

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS RE:
PRIVATELY-ARRANGED COURT REPORTERS**

[All italicized documents referred to below are available on the Court's website at www.ventura.courts.ca.gov].

1. **How much do court reporters charge for their services?** The Court does not monitor or oversee the private contractual arrangements that parties make with court reporters that report hearings. This applies regardless of whether the party contracts with a reporter from the *Approved Official Reporter Pro Tempore List* or from any independent source.
2. **Who pays for the reporters?** Payment for court reporting services for hearings at which the Court will no longer be providing such services (see *Notice of Unavailability of Official Reporter Pursuant to Local Rule 18.00(F)*) is the responsibility of the party(ies) arranging for the court reporter.
3. **What is the benefit of contracting with a reporter from the *Approved Official Reporter Pro Tempore List*?** By statute, reporters from the *Approved Official Reporter Pro Tempore List* can report hearings without the parties having to stipulate to the reporter or obtain an order from the Court. Gov't Code §70044. [If the court reporter is not on the *Approved Official Reporter Pro Tempore List*, the parties must complete the *Stipulation to Appointment of Official Reporter Pro Tempore* and the *Agreement and Order for the Appointment of Reporter Pro Tempore*.]
4. **Do I need to file the *Stipulation* or the *Order* before the hearing?** The *Stipulation to Appointment of Official Reporter Pro Tempore* should be brought to the hearing so that all of the parties (or their attorneys) that appear at the hearing can stipulate to the use of the court reporter who will report the hearing. The *Agreement and Order for the Appointment of Reporter Pro Tempore* ("*Agreement*") should also be brought to the hearing so that the judicial officer can review the *Agreement* and appoint the court reporter, as appropriate.
5. **If the parties stipulate to a court reporter is the stipulation good for the duration of the case?** Yes, so long as the parties continue to use the same court reporter.
6. **What if I or my attorney participates in the hearing via phone? May I orally stipulate to the court reporter?** Yes. The Minute Order will reflect that the party/attorney orally stipulated to the court reporter.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS RE:
PRIVATELY-ARRANGED COURT REPORTERS**

- 7. How many reporters can report a hearing? What if the other parties in my case do not agree about who should be the court reporter at the hearing?** There can only be one official transcript of the proceedings. CCP §273; Redwing v. Moncravie, (1934) 138 Cal. App. 432, 434. As a result, there can only be one court reporter who can report the hearing at a time. The Court expects parties to come to an agreement prior to the hearing as to reporting services. Proceedings will not be delayed due to disagreement among the parties as to the selection of the court reporter; if absolutely necessary, the judicial officer will avoid delay in the proceedings by selecting one of the reporters put forward by the parties. CCP §128(a)(3).
- 8. How do I order transcripts of the hearing?** Contact the court reporter who reported the hearing.
- 9. What if I can't arrange for a court reporter to report my hearing?** Parties are expected to make arrangements for court reporters *in advance* of their hearings. Whether the parties will be allowed to continue a hearing in order to secure the appearance of a court reporter will be at the discretion of the judicial officer presiding over the matter.