

## FCRA 2022 SPEAKERS

# Ninette Butler, RMR, CRR, CRC, RSA, FPR-C

Ninette has been a stenographer since 1994 and has attained her RMR, CRR, CRC, RSA and FPR-C. She started her career as a ProCAT authorized representative/trainer and is currently a freelance reporter, specializing in realtime and daily copy civil trials and depositions. She developed the captioning program for the hard-of-hearing ministry at First Baptist Orlando. Ninette is happily married and is on her way to becoming an empty nester, having proudly raised a boy and a girl. She enjoys traveling to Park City, Utah, for some much-needed rest and relaxation.

## Debra Dibble, RDR, CRR, CRC

Debra has served on the NCRA Board of Directors for 8 years and is presently serving as the President. She has worked in all fields of reporting to include freelance, official, CART, and captioning for 34 years and has done highly complex and high-profile work throughout the United States as well as internationally.

#### Jimmy Fasig, Esq.

Jimmy is the managing partner and majority shareholder of Fasig Brooks Law Offices, with offices in Tallahassee, Jacksonville, and Destin. He is also the author of the motivational book *When Life Knocks You Down, Come Back Stronger* which details his journey from being an inmate in federal prison to becoming the owner of a multimillion-dollar law practice within five years of his release from prison. He has dedicated his life to helping people overcome injuries, obstacles, and setbacks and giving them the tools they need to create their own passports to the future.

#### Laura Landerman, RDR, CRR, FPR-C

Laura graduated reporting school in 1986 in Orlando, FL, and has focused her career in the freelance field. She covers all facets of complex litigation. Laura currently holds NCRA's RPR, CRR, RMR and RDR designations, as well as the FCRA FPR-C. For decades, Laura has been providing realtime reporting (having passed the CRR in 1992) and often trains new and veteran reporters who want to take the leap to doing realtime.

## Robyn Maxwell, RPR, FPR, CLR

Robyn is a realtime reporter working in the freelance stenographic market in Palm Beach County, Florida, since 1996.

# Jason Meadors, FAPR, RPR, CRR, CRC

Jason has reported for 47 years in military, official, freelance, and CART/captioning environments. His reporting experience has taken him to every continent but Antarctica. He is the proud recipient of the DSA from Colorado and the StenoCAT Users Network, and he is past president of both those groups. Jason is the current President-Elect of NCRA.

# Robin Merker, RPR, FPR-C, CITA

Robin has been a freelance reporter in Florida for almost 39 years and a certified training agent for Stenograph for over 24 years. She holds a BA in English Literature from USF and received her court reporting training from Charron Williams in Miami, Florida, and the Stenotype Institute in Hicksville, New York. Robin was nominated to the FCRA Board as a director in 2004, served as FCRA President in 2010-11, and received the Emily Mann Distinguished Service Award in 2014. Along the way, she has held several Board positions and chaired various committees including the Court Reporting Schools Committee. She also served for several years as NCRA's Chief Examiner in South Florida, administering the skills tests to reporters and students. In the past she served as an adjunct instructor at Key College, teaching basic and advanced CATalyst software courses.

## Randall Rust

Randall is a husband and father of three boys and a girl in North Florida. He is involved in Scouting and proudly has three who are Eagle Scouts. That fourth child is working on his Eagle project. Randall has been with Prudential for 15 years.

#### Michael Starkman

Michael is a certified advanced Eclipse software trainer with 25 years of experience presenting and teaching Eclipse. During this time, Michael has presented countless seminars. They include regular presentations at the ESP Network Meetings (the Eclipse Users' Group), for Eclipsewebinars.com, as well as appearances as a speaker at NCRA's national conventions, state conventions, along with many training seminars in the Mid-Atlantic region.

## Lady Steno- Katiana Walton

Katiana Walton has been freelancing as a court reporter since the spring of 2008. In spring 2008, she joined social media under the handle Lady Steno and began sharing her love and wealth of ideas and information with the stenography community. Due to her ever-growing desire to write realtime and shorten her writing, she left for Houston, Texas, in 2013 to attend the Mark Kislingbury Academy. Since 2014, Katiana has been

providing realtime for legal and CART proceedings. In March 2020, Katiana launched the StenoKey Learning Center Pilot Program. The curriculum she designed is projected to get students from 0 to 225 in under 18 months.

### Sheri Smargon, RDR, CRR, CRC, FPR-C, M.A.

Sheri Smargon has been a broadcast captioner and CART reporter her whole career. She has live-captioned everything from broadcast news and sports to the Pope and other dignitaries. She currently provides remote and on-site realtime CART access to classes for deaf and hard-of-hearing students at several universities as well as covering depositions and court work around her home in Tampa. She is President-Elect of FCRA and is starting her fifth year of Board service.

## Nancy Varallo, RDR, CRR, FAPR, DSA

Nancy Varallo is the owner of The Varallo Group in Worcester, Massachusetts. Nancy has worked with students formally and informally over the years to lend her expertise and support in their development. Nancy is a Past President of both MCRA and the National Court Reporters Association, and she is the recipient of NCRA's Distinguished Service Award. She is a Registered Diplomate Reporter, a Certified Realtime Reporter, and a Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters.