

**Case Name:** *In the Matter of* Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

**Docket No.:** 16-44-O

**Filing Party:** Respondent, Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

**Exhibit No.:** B-O-51



February 24, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the California Court Reporters Association, one of the biggest court reporting trade associations in the nation, I write to you on behalf of the South Coast College Court Reporting Program.

South Coast College is the biggest producer of qualified court reporter graduates in the state of California. Every single student that I have interacted with, who are alumni of this program, prove to be highly trained and well educated upon entry into the court reporting profession. This enables graduates to easily obtain solid, guaranteed employment immediately after passing the state licensing exam.

Stenography and the court reporting profession requires a unique set of skills which, in turn, requires teaching and training unlike most other types of technical colleges and professions. It cannot be held to the same metrics for accreditation as other collegiate degrees and programs. I ask you to strongly consider this, along with the successes that this particular school has made possible for South Coast graduates in the entire Southern California region.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

Brooke Rya  
President, California Court Reporters Association



DEPOSITION  
REPORTERS ASSOCIATION  
OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

800 South Pacific Coast Highway, #8-407, Redondo Beach, CA 90277

July 22, 2016

Emma Vadehra  
Chief of Staff to the Secretary of Education  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Ms. Vadehra,

My name is Monyeen L. Black. I am the president of Deposition Reporters Association of California. As a stakeholder in the career of court/deposition/CART reporting/captioning, I support the ideas put forth in the enclosed letter sent to you by Brent Murphy, President of Radiological Technologies University-VT and the other university/college presidents, in support of ACICS retaining recognition by the Department of Education.

In California where the 5 ACICS-accredited private colleges produce 71 percent of the CSRs produced in the State since 2009 and the 9 public colleges produced 29, the court reporting industry as a whole will suffer by an adverse decision of the DOE, including: attorneys, judges, courts, deposition agencies, colleges where CART is provided for the deaf and hard-of-hearing, and captioning of certain venues required by legislation.

The adverse publicity and the costs associated with re-approval by the State Bureau of Private Post-secondary Education and the time and expense involved in finding a new accrediting agency will negatively impact these small colleges that are already vulnerable because of declining enrollments at a time when the need for stenographers is at the highest level nationwide. If these colleges cease to exist, the livelihoods of many involved in the schools will be impacted -- those adversely affected include but are not limited to software vendors, school employees, deposition agencies, future court reporters, and the general public who rely on an accurate record -- along with the justice system in the State of California and in other states that recruit graduates from these five schools.

I sincerely hope that you consider the impact of totally denying recognition to ACICS and hope that you are able to work out with ACICS an alternative solution that would better address the problem without negatively impacting over 300 colleges nationwide and 700,000 students.

Best regards,

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Monyeen L. Black, CSR 10574, CCRR, RPR, CLR  
President, Deposition Reporters Association of California