

1 Honorable Justices:

2 My name is Michael A. Babicky, Official Reporter  
3 to the Hon. Bethany G. Hicks. I respectfully request you  
4 consider the experiences I have had with electronic  
5 recording in Superior Court.

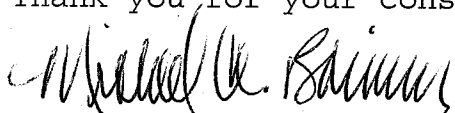
6 For two years in 2003 and 2004, I was assigned to  
7 the electronic courtroom presided over by the Honorable  
8 Jeffery S. Cates. In 2004 during a high profile criminal  
9 trial that I was reporting simultaneous with the Court's  
10 electronic courtroom, the County's computer system went down  
11 and the electronic courtroom was unable to record  
12 proceedings. We were able to continue the trial that day  
13 with no inconvenience to the jury, the State or the defense  
14 because a court reporter was also reporting the proceedings.

15 There were times while I was reporting criminal  
16 proceedings in the electronic courtroom, the Court's DVD  
17 discs were found to be blank when the electronic recording  
18 device was not turned on, but transcripts were available  
19 because a court reporter reported the trials.

20 I respectfully request you consider this and the  
21 consequences that ensue when court reporters are not  
22 available.

23 Thank you for your consideration.

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25 Michael A. Babicky, RPR