



March 21, 2017

Dear Student:

Effective March 24, 2017, it is with great sadness that we announce the closure of Sierra Valley College of Court Reporting.

As of December 12, 2016, The US Department of Education required Sierra Valley College of Court Reporting to seek accreditation from another agency due to the withdrawal of ACICS's ability to accredit colleges. Sierra Valley College of Court Reporting was moving towards reaccreditation when it was realized that we would not meet the Benchmarks set by this new accrediting agency. One such benchmark is called Licensure Pass Rate and is tracked and reported by the Court Reporters Board of California (CRB). The CRB reported earlier this year that the average Licensure Pass Rate for the last 10 years is below 50%, and the last two Certified Shorthand Reporter (CSR) machine exams had an average Licensure Pass Rate below 6%. Most accrediting agencies require Licensure Pass Rates to be 70% or better to qualify for accreditation, and there was no way for Sierra Valley College of Court Reporting to achieve that benchmark given the state average in Licensure Pass Rate.

Our staff will be available during the coming weeks to assist you in any way we can. Sierra Valley College of Court Reporting is dedicated to helping you explore the options available to you in continuing your education. Please see the attached list of court reporting programs for your review.

Your official transcript will be mailed to you within the next week. Your unofficial transcript, financial aid transcript and attendance information along with a copy of your enrollment agreement will be emailed to you, as well, within the next week. Please reach out to our staff to update your current home address and email address on file if it has recently changed. Your records will remain available for request via a link on our website.

It may be possible for you to discharge your federal student loans and not have to repay them under certain circumstances. For more information about this, the following link has been provided to learn more about discharging your federal student loans.

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/repay-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/closed-school>

You may also log in to https://www.nslds.ed.gov/nslds/nslds_SA/ to view your personal financial aid information. Please note that all scheduled financial aid payment will not be processed.

For California residents only, when you enrolled you paid an assessment to the Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF). The State of California created STRF to relieve or mitigate economic losses suffered by California residents who were students while attending certain schools regulated by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE).

Representatives from the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education will be contacting you directly to discuss your options and explain the STRF program noted below.

You may be eligible for STRF if you are a California Resident; prepaid tuition, paid the STRF assessment, and suffered an economic loss as a result of any of the following:

1. The school closed before the course of instruction was completed.



SIERRA VALLEY COLLEGE
— of COURT REPORTING —

4747 North First Street
Building D
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 222-0947
(559) 222-2973 fax

2. The school's failure to pay refunds or charges on behalf of the student to a third party for license fees or any other purpose, or to provide equipment or materials for which a charge was collected within one hundred eighty (180) calendar days before the closure of the school.
3. The school's failure to pay or reimburse loan proceeds under a federally guaranteed student loan program as required by law or to pay or reimburse proceeds received by the school prior to closure in excess of tuition or other cost.
4. There was a decline in the quality of the course of instruction within thirty (30) calendar days before the school closed or, if the decline began earlier than thirty (30) calendar days prior to closure, the period of decline determined by the Bureau.
5. An inability to collect on a judgment against the institution for a violation of the California Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009.

However, no claim can be paid to any student without a social security number or taxpayer identification number.

The Bureau's physical address is 2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 400, Sacramento, California, 95833 and its website address is www.bppe.ca.gov.

Please accept our sincere apologies for this unexpected situation. It has been a privilege and an honor of the entire faculty and staff to serve you during your enrollment at Sierra Valley College of Court Reporting.

Sincerely,

Donald Goodpaster, President



COURT REPORTING PROGRAMS

The links below will help you explore some of the options available to you for continuing your education. We wish you all the very best in your future endeavors.

Court Reporting Programs:

NCRA Court Reporting Approved Programs:

<https://www.ncra.org/Education/content.cfm?ItemNumber=8511&navItemNumber=11551>

California Approved Public Programs:

<http://www.courtreportersboard.ca.gov/applicants/public.shtml>

Court Reporting Schools Online.net:

<http://www.courtreportingschoolsonline.net/California.html>

Please Note:

These links do not include all of the Court Reporting Programs available. Sierra Valley College of Court Reporting does not endorse or approve any program listed. The links are provided for your reference only.