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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Local court reporter named to NCRA's 2017 class of Academy of Professional Reporters Fellows**

*Jan Ballman becomes Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters*

**LAS VEGAS, Aug. 11, 2017**— The National Court Reporters Association (NCRA), the country's leading organization representing stenographic court reporters, broadcast captioners, CART captioners, and legal videographers, today announced that Jan Ballman, RPR, CMRS, a freelance court reporter and firm owner from Minneapolis, Minn., has been awarded Fellowship in the Academy of Professional Reporters. The Academy recognizes recipients for their outstanding and extraordinary qualifications and experience. The announcement was made during a special awards luncheon held at the NCRA Convention & Expo, taking place in Las Vegas, Nev., Aug. 10-13.

“Membership in the Academy of Professional Reporters is by nomination only, so to be granted fellowship is a high point in a reporter's career,” said Dave Wenhold, CAE, PLC, interim Executive Director and CEO of NCRA. “Criteria for being accepted include exhibiting outstanding and extraordinary qualifications and experience in the field of shorthand reporting as well as having been active in the practice of reporting for at least 10 years. Candidates for fellowship are also required to have attained distinction as measured by such activities as the publication of important papers, creative contributions, committee or board service, and teaching,” he added.

Ballman has more than 36 years of experience as a court reporter. She served many years on the Minnesota Freelance Court Reporters Association and the Minnesota Court Reporter Association. She has also served on numerous NCRA committees and task forces, including the CEO Search Committee, Nominations Committee, Marketing Court Reporter Task Force, Firm Owners Community of Interest, and the Constitution & Bylaws Committee. Ballman is a past Trustee and Chair of the National Court Reporters Foundation. She holds the nationally recognized professional certifications of Registered Professional Reporter (RPR) and Certified Manager of Reporting Services (CMRS).

Ballman was one of seven NCRA members awarded Fellowship in the 2017 Academy.

For more information, visit [NCRA.org](http://NCRA.org). Career information about the court reporting profession—one of the leading career options that does not require a traditional four-year degree—can be found at [DiscoverSteno.com](http://DiscoverSteno.com).

### About NCRA

*The National Court Reporters Association (NCRA) is internationally recognized for promoting excellence among those who capture and convert the spoken word to text for more than 100 years. NCRA is committed to supporting its more than 16,000 members in achieving the highest level of professional expertise with educational opportunities and industry-recognized court reporting,*



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*educator and videographer certification programs. NCRA impacts legislative issues and the global marketplace through its actively involved membership. Forbes has named court reporting as one of the best career options that do not require a traditional four-year degree and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the court reporting field is expected to grow by 14 percent through the year 2020. For more information, visit [NCRA.org](http://NCRA.org).*