

## **CCRA 2019 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

Welcome to the CCRA Distinguished Service Award ceremony. The Distinguished Service Award is the most prestigious award for which a CCRA member in good standing can be recognized. It is a great honor to receive this award, and today it is an even greater honor to present it to this year's DSA recipient.

The requirements to be nominated for this award are that a recipient shall, among other things, be involved in the reporting profession on an extensive level, during which involvement the candidate shall have rendered distinguished service to the profession which has contributed to its good reputation, general welfare, or worthy accomplishments. A DSA recipient also adheres to the Code of Ethics and serves as a role model in the reporting profession.

Our 2019 recipient is an official reporter, and has been for at least 33 years, since about 1986. She was one of the first reporters to work in a computer-integrated courtroom. This reporter is an RPR and is a realtime certified reporter in the State of Colorado. She went to reporting school in Kansas City, but so in love with reporting was she that when her school closed down she moved to Colorado to finish her program.

This lively lady has served CCRA well. She has been a director, secretary-treasurer, vice president, president, and past president. She has served on several committees, including seminar, legislative, student, and nominating committees. She is especially passionate about reporting students. One student who interned with her twice said, "As a student, it can be a little scary to sit in the courtroom. She made me feel comfortable and explained how the process works. She

was patient and helped me through all of my fears and questions. She has given me that extra push to finish, and I hope to be as amazing of a reporter as her one day.”

One of the judges she worked for had this to say, “She was my court reporter for just about 20 years. I recall our Monday morning criminal docket days being extremely long and demanding. She handled them all in a thoroughly professional manner. She never lost her cool...well...pretty much never. Through all of the years she was a great court reporter for me and is very deserving of this award.”

One of the other judges she worked for said, “She is the consummate professional. Her record is always immaculate, and she is always striving for perfection. She is an extremely hard worker, and I considered myself very fortunate to have had her as my reporter. She is insightful with a great sense of humor. In addition to her excellent work ethic, she is honest and trustworthy to a fault. She is a great gardener with a very green thumb. I truly think she could make plants grow in a paved parking lot. Her pickles are excellent, and I always looked forward to the fall when she would bring those in and distribute them to staff.”

Not one to back away from adventure, our recipient and another Colorado reporter participated in the first court reporter delegation with NCRA’s People to People and traveled to China with 50 other reporters from around the country.

Lisa Wagner was installed as CCRA president in the spring of 2015, and in her acceptance speech she spoke about her strongly held belief that, as a court reporting community, it is up to us to promote our profession. She created the Promote Our Profession committee. A few short months later she had connected with the Colorado School Counselors Association and was working with them to promote our

profession at their annual conference in Colorado Springs. From there she was asked to promote our profession at a school career fair one week later.

Lisa was recognized by NCRA in February 2018 for her work in promoting our profession and received these accolades: For the past four years, the National Committee of State Associations (NCSA) has issued a friendly challenge among state associations and individuals to spread the word about the benefits of a career in court reporting or captioning. Participants had the chance to win complimentary registrations to NCRA events or vouchers for webinars for continuing education. NCRA member Lisa Wagner, RPR, an official court reporter from Highlands Ranch, Colo., earned top honors in this year's challenge by hosting 10 school career fairs. As grand prize winner, Wagner has earned a complimentary registration to the NCRA Convention & Expo being held Aug. 2-5 in New Orleans, La.

From October of 2018 to March of 2019, Lisa has arranged 10 events, that's 10 events in 6 months, 7 of which she participated in, using her own hard-earned paid time off. She encourages other CCRA members to volunteer their time to this committee as well. She truly is trying to use her gardening skills to grow the next crop of court reporters.

Lisa Wagner is bright, bubbly, and has the best laugh ever! She is also very deserving of this award. It is my great honor to present CCRA's 2019 Distinguished Service Award to Lisa. Congratulations!