

Court Reporting and Corporate Contracts

[Court reporting](#) is a service that is necessary to people from all walks of life and in both personal and professional capacities. Corporations, in particular, need bulk court reporting services due to their large volume of business and the consequent legal risks. Many corporations actually have contractual provisions that restrict the company to one particular [court reporting service](#) provider. As it stands now, corporations are setting the bar for court reporting costs and standards of service . . . and they're setting it too low.

One of the ways that court reporting service providers land contracts with big corporations is to offer bulk discounts to their customers. They offer discounts on general services and page rates that would put other firms out of business, in exchange for which, they are granted exclusive coverage of the entire company. By doing so, these court reporting companies lead clients to expect the same unreasonably low rates from everybody. Worse still, because the company is under contract with the court reporting provider and cannot go elsewhere unless they cancel the agreement with the entire company, their [court reporting services](#) suffer. Once the service provider has already landed the contract, it becomes extremely inconvenient to terminate with them, so they can subcontract services of poorer quality without much fear of complaint from the corporation that is getting cheap rates.

Needless to say, bulk rates are not good for the industry at large. Court reporting is supposed to be about accurately recording the dispensation of justice. Obviously cost matters, but quality should not take a backseat to it. But how do you change a severely imbalanced industry? A perspective change is the first order of business. Corporations should be made aware of what constitutes good court reporting service and what doesn't; if they know what they should be getting, they will be less likely to settle for sub-par service. These businesses can lose thousands and even millions of dollars on lawsuits, so if their service is of poor quality, they stand to drop a lot of money. Saving a few bucks now isn't worth the potential future costs that unreliable court reporting can bring.

By providing excellent services to clients, smaller court reporting firms can make a name for themselves and show the biggest corporations what they are missing. For instance, a good court reporting service will have local fully staffed offices equipped with the latest technology to assist clients. Offices without support mean that if there is a problem, you are on your own. Having real staffed offices in several [locations](#) will ensure that your providers know what they are doing and are familiar with the setup, saving you time, money, and uncertainty. When convinced, corporations can do their part to discourage bulk pricing, as well. By demanding better service from their providers, demanding compensations for mistakes, or leaving the bulk provider altogether, corporations can forward the message that their business is important and they only want to hire people who will respect their goals and not just their wallets.

Court reporting is too important to take a chance in dicey services. Smaller firms prove they are the best representation of their industry because they have incentives. Bulk pricing just doesn't cut it and one day, corporations will take notice.

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