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### The Future of Digital Court Reporting

VIRTUAL SUMMIT

ADDRESSING INNOVATION & THE NEW NORMAL



## The Future of the Deposition Room

Get inspired by digital initiatives that are helping leading firms with court reporting and proceedings **David Blaze** Chief Revenue Officer, CourtScribes, Inc.

#### **Tony Sirna**

Senior Customer Success Manager & Legal Strategist, Verbit

## **SPEAKERS**

**>>>** 

#### **David Blaze**

Chief Revenue Officer CourtScribes, Inc.

#### **Tony Sirna**

Senior Customer Success Manager & Legal Strategist, Verbit







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#### AGENDA

- 1. Addressing Big Industry Shifts Due To COVID-19
- 2. Changing The Way Depositions Are Fulfilled
- **3.** New Processes To Service Proceedings & Remain Competitive
- **4.** Key Technological Changes



# Addressing big shifts occurring due to the COVID-19 crisis



#### Lasting shifts affecting current processes

- Remote depositions are here to stay.
- Remote court proceedings help legitimize the process.
- No realistic time-frames, and what is a "return to normal?"
- Temporary regulations will need to match up with long term reality.
- Will there be a rise of the 'Digital Reporter'?



### Key Shifts

- Pre-COVID mix
  95% in person & 5% remote
- Current mix
  5% in person & 95% remote
- Post-COVID mix
  50% in person 50% remote





# What changes are you seeing to the way depositions are being fulfilled?

#### Addressing fulfillment

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#### • Location boundaries are lifting.

Ability to operate in one location at lower cost, but serve and deliver in other locations, effectively opening up capacity for reporters outside of geography.

#### • Impact on price variability.

Impact on traditional stenographic pricing model. Reverse auction? Could there potentially be a consistent rate across the country?

#### Addressing fulfillment

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- **Potential for a national notary or industry specific exception.** Will the stenographer shortage lead to a national standard?
- More digital options and faster innovation. Is paper a potential dinosaur?
- Investment in fixed real-estate assets could create problems. Less reliance on conference facilities to serve the market

#### Key Takeaways

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- Significant changes will occur whether we like it or not.
- Opportunities presented for smaller agencies to fight for space at the table.
- Pricing models will have to adapt.





What are the new processes to service proceedings and remain competitive?



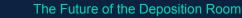
#### New processes to service proceedings

#### Federal Rules of Civil Procedure:

#### **Rule 30. Depositions by Oral Examination**

(3) Method of Recording.

(A) *Method Stated in the Notice.* The party who notices the deposition must state in the notice the method for recording the testimony. Unless the court orders otherwise, **testimony may be recorded by audio**, **audiovisual, or stenographic means.** The noticing party bears the recording costs. Any party may arrange to transcribe a deposition.



#### New processes to service proceedings

#### Federal Rules of Civil Procedure:

#### **Rule 30. Depositions by Oral Examination**

(3) Method of Recording.

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(B) *Additional Method.* With prior notice to the deponent and other parties, **any party may designate another method for recording the testimony in addition to that specified in the original notice.** 

4) *By Remote Means.* The parties may stipulate...that **a deposition be taken by telephone or other remote means...** 



#### New processes to service proceedings

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- Agencies have to manage the process and educate attorneys on effective ways to record testimony.
- Close parallel to retail (Shift from in-store to online shopping)
  - Slow adoption by attorneys: Delay, reluctant acceptance, utilization.
  - They're now asking: How can we use these tools better?
  - A risk averse industry was forced to change.
  - The Big Question: What comes next?

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#### Considerations:

- Can you afford not to adapt?
- How well can you manage your clients and their expectations?
- Agencies will have to step up and manage additional services.
- Manage the mix.





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## What are key technology changes to be aware of?



#### Changes in Technology: Effective and Workable

**Looking to Associates**: They are the driving force behind tech adoption and digital, as they grew up with it.

- Web Platforms: Zoom, Google Meet, Microsoft Teams, Cisco WebEx
- **Purpose Built:** vTestify, LiveLitigation, Remote Counsel
- **Speech to Text Tools**: Automatic Speech Recognition
- **Mobility**: iPads, tablets and other tools to facilitate remote work
- **Document/Exhibit Sharing**: Agile Law, eDepoze, TrialPad

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#### Key points:

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- Existing tools were not fully ready for the explosion of use.
- Training helped "ease the pain" of work from home and remote proceedings.
- Technology will catch up.



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# >>> Any Questions?

## THANK YOU!



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