

# NEWS RELEASE SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO



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## **FIRST-IN-THE-NATION PAID COURT REPORTER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM ATTRACTS STUDENTS, NEWLY CERTIFIED COURT REPORTERS TO HELP ALLEVIATE COURT REPORTER SHORTAGE IN SAN FRANCISCO**

The Court is recruiting Court Reporter interns through a unique internship program to expand creative solutions to address a Certified Shorthand Reporter (CSR) crisis in San Francisco, Court Executive Officer Brandon E. Riley announced today.

Launched in April, the Court Reporter Internship Program provides an exciting opportunity for qualified candidates to work in person at the Court as a paid intern working a minimum of 16 hours a week. Interns report to the Court Reporter Management Office (CRMO) and are assigned to shadow an official reporter in courtrooms that cover trials, preliminary hearings, and general calendars in criminal, juvenile, and/or family courts. Interns must produce 10 pages of transcripts each week for review by the CRMO, including cover, appearance, and index pages.

“Launching this internship program is one more tool to address our shortage of court reporters in San Francisco,” Riley said. “Our court reporter union members and management have worked creatively to find ways to bring in new talent through our courthouse doors. Other courts are seeking to replicate this learning

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opportunity. Since the start of 2024, we have hired three voice reporters and one machine writer to work as CSRs with the help of recruitment and retention bonuses. We are building on those efforts with this new internship program which allows students working alongside CSRs to get valuable courtroom experience taking the records.”

The Court currently has 10 vacancies for court reporters, down by four since the start of 2024.

The internship program provides a structured opportunity for the interns to gain experience in a courtroom setting and to receive feedback and guidance as they produce transcript pages and get more familiar with the specialized CAT software court reporters use as professionals. Court reporting students who attend an accredited school in California are required to have a total of 60 shadow hours, a minimum of 10 in a deposition setting and a minimum of 10 in court. Students and test candidates who sit for the state licensing exam through other means are not required to have any shadow/intern hours.

To date, five high-speed students, both machine and voice writers, who meet the program’s qualifications, have been hired as interns; two more are scheduled to start in July.

“This internship program has been exactly what I was looking for,” Vincent Altadonna said. “I’ve always said I was ‘court curious,’ and this program has given me a shot at seeing what it’s really like to be a professional court reporter in a very busy court.”

Carter Mannon added, “The SF internship has been an awesome opportunity to see what being an official court reporter is all about. I have been able to ask all my

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court reporting questions, and that will make the transition from testing to a professional court reporter a lot smoother.”

Internship dates are flexible depending on the candidate’s availability and are limited to a total of eight consecutive weeks unless otherwise agreed to by the Court. Work hours are flexible depending on the candidate’s availability but must be Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to noon, and/or 1 to 5 p.m.

Interns will be paid biweekly at the rate of \$800/week (\$50/hour for 16 hours) for eight consecutive weeks (\$6,400 total) after the 16-hour minimum has been achieved in a 2-week pay period.

“Although not a program requirement, we hope interns will want to continue their journey in the court reporting industry as an Official Court Reporter in the San Francisco Superior Court,” Riley said.

For more information on applying for the program, send an email to [cjordan@sftc.org](mailto:cjordan@sftc.org).

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