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Anthony Frisolone, RMR, CRI, is an official in the Eastern District of New York and can be reached at AFrisolone@aol.com.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What do you know now that you wish you had known in court reporting school?

I wish I had known that it would take me so long to get through school. A lot of it was very rewarding because every time

I passed a take it was very exciting, especially moving up in speed until I got stuck at 180 WPM for about 11½ months and almost gave up on court reporting.

Anonymous

That we have attorneys and witnesses out there who assume the Energizer Bunny is taking the depo — that we can keep going and going and going without needing a break on lengthy jobs.

Sue Naylor, RMR
Henderson, Nev.

Do a little bit of speed while in theory.

Cynthia Johnson
Jackson, Miss.

About being thrust into self-employment and what this entails, which is a lot. I really think before you exit court reporting college, there should be a course on being self-employed and what is expected of you.

Kimberly DeCuire
Seattle, Wash.

That you really don't make the money you hear about. At the same time, I wish I would have known what a GREAT job it is and how much I would love it ... despite how much money I make.

Jen Bergey, RPR
Reading, Pa.

The sleepless nights!

Heidi Yarbrough, RPR
Calgary, Alta.

Confidence in yourself and taking control seems to automatically bring about great steno notes. Nerves of steel are required to succeed in this job.

Anonymous

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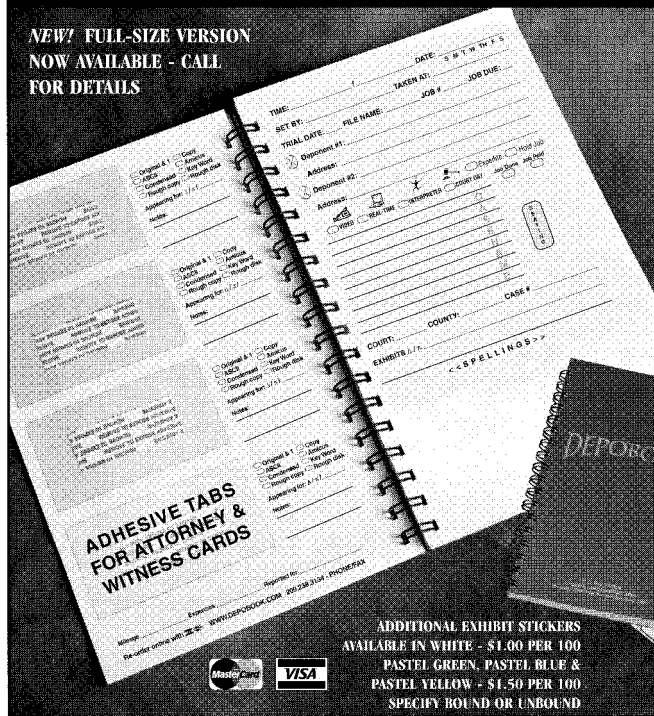
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Think of it as the soldier who is made to clean his gun over and over. A seemingly pointless exercise in boot camp, but in battle, [it] becomes essential to do it quickly, effortlessly, and under pressure.

Don't underestimate the value of what you do in school. It's all leading to something.

Janet O'Donnell
Madison, N.J.

I wish I could have taken the RPR test after I had finished academics so that everything I've learned would still have been fresh in my mind. Don't get me wrong, I'm determined to pass the RPR Written Knowledge Test this year. There's a big luau at the finish line; not to mention a job of my dreams.

Jessica Hema
Ewa Beach, Hawaii

How much time management is needed in this profession. That is the biggest challenge for me.

Quincee Bourgeois, RPR
Garyville, La.

I wish that I had asked working reporters to send me copies of old transcripts so that I could use my CR software to reproduce them. I was not familiar with transcript production when I passed the California Certified Shorthand Reporter exam. I feel so strongly about this that I have created a floppy full of sample transcripts which I will send to any student who asks.

Cathryn Bauer, RPR
Danville, Calif.

That things are "Bates" stamped, not bait stamped.

Karen Siedlecki, RPR
Millville, N.J.

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