

Green Court Reporting: Better for the Clients...and the Earth

Green <u>court reporting</u> has taken the world by storm. Briefcases filled with notebooks and lists have been replaced by computer bags and USB's, making litigations and <u>depositions</u> both more convenient and easier on the earth.

A company that claims to be environmentally friendly that only e-mails and recycles is doing the bare minimum to get good press. Going the extra mile for the environment involves a more comprehensive program that utilizes innovative case management tools to make going green practical and affordable for the company and any clients.

<u>Court reporting services</u> used to rely on paper files for their case records and for their copies of transcripts. Now, thanks to computer technology, neither of these is necessary. Real time court reporting allows lawyers to access drafts of testimony on their computers as they are being produced and allows them to highlight and annotate so that they don't have to take notes on paper. Also, electronic transcripts allow lawyers, court reporters and clients to view official case testimony in a format of their choosing. For added security, these transcripts are stored separately in an <u>online case repository</u> for retrieval anytime, day or night, so that having a hard copy for back-up is unnecessary.

Another new and exciting tool that has been picked up by the court reporting world is the <u>USB drive</u>. USB's have several formatting options, are incredibly portable, and can also be re-used for minimal environmental impact. With all of these electronic options, organization becomes a thing of ease, and paper infinitely less practical. Shuffling through papers, even organized ones, is distracting, time consuming, and appears less official than a quiet click on the correct file.

Why use paper and waste trees when it is less efficient anyway? The best companies do more than just e-mail instead of sending letters. Intensive recycling programs are more common now, and where companies can go paperless, they do. Electronic transmission is faster, more easily accessible, and much better for the planet. For court reporting, that's a win-win situation.

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