



AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
ELECTRONIC  
REPORTERS AND  
TRANSCRIBERS

## SOUNDBYTES

*Your Monthly Glimpse of Everything You Need to Know About  
What's Happening at AAERT*

[Visit our Website](#)

### Meet Your New AAERT Staff

The Albany, NY-based Association Development Group, Inc. (ADG) is very pleased to have been chosen to partner with AAERT on all of its daily association management. Here is your new association management team.



Holly Cargill-Cramer  
Executive Director



Aric Aery  
Managing Director



Rose Austin  
Membership and  
Certification Liaison



Jim Brennan  
Communications

**Holly Cargill-Cramer** is vice president for governance and strategy at ADG. With over 25 years of experience as a not-for-profit executive, Holly has served as executive director for an international medical society, a state and federally-funded not-for-profit business incubator, a national charitable organization, two statewide professional associations and a national charitable organization.

**Aric Aery** has a two decade career in executive leadership and turnaround management in for-profit and non-profit organizations. He will be managing the day-to-day operations for AAERT. Prior to joining ADG, Aric served as Director of Donor Services for the Northeastern New York American Red Cross, where he engaged business partners, volunteers, customers and media outlets to gain support for the Red Cross mission, specifically, the importance of donating blood.

**Rose Austin** brings a marketing and public relations background to AAERT and will serve as point-person for all things membership and certification. Rose will be the one to contact for information regarding dues, renewals, member benefits and more. She will also be your contact for assistance on getting your AAERT certification.

**Jim Brennan** has spent his professional career in communications, primarily as a writer, reporter and news anchor on radio and television. He has also taught broadcast journalism. Jim will be producing

Soundbytes as well as other internal and external communications.

Your new AAERT staff looks forward to working with you. Please call us at **(518) 432-9973** whenever we can be of assistance. We're here weekdays from 8 am to 5 pm Eastern.

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## How Are Your Social Media Skills?

The AAERT Board of Directors is looking for volunteers who would be willing to serve on the Communications Committee and serve as moderators and posters on AAERT's social media. If you are a frequent social media user and can share a bit of your time and talents, please contact staff at [aaert@aaert.org](mailto:aaert@aaert.org) or 518-432-9973. Thank you in advance!

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## AAERT Certification Testing Now Year-Round

In an effort to make the Certified Electronic Reporter (CER®) and the Certified Electronic Transcriber (CET®) testing more convenient for AAERT members, the Board of Directors decided to open registration year-round. As of February 18, AAERT members can take the tests when it is most convenient to them. "As jurisdictions around the country are recognizing AAERT certification", said AAERT **President Janet Harris**, "the Board recognized the testing cycles that were in place were causing delays in members' ability to become certified." Thus, the decision was made to remove the barriers, create new opportunities and accommodate the increased need for AAERT certification by keeping certification open year-round. Click [here](#) to learn more about AAERT Certification.

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## Board Nomination Period Coming Soon

The call for nominations for election to the AAERT National Board of Directors will be going out soon, so it's time to start thinking about potential candidates. There will be two openings this year, each with three-year terms. Self nomination is allowed, so consider sharing your talents and/or nominating someone you believe would be a valuable addition to AAERT leadership and meets these requirements:

- Be a voting member in good standing and remain so throughout your term
- Have been a voting member for at least the previous two years
- Have demonstrated active dedication to the mission and purposes of AAERT
- No more than one member who is a current employee, owner, shareholder and/or principal of a particular company or organization may concurrently serve on the Board.

An email with a link to an online nomination form will soon be sent. If you meet the requirements, or know someone who does, please consider making a nomination by filling out the form and submitting it.

Dates for the nomination period and the voting period itself will be announced soon. Board members need to be dedicated to the profession and have a willingness to share their time and skills with your fellow members. So please consider and nominate candidates you believe can best serve our association.

**Something new...Something bigger...Something better...**

Start making plans to join your colleagues at the AAERT 2020 Annual Conference this June in Long Beach, California

And...start making your plans to join your



colleagues at the AAERT 2020 Executive Forum this June in Long Beach, California.

That's right! For the first time the Executive Forum and Annual Conference will be held together. Join us **June 25-27** at the Westin, Long Beach. The Executive Forum opens the proceedings, followed by the Annual Conference for reporters and transcribers. In between there will be a joint evening reception bringing executives and corporate representatives together with exhibitors and reporters and transcribers for networking and a lot more.

More details are coming soon, so **save the dates!**

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## In Case You Missed It...

Since our last issue there has been a significant court decision and a significant response to some misinformation. Read details in the links below.

### Digital Reporting (and AAERT) Scores a Significant Victory in Virginia

Bills were introduced in Virginia (Senate bill SB334 and House bill HB 1472) which proposed to establish an independent Board of Court Reporter Regulation which would regulate all court reporters [and indirectly transcribers, as well] working in Virginia. These bills were drafted and supported by the Virginia Court Reporters Association (VCRA) which represents stenographers in Virginia. They had introduced a very similar bill in the Virginia Senate last year that AAERT was able to defeat, but they came back again this year in both the Senate and the House of Delegates. [Read more here.](#)

### STTI & AAERT Respond to Misinformation in "NCRA Strong" Brochure

A joint letter from STTI and AAERT calls on leaders of court reporting organizations to collaborate rather than spread misinformation on digital reporting. [The content of the letter follows:](#)

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