

Rick Levy, Kathy Silva, Doreen Sutton, and Camille Duffy Join Project Steno Advisory Council

Project Steno recently created an Advisory Council and sought out top-flight talent within the court reporting community to serve in an advisory role. That outreach was handsomely rewarded when four leaders in the field – Rick Levy, Kathy Silva, Doreen Sutton, and Camille Palladino-Duffy – came onboard as Project Steno’s first Advisory Council members. The Advisory Council will seek out others like these four leaders – seasoned professionals who have a demonstrated passion and know-how to recruit the next generation of court reporting students.

Rick Levy is the Managing Partner of First Choice Reporting in the Miami/Fort Lauderdale market. He served on the NCRA Board for three years, ending in 2017. “I followed in my father’s footsteps with a career in court reporting and it was the best decision of my life,” said Levy. “I want to emphasize to people that court reporting isn’t just a job, it’s a lucrative career that you can transform into a profitable business for yourself. I’m eager to help Project Steno get that message out there.”

Kathy Silva is an Official Reporter in the federal courthouse in Boston. Kathy served as president of the Massachusetts Court Reporters Association from 2014 to 2016. “We haven’t had a bricks-and-mortar school here in New England for many years, and that’s an impediment to recruiting students,” said Silva. “But with the proliferation of online reporting schools in recent years, we have a viable educational experience to offer students. Project Steno has a multiprong program to recruit students and get them into school, and I want to be a part of the team.”

Doreen Sutton is the owner of DS Reporting in Scottsdale, Arizona. Doreen recently completed five years of service on the NCRA board of directors, including terms as Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer. “The causes of the court reporter shortage that we’re now experiencing didn’t materialize overnight; and it will take a persistent, multi-faceted effort involving the entire community of reporters and captioners to overcome it,” said Sutton. “I’m eager to work on solutions to the shortage through Project Steno.”

Camille Palladino-Duffy owns and runs Duffy & McKenna Court Reporters in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. In a prior life she was a Master Sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserve JAG Corps, working as a court reporter, legal specialist, and chief paralegal. This unique background will be invaluable to Project Steno’s *Cover Your Bases* initiative, a program to encourage members of the military and their spouses to train for a career in court reporting or captioning. “I’ve been fortunate to find a way to blend two of my life’s passions – court reporting and military service,” said Palladino-Duffy. “There is such great opportunity for military families in our field. For starters, it’s a great transition career for those leaving the service. For spouses of service members, court reporting is not just a *rewarding career*, it’s a *portable* career. That’s particularly important to military families, for whom relocation is a way of life.”

About Project Steno

Project Steno is a registered 501(c)3 charitable organization and 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. To date, Project Steno has received almost \$300,000 in pledges and contributions from the court reporting community! With the manifest enthusiasm of court reporters everywhere, Project Steno continues 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.