

NVRA Announces Slate of Nominees for 2018-19 Board of Directors

NVRA's Nominating Committee has met and selected candidates for the following board positions. The candidates are:

President-Elect

**Teresa Johnson, CVR-M-CM
(South Carolina)**



Teresa Johnson is an Official Court Reporter with the South Carolina court system. She has served in the circuit court division for Greenville County for the last 18 years. Prior to court reporting, Teresa was employed as a Legal Administrative Assistant for the

Bamberg/Barnwell Counties Public Defender Office. In that role, she supervised office support activities, managed client relations and provided legal support for defense attorneys. Teresa is an avid participant in community service efforts, with a particular interest in child development and children's rights. In 2002, she founded Kids of the Future, Inc., a South Carolina-based private nonprofit organization, which focuses on the intellectual, social and emotional developments of adolescents as they grow and become more independent from their parents. Teresa enjoys traveling, shopping, cooking; and has recently honed in on a joy of assisting with the startups of a few local small businesses. She has two adult sons.

Vice President

**Jan McLeod, CVR
(Arkansas)**



Jan McLeod has been an Official Court Reporter for Division III Circuit Court in Benton County, Arkansas, reporting all juvenile cases, adult drug court, juvenile drug court, Veterans treatment court, and domestic relations since 2001. Jan previously

served as an official reporter in domestic relations from 1984 through 1988. She began her court reporting career in 1981 as a freelance reporter covering the gamut of federal grand jury work, Arkansas Workers' Compensation, depositions,

utility hearings, military court martial hearings, just to list a few. Even taking depositions in a home, while the deceased owner "lies in state" on the living room couch covered with stuffed animals. She served as Vice President of Arkansas Court Reporters Association from approximately 1983 through 1988. Jan has served on NVRA's Board as Secretary and Treasurer.

Treasurer

**Mike Ashcraft, CCR, CVR-M
(Arkansas)**



Mike Ashcraft, CCR, CVR-M, has served as an official court reporter for the Tenth Judicial District, 1st Division, for the State of Arkansas for the past 33 years. He is currently the NVRA Credentialing Committee Chair, having served on the Board of Directors in the past as President, Treasurer and Director. Mike is also the Treasurer of the Arkansas Court Reporters Association Board of Directors and a past President. He is a graduate of Louisiana Tech University with a B.S. degree in Business Administration. Upon graduating and traveling as a consultant for a year for the Sigma Nu National Fraternity, he trained under two-time NVRA President Marilyn Ashcraft before receiving his state and national certifications and beginning his practice in 1985. Mike is serving as a member of the Arkansas Board of Court Reporting Examiners for the State of Arkansas. He is also a member of the Arkansas Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts Trial Court Committee in charge of court reporters and trial court assistants within the state and the Supreme Court Strategic Planning Committee. Mike is married and has five children and one grandchild. He enjoys weekends at his cabin, boating, and hunting.

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Two-Year Director

Becky Young, CSR, RPR, RCP, CRP-M, CLVS (Oklahoma)



Becky graduated from the court reporting program at Brown Mackie Business College in Kansas in 1978. She received state licensures in Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma using stenography and then worked as an official in state court in Oklahoma for twelve years. She began working as a freelance

reporter in 1990 and operated a full-service reporting company, Young Reporting Services. During this time, she took several courses on captioning and voice writing and passed the Arkansas CCR exam using the stenomask and then began providing CART services in 2006. She achieved her RCP in September of 2012 and recently received the newest RCP-M designation. During her 40-year career, Becky has been involved in state and national associations in various positions and has focused much effort on the testing and examination of reporters, including a five-year term on the Oklahoma Board of Certified Shorthand Reporters. Since 2016, Becky has been strictly providing CART captioning and is transitioning to a new name of Total Access Captioning. The company employs other captioners who help her cover a variety of classes and live events in Oklahoma and across the country.

One-Year Director

Sarah Flynn, CVR-M, CCR, RVR (Arkansas)



Sarah Flynn, CCR, CVR-M, RVR, has been a working certified court reporter using the voice writing method since 1994 in the central Arkansas area. Sarah owned Flynn Legal Services, a statewide court reporting firm, for 13 years, which she sold in 2016 in order to concentrate solely on voice writer

education. In 2005, Sarah began teaching the voice writing method of court reporting in a brick and

mortar school in Little Rock, and in 2010, she created an online court reporting program which now is known as the International Realtime Court Reporting Institute. Sarah now teaches students in 27 U.S. states and abroad, including Canada, the British Virgin Islands, and the UK. In 2011, Sarah was awarded the Value Award for Education by NVRA for the individual who works to establish standards for testing, certification, and continuing education. Sarah's goal is to spread the voice writing method to all U.S. states and the world to further promote the voice writing method of court reporting and to produce trained, high-quality, realtime voice writers using CAT software. In 2018, Sarah earned the Realtime Verbatim Reporter designation, and she encourages all of her students to achieve the highest certifications possible.

One-Year Director

Leila Heckert, CVR, RCP-M (Ontario, Canada)



Leila Heckert is a Certified Verbatim Reporter (CVR) and Registered CART Provider (RCP-M) and has been working freelance in Ontario, Canada since 2011. She resides in the City of Burlington, an hour's drive from the Buffalo border. She studied law and psychology at

the University of Northampton in England although circumstances lead her to pursue a career as a telecommunications engineer. After a permanent move in 2006 from England to Canada, with her then young family, Leila's unwavering attraction to law and working with people eventually led her to pursue a career in court reporting. She has freelanced for Victory Verbatim and Simcoe Reporting, and was briefly employed by the Ministry of Attorney General of Ontario. She has worked with Nimigan Mihailovich Court Reporting and more recently Neeson's Reporting in Toronto. Her reporting experiences range from discoveries, cross-examinations, examinations under oath, family court questioning, consent and capacity hearings, and arbitrations. And she is currently entering the field of CART.

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Those who will continue on the board without election are:

Past President - Maranda Murphy, RCP

President - Don Scott, CVR-CM-M, RVR, RCP, RBC

Secretary - Gail Conaway, CVR

These candidates will stand for election at NVRA's Annual Business Meeting. The meeting will be held in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, on **Saturday, June 30, from 8:00 am - 9:30 am**. Meeting room location will be announced.

Nominations Procedures:

As a reminder, additional nominations from the members are welcome. Requirements as set forth in the Policies and Procedures Manual of NVRA allow additional nominations by any five members eligible to vote (general, military, honorary or retired members). These five members, not more than three from any one state, can nominate one candidate for each director and officer position to be elected. These five members must obtain a signed letter of consent from the nominee and attach it to a statement of biographical information of the nominee. In addition, individual statements from each of the five members identifying the position for which the nomination is made must be attached. This information must be emailed, faxed or mailed (postmarked) by June 15, 2018, to the NVRA Office.

If you have any questions or need additional information about this process, contact Kelly Evans, 601-582-4345 or email nvra@nvra.org.