

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Project Steno's "Partner Program" Now Includes Three More Stenographic Reporting Programs

Champion Steno, StenoTrain, and the Community College of Allegheny County join the Hardeman School of Court Reporting in Project Steno's inaugural Partner Program.

Worcester, MA – Project Steno, newly incorporated in 2017 to create a robust pipeline of court reporting school graduates into the profession, today announced the selection of three more stenographic reporting programs as Partner Programs. They are the Community College of Allegheny County (Pennsylvania), StenoTrain, and Champion Steno.

Programs which achieve Partner Program status have agreed to performance metrics set forth by Project Steno, the purpose of which is to graduate students 24 months after enrollment. To achieve that goal, a Partner Program must:

- Adhere to a curriculum designed to graduate students in two years;
- Incorporate a speedbuilding and online practice regimen that utilizes Realtime Coach;
- Permit regular monitoring of Project Steno students by means of built-in Realtime Coach analytics;
- Confirm student progress to Project Steno on a regular basis, to assure that students are achieving performance milestones and not falling behind.

"Project Steno is excited to welcome three more Partner Programs," said Project Steno President Jim DeCrescenzo. "We've set our goals high, made tuition assistance funding contingent on students meeting performance milestones, and these forward-thinking programs are with us all the way. Graduating from court reporting school in 24 months is a challenge. That's why we will closely monitor each student's progress, to encourage them, coach them, and help them succeed."

"I'm looking to the future," said Mary Beth Johnson of the Community College of Allegheny County. "Project Steno has a well-thought-out plan, it's working, and I want to be a part of it."

"Our goal is straightforward," explained DeCrescenzo. "We want to repopulate the ranks of stenographic reporters and captioners, to address the declining numbers in our field. To do that, we need to get motivated students into school and graduate them in two years."

Project Steno offers tuition assistance (not a scholarship) to students who attend a Partner Program, with funds being paid directly to the student's school, not the student, on an ongoing basis. Project Steno's fundraising efforts, begun barely four months ago, have raised more than

\$200,000. To be eligible for tuition assistance, prospective students first must complete NCRA's A-to-Z Program available online or locally throughout the United States. A-to-Z Programs are volunteer-run eight-week courses, free of charge to students, designed to be a screening mechanism to identify students most likely to succeed.

About Project Steno

Founded in 2017, Project Steno is an independent, non-affiliated organization that relies entirely on financial support from the court reporting community. Its goals are to:

- Promote the stenographic reporting profession and recruit promising students;
- Partner with stenographic reporting schools and programs to graduate students in two years; and
- Defray education costs by awarding tuition assistance to qualifying students in schools and programs across the country.

Project Steno has applied for 501(c)3 status as a charitable organization. It operates entirely on a not-for-profit basis. In January 2018 Project Steno launched its program of tuition assistance and placed its first students in court reporting school. With the manifest enthusiasm of court reporters everywhere, Project Steno will continue to raise funds to promote widespread awareness of our unique profession and create a robust pipeline of students into court reporting schools and graduates into the field. Learn more at www.ProjectSteno.org.

We invite stenographic reporting schools and programs to apply to our Partner Program at <http://projectsteno.org/court-reporting-schools/>

*Project Steno is the trade name of Project to Advance Stenographic Reporting, Inc. Project Steno's purpose is to provide tuition assistance to select students who wish to learn stenographic reporting. Not all applicants will be received into the Project Steno tuition assistance program.