

## Where to Find the Best Houston Court Reporters

Attorneys in Texas have a significant amount of options to choose from when looking for the best <u>Houston</u> <u>court reporters</u>. The role of a court reporter is extremely important, as their ability to precisely transcribe testimony during <u>depositions</u> and other legal proceedings will go a long way toward determining how efficiently attorneys can represent their client's interests. Before an attorney starts looking at individual <u>court reporting</u> <u>services</u> providers, it is important to determine whether a larger <u>litigation support</u> firm is the best fit for their needs, or if a freelance court reporter is sufficient for the task.

## Search, Scan, Scrutinize

Now it's time to build a list of potential candidates, and the best place to start a search is with an online search engine. The vast majority of <u>litigation services</u> firms and established freelance court reporters these days have their own commercial website, and the firms that don't have their own website are likely to at least have a listing in one of the many litigation support directories available on the web.

## **Breaking Them Down**

The next step in determining which court reporter or court reporting firm is the best fit is to narrow down the search results based on the attorney's particular needs and preferences. By asking pointed questions that are relevant to specific aspects of the case, the list can be shortened to just a few targeted candidates. A few areas of inquiry that the attorney should consider are:

- **Availability:** Does the court reporting firm provide their services in the locations required? Are they able to meet the scheduling considerations for the job?
- **Qualifications and Experience:** Is the court reporting services provider experienced? How much of that experience is in the specific field required for this case? Can the court reporting firm provide references?
- Services: The most important questions that attorneys and support staff should ask candidates involve the portfolio of services they offer. Do they provide realtime court reporting? How about legal videography services? Do they offer access to an online transcript repository? Can they handle any video conferencing or internet deposition streaming needs attorneys may have? Once you know what services are available, the attorney should ask which services are included with every transcript package, and which services will require an additional fee.
- Communication Skills: When attorneys contacts individual court reporting firms, they should note how
  articulate their client services staff is. Court reporting is all about precise and accurate communication,
  so a court reporting firm that doesn't communicate well with you on the phone is unlikely to be the best
  provider of Houston deposition services.

While finding the best Houston court reporting firm may seem like a difficult proposition on the surface, a wellstructured and organized approach can provide the type of vision that attorneys need in order to make the right choice. Attorneys should always remember that there is no such thing as asking too many questions, and that focusing on areas that apply directly to their case is an excellent way to end up with the right court reporting firm to get the job done.

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