

October 11, 2011

## **BOARD OF COURT REPORTING** **ANNOUNCEMENT**

Greetings:

The mission of the Board of Court Reporting is to ensure the integrity and competency of the profession by setting and enforcing the standards by which court reporters are governed, providing a forum for the exchange of ideas, and providing for educational services. The Board carries out this mission through licensing, establishing the rules that regulate the court reporting profession, employing due process for grievances, and creating the code of professional ethics and guidelines for professional practice.

The Board has received inquiries regarding alleged improper contracts for court reporting services. In that regard, all court reporters and all court reporting firms doing business in Georgia are required to comply with the Georgia Court Reporting Act, the Rules and Regulations of the Board, the Code of Professional Ethics, and the Georgia law governing contracting for court reporting services (*see* O.C.G.A. § 15-14-37(a), providing, “Contracts for court reporting services not related to a particular case or reporting incident between a certified court reporter or any person with whom a certified court reporter has a principal and agency relationship and any attorney at law, party to an action, party having a financial interest in an action, or agent for an attorney at law, party to an action, or party having a financial interest in an action are prohibited. Attorneys shall not be prohibited from negotiating or bidding reasonable fees for services on a case-by-case basis.”).

When there is evidence of noncompliance of the laws and rules promulgated by the Board, it should be reported to the Board in the form of a complaint with supporting evidence. As with all complaints, the concern can then be fairly and properly evaluated and addressed through the Board’s due process procedures.

For your convenience, the Resource Guide contains information on the aforementioned materials and may be accessed online, [www.bcr.georgiacourts.gov](http://www.bcr.georgiacourts.gov). Select the link, “Guides and Publications.” Then, click on Georgia Certified Court Reporters Resource Guide.

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