

Please consider my comments to the Rule 28 petition for changes to the Rule.

As one of several court reporters working in family court, I frequently hear comments from attorneys who are used to being in family courts where the record is made with electronic recording. They are surprised and pleased to see a live reporter. One attorney said she always orders a court reporter in family court, and many comment on the poor quality of the transcripts from those courts, as well as the difficulty in getting them in a timely fashion. I am not surprised, as every day in my court, the family practice attorneys come in, and it is clear they are accustomed to speaking extremely fast, talking on top of each other, the witnesses, and even the judge. The attorneys themselves apologize, and say it is because they are so used to being recorded by the electronic system. How accurate can a record be when there is no live person trying to capture every word spoken, and who will remind the parties they must speak in a manner that is reportable? I foresee this happening in civil and criminal trials if there is no live reporter.

Also, though attorneys are told they can always request a reporter, if court reporters are all replaced by recordings, a shortage of reporters will be created, which will then be used as a reason a reporter cannot be provided.

Thank you for considering my comments.



Karen Bolton

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