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SCRU-15-0000567

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

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In the Matter of the

RULES GOVERNING COURT REPORTING  
IN THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

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ORDER AMENDING THE RULES GOVERNING  
COURT REPORTING IN THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

(By: McKenna, Acting C.J., Eddins, Ginoza, and Devens, JJ., and  
Intermediate Court of Appeals Chief Judge Nakasone,  
assigned by reason of vacancy)

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Rules 2, 8, 18, and 19  
of the Rules Governing Court Reporting in the State of Hawai'i  
are amended, effective upon the filing of the order, as follows  
(deleted material is bracketed and stricken; new material is  
underscored) :

**Rule 2. CERTIFICATION OF COURT REPORTERS.**

(a) No person shall engage in the verbatim reporting of trials or judicial  
proceedings in any of the courts of the State of Hawai'i, nor shall any person  
engage in the taking of oral depositions, for use in the courts of this state, unless  
such person shall possess a certificate as a Hawai'i certified shorthand reporter  
issued by the supreme court through the Hawai'i Board of Certified Shorthand  
Reporters.

**(b)** Unless specifically exempted by order of the supreme court, Hawai‘i certified shorthand reporters shall not file any verbatim transcripts, ~~[or]~~ transcripts of any recordings of any trial or judicial proceeding in any of the courts of the State of Hawai‘i, or any transcripts or recordings of any oral deposition taken in Hawai‘i, for use in the courts of this state, until said reporter signs said transcript or recording, certifying it as a true and correct transcription or recording of the proceeding in question.

**(c)** Unless specifically exempted by order of the supreme court, no transcripts of depositions upon written interrogatories shall be accepted for filing unless signed and certified by a Hawai‘i certified shorthand reporter certifying that same were taken under ~~[his or her]~~ their direction and control.

**(d)** Unless specifically exempted by order of the supreme court, no videotape depositions shall be accepted for filing unless accompanied by a written transcript of the proceedings prepared, signed, and certified by, a Hawai‘i certified shorthand reporter.

**(e)** The form of certification required shall be established by the Hawai‘i Board of Certified Shorthand Reporters. This Rule shall not apply to depositions taken and transcribed outside of the State of Hawai‘i.

**(f)** Any person to whom a certificate is issued shall use the title “Certified Shorthand Reporter” or the abbreviation “CSR” with the reporter’s identification number upon the certification of any transcript. Violation of this Rule shall be subject to such sanctions as the court deems appropriate.

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#### **Rule 8. DUTIES OF THE BOARD.**

**(a) Rulemaking.** The Hawai‘i Board of Certified Shorthand Reporters shall have the authority to propose for consideration by the supreme court reasonable rules and regulations governing the practice of court reporting within the State of Hawai‘i, including rules and regulations for (i) testing, certification, and supervision of certified shorthand reporters, (ii) governing the conduct of Hawai‘i certified shorthand reporters, and (iii) discipline, censure, suspension, or revocation of certification.

**(b) Testing.** The board shall prepare and administer appropriate examinations for all applicants for certification as Hawai‘i certified shorthand reporters to insure that the applicants have reasonable proficiency in making verbatim records of judicial or related proceedings.

**(c) Collection and Use of Fees.** The board shall: (i) collect from every applicant or reporter the appropriate application and renewal fees required under Rules 13(a) and 13(c); (ii) produce an annual budget for the expenditure of those funds; (iii) develop appropriate financial policies for the management of such funds; (iv) maintain exclusive control and responsibility over all financial transactions involving such funds; and (v) develop and maintain accounting records showing receipt and disposition of such funds, which records shall be subject to audit. The board may expend funds to carry out its duties under these rules, to pay for expenses authorized by these rules, and to pay for seminars for board members that are related to the duties of board members and approved by a justice of the supreme court.

**(d) Discipline.** The board shall make appropriate findings and recommendations to the Hawai‘i Supreme Court for discipline, censure,

suspension, or revocation of certification of Hawai‘i certified shorthand reporters. Board hearings shall be held in accordance with Rule 10.

**(e) Notice.** The board shall notify a Hawai‘i certified shorthand reporter in writing of the expiration date of certification at least sixty (60) days prior to that expiration date. Correspondence shall be mailed to the last known mailing address of the certified shorthand reporter. Failure to receive notice does not exempt the reporter from the requirement to renew certification by the appropriate date.

**(f) Annual Report to Hawai‘i Supreme Court.** Commencing with the 2026 calendar year, the board shall submit a copy of its annual budget and balance sheet for each calendar year to the supreme court by April 15th of the following year, with the first submission due by April 15, 2027. The annual budget and balance sheet shall be presented to the clerk of the supreme court. This annual budget shall be accompanied by an annual report that identifies: the number of certified court reporters; the number of new applicants for certification and the pass/fail rate of the applicants; and proposed rule amendments, if any, that would facilitate increasing the number of certified court reporters in the State of Hawai‘i. The clerk shall make a copy of the annual budget and report accessible to the public.

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**Rule 18. NONLICENSED ACTIVITY.**

Any person or entity offering court reporting services intended to be filed in any judicial proceeding in the State of Hawai‘i must be (i) a duly certified Hawai‘i certified shorthand reporter, [or] (ii) must designate a Hawai‘i certified shorthand reporter who is a resident of the State of Hawai‘i as “Managing CSR” to be accountable to the board for the entity’s actions, or (iii) a judge has authorized, by court order, for the person to prepare a transcript of a recorded proceeding in a particular case in accordance with court rules. Transcribers contracted by the Judiciary under Hawai‘i Court Records Rules, 15(d) shall be exempt from the requirements of this rule.

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Effective July 1, 2026, Rule 19(a)-(b) of the Rules

Governing Court Reporting in the State of Hawai‘i are amended as follows:

## Rule 19. OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT RATES

**(a) Government Rates.** An official court reporter may charge the following rates for the court reporter's service in preparing transcripts for which the State of Hawai'i or a political subdivision of the State of Hawai'i or the United States bears the responsibility of payment:

		<b>Original per 25 line page</b>	<b>Copies produced by any medium per 25 line page</b>
1.	Daily transcripts	<u>[\$5.75]</u> <u>\$6.49</u>	\$1.00
2.	Expedited	<u>[\$3.75]</u> <u>\$5.45</u>	\$1.00
3.	Within 7 (seven) calendar days	<u>[\$3.00]</u> <u>\$4.72</u>	\$1.00
4.	Within 14 (fourteen) calendar days	<u>[\$2.65]</u> <u>\$4.45</u>	\$1.00
5.	Within 60 (sixty) calendar days or for appeal	<u>[\$2.50]</u> <u>\$4.30</u>	\$1.00

If the total amount to be charged for a transcript, excluding copies, is less than [\$25.00] \$40.00, the official reporter may charge [\$25.00] \$40.00.

**(b) Non-Government Rates.** An official court reporter may charge the following rates for the court reporter's service in preparing transcripts for which a non-government entity or person is responsible for payment:

		<b>Original per 25 line page</b>	<b>Copies produced by any medium per 25 line page</b>
1.	Daily transcripts	<u>[\$7.00]</u> <u>\$7.30</u>	\$1.50
2.	Expedited	<u>[\$5.00]</u> <u>\$6.05</u>	\$1.50
3.	Within 7 (seven) calendar days	<u>[\$4.00]</u> <u>\$5.20</u>	\$1.50
4.	Within 14 (fourteen) calendar days	<u>[\$3.50]</u> <u>\$4.85</u>	\$1.50
5.	Within 60 (sixty) calendar days or for appeal	<u>[\$3.25]</u> <u>\$4.60</u>	\$1.50

If the total amount to be charged for a transcript, excluding copies, is less than [\$25.00] \$40.00, the official reporter may charge [\$25.00] \$40.00.

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Effective July 1, 2027, Rule 19(a)-(b) of the Rules Governing Court Reporting in the State of Hawai‘i are amended as follows:

**Rule 19. OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT RATES**

**(a) Government Rates.** An official court reporter may charge the following rates for the court reporter’s service in preparing transcripts for which the State of Hawai‘i or a political subdivision of the State of Hawai‘i or the United States bears the responsibility of payment:

		<b>Original per 25 line page</b>	<b>Copies produced by any medium per 25 line page</b>
1.	Daily transcripts	<u>[\$6.49]</u> <u>\$7.32</u>	\$1.00
2.	Expedited	<u>[\$5.45]</u> <u>\$6.59</u>	\$1.00
3.	Within 7 (seven) calendar days	<u>[\$4.72]</u> <u>\$5.87</u>	\$1.00
4.	Within 14 (fourteen) calendar days	<u>[\$4.45]</u> <u>\$5.65</u>	\$1.00
5.	Within 60 (sixty) calendar days or for appeal	<u>[\$4.30]</u> <u>\$5.50</u>	\$1.00

If the total amount to be charged for a transcript, excluding copies, is less than \$40.00, the official reporter may charge \$40.00.

**(b) Non-Government Rates.** An official court reporter may charge the following rates for the court reporter’s service in preparing transcripts for which a non-government entity or person is responsible for payment:

		<b>Original per 25 line page</b>	<b>Copies produced by any medium per 25 line page</b>
1.	Daily transcripts	<u>[\$7.30]</u> <u>\$7.50</u>	\$1.50
2.	Expedited	<u>[\$6.05]</u> <u>\$6.75</u>	\$1.50
3.	Within 7 (seven) calendar days	<u>[\$5.20]</u> <u>\$6.00</u>	\$1.50
4.	Within 14 (fourteen) calendar days	<u>[\$4.85]</u> <u>\$5.75</u>	\$1.50
5.	Within 60 (sixty) calendar days or for appeal	<u>[\$4.60]</u> <u>\$5.50</u>	\$1.50

If the total amount to be charged for a transcript, excluding copies, is less than \$40.00, the official reporter may charge \$40.00.

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DATED: Honolulu, Hawai‘i, January 22, 2026.

/s/ Sabrina S. McKenna

/s/ Todd W. Eddins

/s/ Lisa M. Ginoza

/s/ Vladimir P. Devens

/s/ Karen T. Nakasone

