

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Project Steno Welcomes Four New Partner Programs**

Project Steno's roster of partner programs continues to grow. Four more court reporting educational programs recently joined us as partner programs:

Atlantic Technical College (FL) Debbie Hill, Court Reporting Instructor

CAJ Career & Education Center - Argonaut Court Reporting (CA) Bonnie Chufar, Program Director

SUNY College of Technology at Alfred State (NY) Danielle Green, Assistant Professor

University of Houston – Downtown (TX) Cayley Rodrigue, Court Reporting Instructor

"The leaders of Project Steno are carrying out their vision to revitalize stenographic court reporting by attracting students to the field," said Argonaut's Bonnie Chufar. "We're excited to join them and help educate the next generation of reporters and captioners. Project Steno is raising awareness of the opportunities that this time-honored profession has to offer. A realtime stenographer's skills are state of the art, and new technology continues to expand job and career opportunities. The possibilities for new entrants to the field are nearly limitless."

Project Steno's mission is to promote the stenographic court reporting/captioning professions through social media and community outreach, with the goal of building a robust pipeline of students into school and graduating them in two years. Jim DeCrescenzo, President, explains: "Our goal is straightforward. We want to repopulate the dwindling ranks of stenographic reporters and captioners in our field. To do that, we need to get motivated students into school and graduate them in two years. These four new partner programs share our goals, and we welcome them."

Educational programs which achieve partner program status have agreed to performance metrics, 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 speed-building and online practice regimen that makes use of an online learning platform such as Realtime Coach;
- Permit regular monitoring of Project Steno students by means of built-in Realtime Coach analytics; and
- Confirm student progress to Project Steno on a regular basis, to assure that students are achieving performance milestones and not falling behind.

"Alfred State shares with Project Steno a real passion for this profession," said Danielle Green. "Court reporting and captioning are integral to capturing the spoken word and preserving it, in legal and government settings, as well as providing hard-of-hearing people with equal access to what's being said."

Debbie Hill echoes those thoughts. “Atlantic Technical College’s court reporting program is proud to join Project Steno in its ambitious undertaking as we launch our first Basic Training program, a free six-week machine steno introductory course developed by Project Steno, to Broward County high school seniors.”

UHD’s Cayley Rodrigue sums it up: "The Project Steno program is getting prospective students interested in a wonderful career – the best career they’ve never heard of. We want to be a part of that!"

## **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;
- Defray education costs by awarding tuition assistance to qualifying students in schools and programs across the country.

Project Steno holds 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 <http://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.