

HISTORY OF THE PROFESSION

3,000 B.C. – Scribes in ancient Egypt made and kept records

200 B. C. – In ancient Rome, first shorthand system devised

63 B. C. – In Rome, Marcus Tullius Tiro, history's first recorded shorthand reporter, developed a system of shorthand, using a metal stylus equipped with a point of ivory or steel on tablets with a layer of wax, to record orations in the Roman Senate.

1180 – first shorthand language invented for English-speaking people

1879 – Patent for the first American shorthand machine

1970s – First computer-aided transcription software developed

1980s/1990s – Court reporters started using computers with their machines to perform realtime translation and captioning.

Currently - Technology expands, and so does reporting opportunities. Court reporters can accompany deaf students to classes, do live captioning via Internet, become information technologists for court systems by integrating the record with docket systems, work with theater companies to provide instant access to hard-of-hearing patrons, provide instant readable play-by-play during sports programming, become experts in a field and travel around the country with lawyers specializing in that field, etc.