

From: [Stephanie Apostolos](#)
To: [RulesCommittee](#)
Subject: Proposed Rule 207 Change Public Hearing RE: Deponent Read/Sign
Date: Wednesday, September 28, 2022 9:00:28 PM

As a certified shorthand reporter for over 30 years, part of the income to help pay household bills comes from the transcripts.

It is our work product and no one should be allowed to get a transcript for free. Transcript income allows stenographers to not only contribute to the economy, but it provides the necessary income to maintain our license which is required in Illinois. The proposition to provide our work product free of charge to an individual who reserves their right to review the transcript opens the door to plagiarism and further sharing of the file which adversely impacts the stenographer's ability to earn income and contribute to society.

We have really worked hard to be able to keep the proceedings going during the pandemic by doing remote depositions, etc. That has been an added cost to the court reporter which takes away from their income.

Producing a verbatim transcript is not just being present during the proceedings to take it down on our machine. You have hours of work that is not charged for while editing and making sure everything is done properly to provide the best possible transcript. Do we ask attorneys to not charge for their work? Do we ask any other profession to not charge for the work they performed?

It is a shame that we even have to think that someone would try to basically steal from us after we work so hard to provide the transcript. Giving our transcripts away free of cost that we have worked so hard on would be devastating to our profession and to many households who depend on this income.

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

Respectfully,

Stephanie Apostolos, CSR