



ID# 14376
mjs

COURT REPORTERS
CERTIFICATION BOARD

November 26, 1991

RO - 263

DEC 05 91

Ms. Madeleine B. Johnson
Chair, Opinion Committee
Office of the Attorney General
Post Office Box 12548
Austin, Texas 78711-2548

Reference: May a certified shorthand reporter in the State of Texas contract with a company or organization for exclusive services wherein the company instructs its attorneys to use only the court reporter(s) under contract?

Dear Ms. Johnson:

The Court Reporters Certification Board hereby submits its opinion request on the above-captioned issue. On August 19, 1991, we received a letter from a certified shorthand reporter requesting the Board's guidance in this area. A copy is attached.

As may be seen from the attached certificate pages, this type of agreement is prohibited in Federal District Court and in various other states. Also attached is a letter from a court reporter member of the Court Reporters Certification Board outlining this situation in more detail.

We respectfully ask for an opinion on whether entering into this type of agreement would be permissible for a certified shorthand reporter in the State of Texas.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**ACCOMPANIED BY ENCLOSURES -
FILED SEPARATELY**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Merrill L. Hartman".

Merrill L. Hartman, Chairman
Court Reporters Certification Board

enclosure(s)
cc: Ms. Molly Shannon