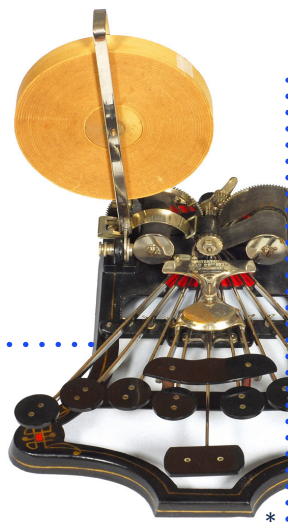


The Evolution of Court Reporting

Technology and innovation continue to disrupt every industry to account for new needs and modernize outdated processes. Court reporting has been evolving since its inception. Professionals who continue to embrace innovations and advancements to support their work will reap the benefits.



1879 The Father of the Stenograph

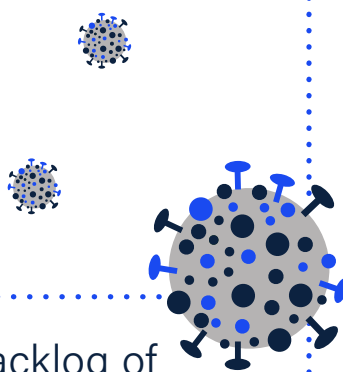
Miles Bartholomew invented the first stenography machine in 1879. The public began growing to accept it as superior to writing by hand.



1914 - Early 21st Century Updating the Stenography Machine

Technology continued to alter stenography machines, incorporating features to accommodate cassette tapes, computers and real-time text translation.

New advances in stenography made court reporters' jobs and lives easier, improving their speed and accuracy.



2020 COVID-19 Creates Backlog of Court Reporting Work

The novel coronavirus and the need to socially distance caused significant delays and a backlog of court reporting work. Professionals who were wary of digital means to produce transcripts began testing out digital tools.

Judges refused to let the pandemic halt legal proceedings, and some ordered parties to utilize [remote depositions](#) rather than postponing their cases. **Court reporting agencies began covering work in different states.**

Mid 2021 Court Reporters Are Embracing Technology & Finding Opportunities

As courts reopen and the pandemic subsides, **professionals are integrating digital court reporting tools to remain competitive.** More court reporting agencies are enlisting digital tools like Verbit's trusted Live Deposition technology, which is fact checked by professional transcribers in real-time for transcription accuracy.

Verbit's live transcription services are providing court reporters with access to a real-time feed during proceedings and immediate rough drafts. The solution is effectively accounting for personnel shortages and serving remote work needs.

..... 1906-1914 Machines Win Favor by Displaying Unmatchable Speed

Ward Stone Ireland developed a lighter, more portable stenography machine. In a demonstration at the National Shorthand Reporters Association speed contest, the machine defeated experienced shorthand writers. The event sparked commercial interest and colleges began including stenography machine instruction in their curriculums.



..... 2019 Court Reporters & Stenographers are in Short Supply

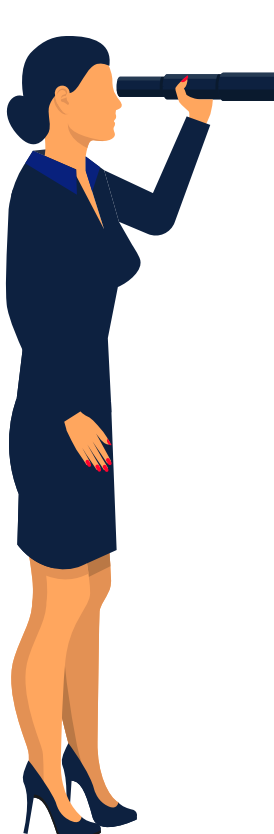
The number of trained stenographers in the workforce is dropping, leading to a deficit.

- The average age of a [stenographer](#) is 51.
- Between 10-15% of stenographers are expected to retire in the next three years.
- The demanding training programs experience attrition rates of up to 80%.
- By 2019, the supply of stenographers was 10% below the demand.

..... Early 2021 ASR Matures But Isn't Replacing Professionals

With the growing need for court reporting services, tools like Automatic Speech Recognition, or voice-to-text technology, are helping professionals produce transcripts quickly.

ASR continues to mature, but alone it typically cannot reach stenographers' and professional court reporters' high accuracy standards. Combining artificial intelligence with the human intelligence of experienced court reporters is proving to work well for the production of admissible transcripts.



..... 2022- Court reporting technology will continue to change the legal world

Like Bartholomew's first stenography machine, AI might face skepticism and suspicion. However, society cannot deny the benefits of digital court reporting technology or the growing shortage of stenographers. Individuals who learn how to use technology's added benefits will usher in the next era of court reporting.

Digital tools like Verbit's are both user-friendly and simple to incorporate into a court reporting business.

[Learn More >](#)