

**For possible action; discussion to formulate Bill Draft Requests for the 2025 Legislative Session.**

Speaker: Debbie Uehara

EXPLANATION – Matter in *blue italics* is new material; and matter between ~~[red brackets with single strikethrough]~~ is material to be omitted.

*NRS 656.XXX Unlawful to engage in certain conduct without a certificate or license or permit or without complying with certain provisions of chapter; power of Board to file complaint with court and assist in prosecution of violation; prosecution by District Attorney or Attorney General.*

1. *It is unlawful for any natural person, limited-liability company, partnership, association or corporation to engage in the business of, act in the capacity of, advertise or assume to act as, a:  
(a) Certified Court Reporter or Court Reporting Firm of any kind within the State of Nevada without first obtaining the appropriate certificate or license from the Board as provided for in this chapter;*
2. *The Board may refer a complaint for a violation of this section before any court of competent jurisdiction and may assist in presenting the law or facts upon any trial for a violation of this section.*
3. *The District Attorney of each county shall prosecute all violations of this section in their respective counties in which violations occur, unless prosecuted by the Attorney General. Upon the request of the Executive Secretary, the Attorney General shall prosecute any violation of this section in lieu of the District Attorney.*

*NRS 656.XXX The transcript of a proceeding, as defined in NRS 656.030(10)(c) and 656.030(10)(d), may only be produced and certified by a certified court reporter.*

**NRS 656.030 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “Board” means the Certified Court Reporters’ Board of Nevada.
2. “Business entity” means any form of business organization, including, without limitation, a corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, limited-liability company or limited-liability partnership. The term does not include a natural person or governmental entity.
3. “Certificate” means a certified court reporter’s certificate issued under the provisions of this chapter.
4. “Certified court reporter” means a natural person who is ~~[technically qualified and registered under this chapter to practice court reporting]~~ *certified by the Board in this State to provide the services of court reporting using a stenographic machine or voice writing software.*
5. “Court reporting firm” means a business entity that *is licensed under this chapter and* for compensation, provides or arranges for the services of a certified court reporter or provides referral services for certified court reporters *certified by the Board* in this State.
6. “Designated representative of a court reporting firm” means the natural person designated to act as the representative of a court reporting firm pursuant to [NRS 656.186](#).
7. “Distance education program” means a program that offers instruction which is delivered by the Internet in such a manner that the natural person supervising or providing the instruction and the natural

person receiving the instruction are separated geographically for a majority of the time during which the instruction is delivered.

8. "License" means a license issued under the provisions of this chapter to conduct business as a court reporting firm.
  9. "Licensee" means a business entity to which a license has been issued.
  10. "Practice of court reporting" means reporting, in this State, by the use of voice writing or any system of manual or mechanical shorthand writing, *or producing a certified transcript of a reported proceeding, if requested.*
    - (a) Grand jury proceedings;
    - (b) Court proceedings, with the exception of proceedings before a federal court;
    - (c) Pretrial examinations, depositions, motions and related proceedings of like character; or
    - (d) Proceedings of any agency if the final decision of the agency with reference thereto is subject to judicial review.
  11. "Stenographic notes" means:
    - (a) The original *electronic*, manually or mechanically produced notes in shorthand or shorthand writing taken by a certified court reporter *using a stenographic machine and computerized software* while in attendance at a proceeding to report the proceeding; or
    - (b) The *spoken* record produced by the use of *a certified verbatim reporter and* voice writing *software* by a certified *verbatim* ~~[court]~~ reporter while in attendance at a proceeding.
  12. "Voice writing" means the making of a verbatim record of a proceeding by repeating the words of the speaker into a device that is capable of:
    - (a) Digitally translating the words into text~~[-; or]~~
    - ~~-(b) Making a tape or digital recording of those words.]~~
- The term includes, without limitation, stenomasking, verbatim reporting and other similar titles.
13. "*Officer*" means *a certified court reporter or a certified verbatim reporter.*

**NRS 656.145 Court reporters: Unlawful to practice without certificate.**

1. It is unlawful for any natural person to practice court reporting or to advertise or use any identifying term that may indicate to the public that the natural person is entitled to practice as a court reporter unless the natural person holds a certificate of registration as a certified court reporter issued by the Board.

2. *It is unlawful for said Notaries Public, video recorders, digital recorders, transcribers or any natural person who does not hold a certificate of registration as a certified court reporter issued by the Board to practice court reporting or to advertise or use any identifying term that may indicate to the public that said Notaries Public, video recorders, digital recorders, transcribers or natural person is entitled to practice as a court reporter in any legal proceeding subject to judicial review, as defined in NRS 656.030(10)(c) and 656.030(10)(d).*

**NRS 656.170 Court reporters: Frequency and location of examination; documentary evidence of qualifications required for admission to examination.**

1. Examinations must be held not less than twice a year at such times and places as the Board may designate.
2. No natural person may be admitted to the examination unless the natural person first applies to the Board as required by [NRS 656.150](#). The application must include, without limitation, satisfactory evidence to the Board that the applicant has, at the time of filing his or her application:
  - (a) Satisfied the requirements set forth in subsections 1 to 4, inclusive, of [NRS 656.180](#);
  - (b) Received a passing grade on:

- (1) The National Court Reporters Association’s examination for *a Registered Professional Reporters, Registered Merit Reporter or Certified Realtime Reporter*; or
- (2) The National Verbatim Reporters Association’s examination for *a Certified Verbatim Reporters*;
- (c) Received one of the following:
  - (1) ~~[(A)]~~ *An active* certificate as a *Registered Professional Reporter, Registered Merit Reporter or Certified Realtime Reporter* issued to the applicant by the National Court Reporters Association; *or* ~~[(2)]~~ *A certificate as a registered merit reporter issued to the applicant by the National Court Reporters Association;*
  - ~~[(3)]~~ (2) A certificate as a *Certified Verbatim Reporter* issued to the applicant by the National Verbatim Reporters Association; ~~[(or)]~~
  - ~~[(4)]~~ *A valid certificate or license to practice court reporting issued to the applicant by another state if the requirements for certification or licensure in that state are substantially equivalent to the requirements of this State for obtaining a certificate;*
- ~~[(d)]~~ *Either*:
- (3) *An applicant must have at the time of application:*
  - (a) ~~[(1)]~~ At least 1 year of continuous experience within the 5 years immediately preceding the application, in the practice of court reporting or producing verbatim records of meetings and conferences by the use of voice writing or any system of manual or mechanical shorthand writing and transcribing those records; or
  - (b) ~~[(2)]~~ Obtained in the 12 months immediately preceding the application, a certificate of satisfactory completion of a prescribed course of study from a court reporting program that, as determined by the Board, evidences a proficiency substantially equivalent to subparagraph (a) ~~[(1)]~~;
  - ~~[(e)]~~ *Paid the fee for filing an application for an examination set forth in NRS 656.220.*
- 3. As used in this section, “practice of court reporting” includes reporting by use of voice writing or any system of manual or mechanical shorthand writing, regardless of the state in which the reporting took place.

**NRS 656.187 Court reporting firm: Expiration and renewal of license; continuing education or training; reinstatement of expired license; regulations.**

- 1. A license as a court reporting firm expires on June 30 of each year and may be renewed if, *postmarked on or* before that date, the licensee submits to the Board:
  - (a) An application for renewal on a form prescribed by the Board;
  - (b) If the designated representative of a court reporting firm does not hold a certificate, evidence that the designated representative of the court reporting firm has completed the requirements for continuing education established by the Board;
  - (c) The required fee for renewal; and
  - (d) All information required to complete the renewal.
- 2. The Board shall adopt regulations requiring a designated representative of a court reporting firm who does not hold a certificate to participate in continuing education or training as a condition to the renewal or reinstatement of a license of a licensee. If a designated representative of a court reporting firm fails to comply with such requirements, the Board may suspend or revoke the license of the licensee.
- 3. A license that expires pursuant to the provisions of this section may be reinstated if the applicant:
  - (a) Complies with the provisions of subsection 1; and
  - (b) Submits to the Board the required fee for reinstatement.
 (Added to NRS by [2001, 1008](#); A [2001, 1013](#); [2005, 193, 2803](#))

**NRS 656.220 Fees; regulations.**

1. The fees required by this chapter are fixed by the following schedule:

(a) The fee for filing an application for an examination must be fixed by the Board annually at not more than \$250 and not less than \$90.

(b) The fee for the original issuance of a certificate must be fixed by the Board annually at not more than \$250 and not less than \$150.

(c) For a certificate issued after July 1, 1973, the fee is an amount equal to the renewal fee in effect on the last regular renewal date before the date on which the certificate is issued, except that if the certificate will expire less than 1 year after its issuance, then the fee is 50 percent of the renewal fee in effect on the last regular renewal date before the date on which the certificate is issued. The Board may by regulation provide for the waiver or refund of the initial certificate fee if the certificate is issued less than 45 days before the date on which it will expire.

(d) The annual renewal fee for a certificate must be fixed by the Board annually at not more than \$250 and not less than \$150. Every holder of a certificate desiring renewal must pay the annual renewal fee to the Board *and must be postmarked* on or before May 15 of each year.

(e) For the renewal of a certificate which was suspended for failure to renew, the fee is an amount equal to all unpaid renewal fees accrued plus a reinstatement fee that must be fixed by the Board annually at not more than \$125 and not less than \$75.

(f) The fee for the original issuance of a license as a court reporting firm is *not more than \$750 and not less than* \$250.

(g) The fee for the annual renewal of a license as a court reporting firm is *not more than \$750 and not less than* \$175.

(h) The fee for the reinstatement of a license as a court reporting firm is *not more than \$1,000 and not less than* \$175.

2. In addition to the fees set forth in subsection 1, the Board may charge and collect a fee for the expedited processing of a request or for any other incidental service it provides. The fee must not exceed the cost incurred by the Board to provide the service.

**NRS 656.335 Court reporter required to retain certain ~~notes~~ files for 8 years.** A certified court reporter shall retain his or her ~~notes~~ *digital notes and text files*, whether or not transcribed, for 8 years if they concern any matter subject to judicial review. These ~~notes~~ *digital notes and text files* must be kept in a manner which is reasonably secure against theft, tampering or accidental destruction *in at least two forms*.

(Added to NRS by [1987, 911](#); A [1993, 1409](#); [2017, 2225](#))