streaming technology, dictionary building, and skill development. Participants will be given several PDF word lists to aid in their dictionary building, which is a key ongoing responsibility of a CART Captioner.

Bio: **Joshua Edwards** is co-owner of StenoCaptions LLC, charter member of StenoMasters, and past president of the New York State Court Reporters Association. As a full-time CART captioner, he works in accessibility, providing high-quality stenographic captioning for all types of events, such as college classes, public and private events, board meetings, Broadway plays, and lectures, as well as captioning the American Theatre Wing's Tony Awards four years in a row. In 2021 Joshua chartered StenoMasters (stenomasters.com), the first online Toastmasters public speaking club for stenographic court reporters, captioners, and students everywhere.

- **12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. (.10 CEUs)**
Lunch with Leaders and Liaisons!
\$50 if not registered for the conference.

★ *Maximizing Relationships with the Legal Profession & the Deaf Community* ★



Our panel of consumers and reporters will discuss ways to maximize our relationships presently and, in the future, to ensure our court reporting and CART services are meeting and exceeding the needs of our judges, clients, and CART consumers.

Bio: **Chief Judge E. Gregory Wells** graduated from The College of William and Mary in 1983 and received his Juris Doctorate from The University of Virginia School of Law in 1986. He was admitted to the Maryland Bar in 1987. *Chief Judge, Court of Special Appeals*, since April 15, 2022 (Judge, At Large, April 18, 2019 to April 14, 2022). Member, Judicial Council, 2022- (executive committee, 2022-); Chair, Equal Justice Committee, 2020-, Judicial Council. Member, New Trial Judge and Magistrate Mentoring Subcommittee of Education Committee, 2022-, Judicial Council.

Bio: **Agnelli Sybel** is currently a Public Health Analyst with the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation, where her team develops and implements new models of healthcare services for the

elderly. Ms. Sybel was diagnosed with progressive bilateral sensorineural hearing loss in 1994, while in Graduate School. Twenty-two years later she met the criteria for Cochlear Implants - had the first surgery in 2016, and the second in 2018. She is now totally deaf and is eternally grateful to the ADA and the reasonable accommodation by her employer to provide CART services every day in order to perform her job. Otherwise, she might be among the 80% of disabled individuals that are unemployed.

Bio: **Dennis Rudolph** is the Director of Business Development at CRC Salomon, Inc. Court Reporting firm.

Bio: **Chris Brooks** has been supporting his clients' litigation support needs for over 23 years. The last 10 years have exclusively been in the court reporting industry. While most of his clients are in the Baltimore, D.C. and Northern Virginia markets – he has supported depositions across the country and in Asia and Europe. Chris spent 18 years with a multinational litigation support and court reporting company and decided to join CRC four years ago to give his clients a more personable, concierge type experience with a locally owned and operated business. During the pandemic, Chris supported over 100 depositions as an exhibit tech and remote videographer, giving him firsthand experience with remote technologies.

Bio: **Sherry Knox** has been a CART Provider/Captioner for 29 years. She is from Prince George's County, Maryland and is the mother of a 20-year-old daughter and a new grandmother to a beautiful granddaughter. Sherry currently works full time teleworking, providing remote CART services for a variety of meetings.

★ *12:30 p.m - 6:00 p.m* ★

Professional Headshots by Abby Rufai and Make-up Service by Carolyn Holden

Pretty Faces Inc. & Paparazzi On Site Photography
Will Be Providing Make Up & Headshot Services at the MCRA Conference

Options:
M/21 - Headshots Only 4-7pm
M/21 - Make-Up & Headshots 12:30-6:30pm
M/22 - Make Up & Headshots 10am-7pm

COSTS
Headshots Only \$80
Make Up & Headshots \$100
All fees include travel to and from the location. There are no travel fees for the photographer. All fees include travel to and from the location. There are no travel fees for the photographer.

ARE YOU READY?! [Book Now](https://paparazzionsite.square.site/)

You're in for a Treat! Come and get glammed up and have your headshot taken by Photographer Abby Rufai and Makeup Artist Carolyn Holden. Carolyn has done makeup for celebrity actresses like Angela Bassett and Jennifer Hudson. Abby Rufai is a powerhouse freelance photographer who has the artistic gift to capture the very essence of you, frozen in time for visual appeal. She has also been featured on Essence.com.

Book your Appointment at <https://paparazzionsite.square.site>.

To learn more about Makeup Artist Carolyn Holden and Photographer Abby Rufai visit their websites at www.myprettyfaces.com

- 1:45 – 2:00 p.m.

★ *Swearing in of New MCRA Board Members* ★

2:00 – 3:30 p.m. (.15 CEUs)



The Steno MashUp with Cindy Sebo and Misty Klapper



Join Cindy Sebo and Misty Klapper for a fun and engaging session, where you will learn about our favorite gadgets, prepping for realtime jobs, tips for virtual depositions and what categories are important to remember to put on your rate sheets. We'll throw in some fun court reporting trivia, and hopefully have you entertained while attending this "mashup." Make sure to bring your cell phone or laptop/tablet to join in our quizzes and polls!

Bio: **Cindy L. Sebo** is a freelance court reporter, reporting for 32 years. She holds many certifications, including the RMR, CRR, RPR. She is highly sought after for high-powered litigation and has reported depositions of Christopher Reeves, Colin Powell, Michael Strahan and Virginia Guifree (from the Prince Andrew/Jeffrey Epstein litigation), just to name a few. Cindy also transcribed some of the Nixon tapes for film and books. Cindy has traveled extensively for reporting assignments to different parts of the world, including Japan, UK, Canada, Mexico, Italy, and France. Cindy also has had the opportunity to play the court reporter on television shows (We Own this City and House of Cards). On House of Cards, she was asked to be a consultant on the set for the scenes related to a reporter on the House Floor and was instrumental to the producer for some of House of Cards' scenes.

Bio: **Misty Klapper** has been a court reporter for over 40 years. She devoted the first 35 years to owning her own agency, Misty Klapper & Associates, and then began freelancing for other agencies as well. She has mentored many new graduates, spoken to classes in court reporting schools and presented to the Virginia Bar Association on how to effectively work with your court reporter in depositions. She is a Registered Merit Reporter and Certified Realtime Reporter. She has two daughters, one attending dental school at VCU, and the other a sophomore

at William & Mary. In her spare time, she likes to do Jazzercise, learn new baking techniques and crafting and is anxious to travel throughout Europe now that her husband has retired!

- **3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Afternoon Break with Special Treats**
- **4:00 – 5:00 p.m. (.10 CEUs)**

★ *Key Strategies for Retirement and Business Planning for Stenographers* ★



Ama Vital, Donald Butler, and Marie Wolfe

This session will cover the foundations of how to prepare for a tax favorable retirement. Attendees will learn key tax strategies for retirement planning as well as the role life insurance serves to save on taxes in retirement.

Bio: **Ama Vital**, CFEI, holds a National Certification as a Financial Education Instructor so that she can educate on all national platforms. Ama has been a keynote speaker, subject matter expert, and has developed an agency of agents that believe in her mission to assist the community in maximizing the three phases of money which are Accumulation, Protection and Distribution.

Bio: **Donald Butler**, CISA, CDPSE, PMP, ATP, LTP the CEO of Butler Squared Consulting, LLC, a full-service firm performing accounting/bookkeeping, tax preparation, wealth advisory and business consulting services. He leads a team of professionals who assist with managing a combination of clients' accounting records and business operations, including taxes and retirement accounts. He also serves as an adjunct Accounting Professor at the campus of University of Maryland Global campus.

Bio: **Marie Wolfe**, has over 25 years of combined business formation and consulting, training, legal, and corporate executive experience working with business owners and a variety of clientele from many genres and industries. She is a trusted leader and a member of the American Bar Association, Maryland State Bar Association, National Association of Certified Mediators, National Notary Association, and the Maryland Black Chamber of Commerce to name a few of her affiliations. She has developed many training programs to assist in the professional and personal development of individuals, businesses, and employees to include the importance of

estate planning basics, trusts, and the probate process. Her belief is that it is not enough just to own a business, but to aid the business into becoming a legacy. This session will cover the foundations of how to prepare for a tax favorable retirement. Attendees will learn key tax strategies for retirement planning as well as the role life insurance serves to save on taxes in retirement.

- **7:30 – 10:00 p.m. MCRA Party & Special Honor**
- **\$50 if not registered for the conference.**
- **We will have Giveaways, Raffles, Silent Auction & Vendor Gifts.**

Party Time



It's time to Celebrate! ***Dress up in an outfit that represents the person that you would be if you were not a court reporter.*** Would you be a chef, a photographer, a fitness trainer? We can't wait to see the would-have-been-you and celebrate who you've become!

*****WE WILL BE HONORING A VERY SPECIAL PERSON AT OUR PARTY *****

- **10:00 p.m. to Midnight**



FIRESIDE FUNNIES WITH STENOGRAPHERS



Join as we sit outside fireside at the hotel and share our funniest court reporting stories. Laughter is good for the soul.



- *Sunday – September 25th*
- *6:30 – 7:30 a.m. (NO CEUs)*

★ StenoFit Bridge Walk with MCRA Board Member Sherry Knox ★



Join us for a scenic early morning walk through the sights of D.C.'s aesthetic National Harbor lead by our own **Sherry Knox**. A Captioner for over 29 years, mother and new grandmother, Sherry is a firm believer of keeping her body in motion, so you will find her sweating at the park, on the bridge, at the gym, or even at home.

**Hotel provides a complimentary breakfast from 7 a.m. to 10:00 a.m on Sundays.*

Vendor Hall opens 8 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (Ballroom)

- 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. (.10 CEUs)

★ *Hamstring & Wrist Strengthening with Brad Higgins* ★



Don't miss this fun and informative fitness routine, specifically designed for the court or caption reporter. Brad will be teaching hamstring and wrist strength techniques to get us moving better and smarter to keep us going further and increase our longevity!

Brad Higgins is the founder and owner of HBR Personal Training. He has a master's degree in Exercise Sport Science, with a specialty in Strength and Conditioning. He is also a certified Precision Nutrition coach. He has 13 years' experience training clients in Australia, Canada, and the United States. For six years he worked as a coach presenting and teaching fitness topics to other personal trainers and presenting fitness courses around Australia for a variety of different fitness companies. He looks forward to sharing his knowledge with you so that you can improve your own health and fitness goals.

- 9:15 – 10:15 a.m. (.10 CEUs)

★ *Achieving and Maintaining Work/Life Balance* ★



Brenda has designed a seminar with the Whole You in mind. This seminar aims to help the working reporter Organize, Prioritize, and Maintain Balance to keep them working Smarter and Enjoying Life to the Full!

Bio: **Brenda Countz** has celebrated 53 years as a Court and Congressional Stenographer and captioner. In her early reporting career in Washington, D. C. she built a reputation as a daily copy reporter in several landmark cases. She was used as a writer in the early developmental phases of CAT technology. During her years as a U.S. Congressional Committee Reporter she reported hearings in 48 of the 50 United States. In 1985, as the top producing reporter on the U.S. House of Representatives Corps of Reporters, she was the stenographer for President Ronald Reagan's State of the Union Message. She was the first woman and the first person of color to achieve that honor. As a freelance Realtime reporter, she has covered depositions in South America and Central America and Asia. She accomplished all this while balancing marriage and motherhood.

She is currently living her best life in Los Angeles, California, traveling the world and enjoying what she calls her encore career as an Inspirational Leadership Speaker, author and vocalist. As a lifelong learner and lover of steno, she still likes to take Realtime depositions in complex litigation.

- **10:15 a.m - 2:00 p.m**

Professional Make-up Artist & Headshots by Abby and Carolyn Holden

Pretty Faces Inc. & Paparazzi On Site Photography

Will Be Providing Make Up & Headshot services at the MCRA Conference

CAROLYN HOLDEN
CELEBRITY MAKE UP ARTIST

ABBY RUFAI
PHOTOGRAPHER

9/23 - Headshots Only 4-7pm
9/24 - Make Up & Headshots 12:30-6:30pm
9/25 - Make Up & Headshots 10am-2pm

Costs
Headshots Only \$90
Make Up & Headshots \$100
\$40 Nonrefundable Deposit Req for Headshots Only | \$80 Nonrefundable Deposit Req for Make Up & Headshots
All balances are due on date of service and/or session
Make up includes custom blend full face coverage with strip eyelashes
15 min Headshot session - all raw high res digital images yours to keep for future use sent via email with 24-72 hrs
Professional Retouching of images are an additional price

ARE YOU READY?!

Book Now
<https://paparazzionsite.square.site/>

Last time to take advantage of this special addition we're so grateful to have been able to provide! Come and get glammed up and have your headshot taken by Photographer Abby Rufai and Makeup Artist Carolyn Holden. Carolyn has done make-up for celebrity actresses like Angela Bassett, Jennifer Hudson and Abby Rufai is a powerhouse freelance photographer who has the artistic gift to capture the very essence of your frozen in time for visual appeal. She has also been featured on Essence.com.

Book your Appointment at <https://paparazzionsite.square.site>.
To learn more about Makeup Artist Carolyn Holden and Photographer Abby Rufai visit their websites at www.myprettyfaces.com

National Harbor Crab Cruise

- *Sunday, September 25th*
- *12:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.*
- *If you are joining us for the Crab Cruise, the hotel is offering us a late checkout and will hold our luggage, if necessary.*

Let's sail the Potomac River as we enjoy the sights along the way while enjoying friends, all-you-can-eat steamed crab, corn, potato salad, mac & cheese, beer, wine, soda, juice and water. The price is \$125. (This Crab Cruise is not included in the Conference Registration package, but you can add it on when you register for the conference on our conference registration link below. We will have transportation pick us up at the hotel at 12:15 p.m. and we will board the boat at the D.C. Wharf at 12:45 p.m.

<https://marylandcourtreporters.org/conference-registration/>

