

From: [renee brass](#)
To: [RulesCommittee](#)
Subject: Rule 207 change
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Proposal 21-06 (P.R. 0299) Amends Supreme Court Rule 207 (Signing and Filing Depositions).

Transcripts are the work product of stenographers. The livelihood of the court reporter is dependent on transcription sales. This income allows stenographers not only to contribute to the economy of our society, but also allows us to maintain our licensing, which the State of Illinois requires.

The proposition to provide our work product free of charge to an individual who reserves their right to review our transcript, only opens the door to plagiarism and further sharing of the file. Providing free transcripts devalues the work product of the stenographer therefore adversely impacting the stenographer's ability to earn income and contribute to the economy.

During the pandemic court reporters, as others, have pivoted and made great strides to accommodate remote witness proceedings. Personally, if a witness reserves their signature of a deposition transcript, I provide a Zoom link to the witness, where they may log in and read their transcript online, just as they had given their testimony.

A court reporter's ability to stay current with certification, update and maintain proprietary electronic equipment and software, and stay abreast of the ever-changing legal field, requires compensation of our valued work product, i.e, transcripts. If transcripts are devalued by providing them free of cost to anyone, for any reason, the impact is far-reaching and devastating to stenographers across the United States.

For these reasons I am opposing Proposal 21-06 (P.R. 0299).

Thank you!

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