



COURT REPORTERS, ATTORNEYS, AND THE GREAT RECESSION

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Court reporters as well as lawyers have been hurt by the great recession. There are surprising mergers of law firms and court reporting firms and the filing of bankruptcies (Esquire and Howrey). With this recession comes less litigation, fewer deals, and non-payment of fees. BUT as my mother always says, "This too shall pass," and I know it will. We will have a day soon in the future when there will be too much work, and a lot of the workforce will be "weeded" out because during these tough times there will only be survival of the fittest.

Now is the time to sharpen the saw. I have been reading a lot of law and business blogs that push networking and marketing. People don't want to spend money because they are not sure of the future. The experts are advising us in the B2B market, "This is the time to work on your networking skills, become an expert in your area of practice, and put energy into your profession." Living in the age of technology and information, being "low on funds" is no excuse for not being great. There are free powerful digital platforms (LinkedIn and Twitter) where a businessperson can get information, share knowledge, and study their niche. With LinkedIn and Twitter, we can network and create new relationships with like-minded people.

Bottom line, everyone is in the same boat. We all need to connect and learn.

I don't know about everyone else, but I truly am sick and tired of worrying about stuff out of my control (i.e., the economy) and want something new to focus on.

I love using Twitter for my personal education. I follow brilliant people and read their suggested articles/blogs. I advised my niece who is studying graphic arts at Long Beach State, "Find people in your chosen profession whom you admire and then follow them on Twitter. Read what they have to say, study how they think. When you get a chance, become a part of their conversation. You never know what might happen." She has connected with the CEO of a large graphic arts firm in New York letting him know she reads and admires his blog. He wished



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her well in her studies. My golden rule re Twitter: "Always be authentic, sincere, and pay it forward."

I don't want to spend my time playing Crazy Birds and worrying about the recession. I believe this is the time to become stronger and the time to think, think, think. There is plenty of opportunity to be better. If there is one thing I know for sure, the recession will one day be over, and I plan on being ready for that day!



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