Thank you for being a part of the Ohio Court Reporters Association 2024 Annual Conference, April 5-7, 2024, at the Cleveland Marriott East. We look forward to welcoming you to a wonderful weekend ahead. In preparing for the conference, please note the following:

CONFERENCE LOCATION AND ATTIRE

All OCRA events will take place at the Cleveland Marriott East, 26300 Harvard Road, Warrensville Heights, Ohio. Hotel meeting rooms tend to be too cold for some and too hot for others, so dressing in layers may help the temperature be just right for you. We want you to be comfortable! The dress code for the conference is casual to business casual.

SOLAR ECLIPSE FESTIVITIES

Please pack your patience! With the Total Solar Eclipse scheduled to take place on Monday, April 8, the Cleveland area is estimated to have 100,000+ visitors arriving over the course of the weekend. Many hotels in the area are booked to near capacity, including the Cleveland Marriott East, and extended wait times are expected at not only our hotel but at local restaurants, stores, et cetera. If you are local and/or not staying on-site at the hotel, allow yourself extra time to travel to/from the conference.

REGISTRATION AND VENDOR/EXHIBITOR HOURS

On-site registration and the OCRA membership table will be available in the atrium area outside of the Salon ballroom:

Friday, April 5, from 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Saturday, April 6, from 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Sunday, April 7, from 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Vendors/Exhibitors will be available in the same area: Friday, April 5, from 12:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 6, from 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

VENDORS/EXHIBITORS

The following vendors will be present at the 2024 Annual Conference. Please visit and support our vendors to ensure their success and future attendance at OCRA events.

ProCAT will be represented on Saturday by fellow court reporter and OCRA member Doug Ackerman.

Stenograph will be represented both Friday and Saturday by Ohio District Sales Manager Todd Schludt.

Worth Steno Services will be represented both Friday and Saturday by Steve and Mary Worth. Please contact Worth Business Equipment/Worth Steno Services prior to the conference to schedule your machine repair, servicing, and/or cleaning by <u>clicking here</u>.

HANDOUTS AND ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Each attendee will be provided with an OCRA-logoed conference bag which will include a <u>full brochure</u> and <u>schedule</u>, along with other important conference materials. <u>Click here</u> to be directed to the 2024 Annual Conference webpage for up-to-date information, announcements, and handouts, if any.

SILENT AUCTION

The OCRA Cardinal Foundation Silent Auction will be hosted online for the fourth year in a row. All items will be available for bids beginning at 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Friday, April 5. The Silent Auction tables will be set up to view in person by 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 6, and all bidding will close at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 6. It's not too late to bring an item or basket to the conference to be added to the online auction for bids. Items big or small are happily accepted and, of course, a tax write-off! Please email <u>ocraonline@gmail.com</u> as soon as you can to let us know what items you will be bringing! All proceeds benefit the OCRA Cardinal Foundation. <u>Click here</u> to view the Silent Auction online site and/or view the link and QR code which appear on the last page of the <u>full conference</u> <u>brochure</u>.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES REMAIN AVAILABLE

Together, we can guarantee success and growth for the court reporters, captioners, students, and industry professionals in Ohio, and we hope that we can count on your support this year to ensure continued success in our educational efforts. Please <u>click here</u> to offer a general sponsorship and/or student sponsorship (scroll down to the sponsorship/support opportunities area). Any and all amounts are appreciated!

MAIN RAFFLE

In addition to our main raffle – with the grand prize of a 4-day overnight stay for two in Pass-a-Grille, St. Pete Beach, Florida, along with \$500 cash to spend – additional fundraising activities will take place during the weekend. <u>Click here</u> to view all 2024 Main Raffle prizes! You can purchase your main raffle tickets in person throughout the conference or purchase your tickets online now by <u>clicking here</u>. Don't miss your chance to win great prizes available this year – all in support of our association and profession right here in Ohio! *(Winners need not be present to win.)*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Thank you again for being a part of the 2024 Annual Conference. We will see you very soon. Safe travel!

Sincerely,

Susan Coots, RPR 2023-2024 OCRA President and Sarah Nageotte, FAPR, RDR, CRR, CRC OCRA Executive Director