

I have been a court reporter for over 12 years. I believe in my profession. Though I am not an advocate in the way that lawyers are and though I am not a trier of fact as jurors, except when called upon as my civil duty, and though I am not the judge of the law, I know that my role in the justice system is important and necessary. I have always been proud of my profession and equally confident in my skills to report, transcribe and produce an accurate and correct transcript of proceedings, whether that be in depositions as when I was a freelance reporter, or in the courtroom as an official reporter.

I have been called upon by lawyers to prepare transcripts in extremely fast turn-around times, to report proceedings when the testimony has been fast and contentious and it has not been uncommon for me to stay up until 3:00 a.m. to prepare a transcript for a lawyer who must have his brief filed by a date certain and has only given me one day's notice to prepare it.

But I am proud of my work. I am proud of what I contribute to the process of a person's day in court. I am proud that I can give my personal attention to each lawyer and litigant's needs and that I have something tangible to show for it: An accurate and correct transcript of the record. It stands for all time. It is evidence of the proceedings from which higher courts make judgments. It is evidence of fairness or wrongdoing. It is evidence of justice working in our courtrooms, and this is true not only for our state, but across the country. It IS the record. Should we not have the best? Should we not strive to have the most complete and professional record possible? I believe yes. And I believe that is the job of the court reporter.

Please consider that when making your final decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rochelle L. Dobbins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some loops and flourishes.

Rochelle L. Dobbins, RPR