

New Project Steno Board Member

Christine Willette, of Wausau WI, is appointed to the Board of Project Steno as of January 1st, 2021. Sandy VanderPol, of Lotus CA, joins the Project Steno Advisory Council.

January 7, 2021, Worcester MA – The Board of Project Steno, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization which promotes stenographic court reporting and captioning as a career, is proud to announce that Christine Willette, RDR, CRR, CRC, has been appointed a member of the Board. Christine, a past President of NCRA and longtime leader in the field, has been a busy contributor to Project Steno initiatives, particularly fundraising, as a member of Project Steno’s Advisory Council. In her new role, she will help chart the future of the organization. Filling her place on the Advisory Council is Sandy M. VanderPol, RMR, CRR. Reporters in California and nationally have benefited greatly from Sandy’s many years of devoted effort on behalf of the profession.

“It’s always an exciting day when you can add two high-profile superstars to your organization,” an enthusiastic Nancy Varallo, Executive Director of Project Steno, noted. “Chris and Sandy have held countless leadership positions in court reporting at the state level and nationally, and they know everybody. We’re delighted to have two more steady hands at the helm to guide Project Steno into the future.”

The appointments became available when Ed Varallo, co-founder and board member, retired in June after 56 years as a court reporter and resigned his board seat in December. Two Advisory Council members, Kathleen Silva of Andover MA and Doreen Sutton of Scottsdale AZ, also resigned in December. “We will miss the manifold contributions of Ed, Kathy, and Doreen,” said Jim DeCrescenzo, President of Project Steno. “Their volunteerism and tireless efforts as advocates of stenographic reporting are a model for all of us.”

“The Board and Advisory Council are beginning a year of high expectation as Project Steno rolls out its Intro to Steno initiative in high schools – a program of unlimited promise,” continued DeCrescenzo. “Court reporters are responding to our fundraising calls and Stenograph LLC, an industry leader, has pledged to donate \$50,000 in 2021 plus the donation of 50 new Wave machines for our nationwide Basic Training programs. That’s a real vote of confidence.”

Prospective students and others with an interest and passion for stenographic court reporting can learn more at www.projectsteno.org.