

NYSCRA 2026 Annual Convention Full Seminar Descriptions & Bios

8:55 – 9:25

KEYNOTE: The Courtroom as a Civil Rights Arena

How the integrity of the record ensures transparency, accountability, and public trust in the justice system

Presented by Frederick Brewington, ESQ.



Frederick K. Brewington, Esq. Principal, Law Offices of Frederick. K. Brewington

Frederick K. Brewington graduated with honors from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Albany with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He went on to obtain a Juris Doctor Degree from Northeastern University School of Law where he was the Student Commencement Speaker. Fred is a highly respected lawyer and community advocate with a distinguished legal career. After working at several prestigious firms and law offices, including a clerkship at the Office of the Legal Counsel of the United States Senate, Fred leads a private practice on Long Island with expertise in civil rights litigation. He has successfully challenged the ‘at large’ voting system in Nassau (Hempstead) and Suffolk (Islip) Counties and continues to work on preventing future unconstitutional and discriminatory purging of voters from the voting roll.

Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said: “My dream is deeply rooted in the American Dream,” and Fred Brewington sustains that vision by ensuring that the greatest right of Americans is the right to protest for rights. Fred labors mightily against injustices through litigating, writing, lecturing, and fosters the building of relationships of encouragement among citizen and civic groups. Through his litigation, his praiseworthy ability as a public speaker for countless community organizations, and his leadership on

many civic boards, Fred never ceases to call his fellow citizens to fulfill the noble promises in our Constitution and Bill of Rights.

He has been labeled 'The People's Lawyer'. Among the dozens of honors he has received, the titles of two of his awards epitomize his exceptional legal and community engagement: "Keeper of the Dream" and "Guardian of Liberty." He is the recipient of the Long Island Business News' Leadership in Law Lifetime Achievement Award, The New York State Bar Association Committee on Civil Rights, Haywood Burns Memorial Award, The Hon. William Gitelman Award of the Nassau Lawyers' Association of Long Island, Inc., Hofstra University's First Michael D'Innocenzo Award for Outstanding Contributions to Constructive Public Dialogue and he has been added to the Long Island Press POWERLIST of the 50 Most Influential People on Long Island.

Fred diligently contributes as an Adjunct Professor at the Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center, Touro University. He served as President of the Alumni Association of SUNY, Albany and remains a member of its Council of Classes. He serves as an advisor to many community groups and organizations for whom he provides pro bono services, and for over 40 years has been a volunteer football coach in the Malverne School District, mentoring and guiding students to personal excellence.

9:30 – 10:55

How You Show Up Under Pressure: The Hidden Skill Behind Exceptional Court Reporting

Presented by Allison K. Brenner, PCC

How You Show Up Under Pressure: The Hidden Skill Behind Exceptional Court Reporting is a 90 minute (.15 CEU) seminar led by Allison K. Brenner, ICF Professional Certified Coach and Industrial/Organizational Psychology consultant, with more than 25 years of expertise in high stakes performance. Drawing on her work developing leaders for federal agencies and her whole person self-awareness platform, InnerVue, Allison guides

court reporters through the often overlooked internal factors that shape performance under pressure.

Participants explore the “hidden variable” that drives how they show up, uncover blind spots, and learn a five stage growth path—from Awareness to Identity Shift—that strengthens clarity, communication, and emotional resilience. Through targeted activities such as the 10 Second Replay, the One Word Reality Check, and the Mirror Question, attendees gain actionable insight into their own behavioral patterns and how they are experienced by others. The session concludes with an industry specific application and a reflective closing exercise, helping reporters build intentional habits that elevate consistency, confidence, and impact in the most demanding professional environments.



Allison K. Brenner Founder, Self-Awareness is your SuperPower (O) 512.677.5550 (M) 512.550.0910
<https://yourInnerVue.com>

Allison Brenner is an ICF Professional Certified Coach (PCC) and Industrial/Organizational Psychology consultant with more than 25 years of experience helping individuals and leaders achieve meaningful, lasting growth. She works with professionals to build clarity, strengthen communication, and navigate complex interpersonal dynamics, supporting them as they uncover blind spots, expand perspective, and take intentional action toward both personal and professional goals.

In addition to her coaching work, Allison has designed and led selection, promotion, and leadership development assessments for high-stakes federal agencies, helping identify leaders who represent the United States in complex diplomatic and international environments. This work gives her a deep understanding of performance under pressure, accountability, and the real-world impact of how individuals show up.

Her approach integrates leadership development, communication, conflict resolution, and emotional and relational intelligence. She holds two degrees in psychology and is certified through the Coaches Training

Institute (Co-Active Coaching), Team Coaching International, and in several assessment tools including EQ-i 2.0, EQ 360, and Hogan.

Allison is also the founder of InnerVue, a whole-person feedback and self-awareness platform designed to help people understand how they are experienced by others across all areas of their lives. She is passionate about helping individuals gain clear, actionable insight so they can move beyond plateaus and show up with greater intention, confidence, and impact.

11:05 – 12:30

Breakout Option No. 1: Eclipse Training

Presented by Michael Starkman

Michael Starkman will be showcasing the latest brilliant innovations from Advantage Software. The list of high-value enhancements is long, so you don't want to miss the dazzling progress from the developers of Eclipse.

Topics include: • All new audio sound system • Boost OnDemand • New globalling from steno machine procedure • Speedbuilding and stroke reduction features • New database building options • ...and more.



Michael Starkman is a certified advanced Eclipse software trainer with nearly three decades of experience presenting and teaching Eclipse. Fifteen different state associations have hired Michael to provide Eclipse training at their annual conventions. He has been a presenter for the ESP Network Meetings (the Eclipse Users' Group) for more than 20 years, has made appearances as a speaker at NCRA's national conventions, provided many training seminars in the Mid-Atlantic region, as well as countless hours of private, one-on-one training.

11:05 – 12:30

Breakout Option No. 2: Case CATalyst Training

Presented by Anthony D. Frisolone, SGCITA

Prepare quickly and more efficiently for your next assignment using Case CATalyst! You will learn how to use a variety of Case CATalyst's features to help you better prepare for that next assignment. Your clients will take note of your higher translation rate and you will see how much more efficiently you'll be working! Bring your questions and a desire to make your job easier by learning how to use these powerful tools!



**Anthony D. Frisolone, FAPR, RDR, CRR, CRI, CSR
Federal Official Court Reporter Stenograph Certified
Independent Training Agent
Anthony.Frisolone@gmail.com
(800) 323-4247 ext. 3741**

Anthony has been a Stenograph Certified Independent Training Agent since 2008. In his 18 years in the training program, Anthony has conducted thousands of hours of individual and group Case CATalyst training sessions here in New

York as well as across the United States and internationally.

Anthony works with CART providers and broadcast captioners as well as giving his time to individual students, schools, and many court reporting associations providing his services on a pro bono basis.

1:30 – 2:25

Steno Advocacy in the Age of AI

Presented by Colin Brehm & Darlene M. Devlin

Join the NCRA's State Government Relations Manager Colin Brehm and Senior Court Reporter and longtime steno advocate Darlene Devlin for a straightforward, practical session on what real world advocacy looks like for court reporters today. This one hour seminar focuses on how we communicate our value — not in theory, but in the everyday interactions we have with judges, attorneys, administrators, and legislators.

We'll walk through key takeaways from NCRA's Boot Camp, simple daily advocacy habits, effective messaging around AI, and how to use national and state level wins to strengthen conversations in your own courthouse or community.

Attendees will leave with clear, usable tools and talking points they can put into practice immediately as NYSCRA marks 150 years of protecting the record.



Colin Brehm State Government Relations Manager

Joined NCRA in 2021; enjoys American history and political memorabilia.

**Darlene M. Devlin, NYACR NYSCRA Board
Member NCRA PAC Co-Chair NCSA Co-Chair**

Darlene is a certified stenographer and award-winning union leader with more than 25 years of experience across courtrooms, depositions, board hearings, and meetings. Known for professionalism, precision, and dedication to the record, she currently serves as a Senior Court Reporter for the New York State Supreme Court in Suffolk County.



Her leadership includes service on NYSCRA's Board of Directors and multiple committees, as well as NCRA PAC, the REAL Taskforce, and the NCSA Leadership Team, where she is the Vice Chair.

In 2021, she was elected Vice President of CSEA Region One Judiciary Local 330 and continues to serve as a delegate for AFSCME and the Long Island Federation of Labor, NY AFL-CIO. In 2024, she received CSEA's State Leadership Award.

2:30 – 3:25

Mock Trial Comes to Life

Presented by Joshua B. Edwards & Harriet M. Brenner-Gettleman

Mock Trial Comes to Life is an engaging, hands on courtroom demonstration led by two of NYSCRA's most accomplished professionals: Joshua B. Edwards, RDR, CRR, CRC, realtime court reporter and captioner, and Harriet M. Brenner Gettleman, CMRS, CRI, longtime instructor, agency owner, and former NYSCRA president.

Attendees step directly into the structure of a live trial as Harriet presides from the bench and Joshua provides realtime reporting projected for the audience. Students and professionals are cast in key courtroom roles—including attorneys, witnesses, bailiff, and jury foreperson—following

scripted and ad-lib examinations and statements that mirror authentic trial procedure.

The session concludes with a guided post-trial discussion highlighting realtime strategy, phrasing, brief efficiency, and techniques for handling unfamiliar terminology.



Joshua B. Edwards (he/him) RDR, CRR, CRC Co-Owner, StenoCaptions LLC StenoMasters Founder NYSCRA Past President Distinguished Toastmaster

Joshua Edwards provides realtime captioning for colleges and events throughout NYC and online. He is a former EDNY official reporter, past NYSCRA president, past president of New York Toastmasters, and founder of StenoMasters. He holds a degree in vocal performance from Vanderbilt University.

Harriet M. Brenner-Gettleman, CMRS, CRI Realtime Center for Learning, Inc., President/Director/co-owner

Harriet's 63-year career spans official reporting, freelancing, agency ownership, and instruction. She founded Realtime Reporting, Inc. in 1998, later launching Realtime Center for Learning, Inc. in 2006. She has served as NYSCRA vice president, president, and board member, and has received multiple awards including the Louis Goldstein Memorial Award and Stephen Gassman Award. She earned NCRA's Legacy Achievement Recognition Award in 2025.



3:35 – 5:00

Steno Vision: An Interactive Vision Board Experience for Stenographers

Hosted by Deneé Vadell aka StenoFluencer

Join us for an inspiring and interactive workshop designed specifically for professional stenographers and steno students looking to harness their creativity and drive to achieve their personal and professional goals.

Encouraging work-life balance is essential for our profession and can prevent burnout, enhance productivity, improve mental health, encourage personal and professional growth, promote physical health, and achieve job satisfaction.

This engaging session will guide participants in the art of creating personal vision boards: powerful visual representations of aspirations, national and state certification goals, steno speed goals, setting intentions to graduate from court reporting school, dreams, and personal life goals.

In this interactive workshop, you will be armed with magazines, art supplies, and a variety of materials. Attendees will embark on a hands-on journey to create their “Steno Vision” boards. This creative process will encourage self-reflection and inspire participants to think and dream BIG.

This workshop is ideal for stenographers at any stage of their career.



Denée Vadell, RPR, CCR-NJ, NYACR Senior Court Reporter | Realtime Captioner

Denée Vadell, aka @StenoFluencer, is a seven-time award-winning stenographer and children’s book author with nearly a decade of realtime captioning and court reporting experience. She began her career providing CART at Rutgers University, later captioning for VITAC, and became an official reporter in Bronx Criminal Court in 2018. In 2025 she was

promoted to Senior Court Reporter at New York County Civil Supreme Court.

Her viral TikTok and Instagram content has inspired countless students and attracted national media attention, including Hulu and major news outlets.