

Top Keys to Success for New Court Reporters in Texas

When starting out as a court reporter in Texas, what will set you apart from the rest and make you successful? There are several ways to earn recognition in [court reporting](#), some of which require extra effort. The best reporter will make sure to take those extra steps to get noticed.

Here are some things you can do to be successful in **court reporting**:

Practice Your Stenography Constantly.

When you are involved in litigations or [depositions](#), you will need to be on top of the proceedings. If you aren't typing fast enough, you can miss crucial information. You may have passed your exams, but that doesn't mean you can afford to get comfortable. Practicing your typing will keep your skills at the level that you need them to be at.

Be Informed.

Court reporters need much more than just good grammar, they need information. The best reporters will be well-read on a variety of different subjects, so that they have a good grasp of spellings and an understanding of issues. Lots of reading can give you knowledge of everything from geology to medical terminology, which will increase your vocabulary and your ability to produce error-free transcripts.

Also, a good court reporter will keep up with current events, both locally and in general. If you are not aware of new cases setting precedents or the laws that are being written, both nationally and in the area, you will be at a loss when the subjects are referenced in **depositions**. In-depth knowledge of the laws in the state of Texas is crucial to creating an accurate and informed [transcript](#), as well.

Be Professional.

When you are hired to cover *depositions*, arbitrations, and mediations, there are standards for how to conduct yourself. You should be on time, every time so as not to inconvenience any party and if you require extra time for set-up, show up early. Appearance means a lot, so dress in a manner that inspires confidence in your abilities and professional demeanor. Lastly, be polite to everyone involved in the case, as bad attitudes never encourage respect or cooperation.

Build Experience So You Can Be Hired by a Court Reporting Firm.

Once you start to establish yourself in the business, you can be sub-contracted by a quality *court reporting* firm. The advantages of this to an independent court reporter are limitless. The fact that an established company is willing to hire you is a mark of your good record. If your work for the company is consistently excellent, they may hire you often, showing their confidence in your skills and providing you with regular work.

Court reporting in Texas can be a very rewarding career. With hard work and professionalism, you can ensure that you are distinguished and sought after in your chosen field.

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