

# Which method of reporting do you trust for YOUR case?

## Texas Deposition Reporters Association Certified Shorthand Reporter vs. Digital Recorder

### DIGITAL RECORDERS

- Are NOT state certified and cannot call themselves court reporters.
- Are NOT background checked (with access to your client's private information and other sensitive material.)
- Do not have to follow a Code of Ethics which requires the need for impartiality.
- Have no standards for the accuracy of their transcripts, nor are their transcripts certified as required in the State of Texas.
- When recording equipment malfunctions, the integrity of the proceeding is jeopardized.

### CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTERS

- Are licensed by the Supreme Court of Texas after a rigorous training and certification process and are governed by statutes and rules that protect the public.
- Can provide instant access to your transcripts via real-time reporting, rough drafts, and expedited transcripts.
- Can read back on the spot.
- Are able to stop the proceedings when speakers are talking over one another in an effort to protect the written record.
- Are highly skilled in technical and medical terminology.
- Must follow a Code of Ethics which sets out the need for a reporter to remain impartial to all parties at all times.
- Can have their license suspended or revoked for unprofessional conduct as set out in statutes and rules.
- Are officers of the court and do not need a notary license to administer oaths.
- Transcripts are properly certified and can be used in court.

### TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES

- 154.101: All depositions conducted in this state must be recorded by a certified shorthand reporter.
- 154.114: Exemptions: Only a party or attorney of a party or a full-time employee of either may conduct a videotaped-only deposition.

### PROTECT YOUR RECORD BEWARE THE BAIT AND SWITCH

To ensure you have a Certified Shorthand Reporter (CSR) at EVERY proceeding:

- Make sure you specify you want a "Certified Shorthand Reporter" on all of your notices and verbal requests and remove verbiage of "or Notary Public."
- Include your court reporting firm or CSR in scheduling available dates for your proceeding.
- Schedule as early as possible.
- Ask for the CSR's credentials upon arrival.

Certified Shorthand Reporters are the  
GOLD standard for taking a record in Texas.  
Integrity is our top priority.  
Accept no substitutes!

To find a Certified Shorthand Reporter, visit: <https://jbcctexas.txcourts.gov>

