

# COSTA COACHING & CONSULTING

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## Mock Woman Apprenticeships

Cooley LLP in San Francisco is hosting a two-day mock expert deposition workshop on June 23-24.

This event is a phenomenal opportunity for high-speed students and new reporters wanting extra practice to develop crucial practical skills as reporters of record: speak up for the record, read back, and produce rough drafts. For the first time, Cooley is allowing voice writers to participate.

### LOCATION

Cooley LLP

3 Embarcadero Center, 20<sup>th</sup> floor

San Francisco, CA 94111

### WORKSHOP OVERVIEW

This workshop provides a simulated realistic environment for Cooley's junior and senior associates to take and defend depositions using the "learn-by-doing" model. Participants take turns deposing and defending witnesses using a mock case. Each participant will take/defend for 20-25 minutes and receive feedback from a Cooley partner for 10 minutes.

Reporters do **not** need to report the feedback portion and may be asked for their feedback.

There will be two groups of associates participating: the more junior associates will take a fact deposition, and the more senior associates will depose an expert witness. The witnesses will be played by individuals from Ankura.

The purpose of these mocks is for participants to learn how they speak, including all the "ums," "uh-huhs," and "uhs"!

Cooley will provide a schedule with the names of the participants, which topics they are covering, and the names of the witnesses ahead of time, as well as hard-copy schedules with the names each day at the workshop.

### SCHEDULE

Four simultaneous mock depositions will take place in two 2-hour sessions both days. 4 – 8 steno and voice reporters are needed.

Thursday, June 23

- 11:45 am – 12:15 pm – Lunch
- 12:15 – 12:45 pm – Check-in, introduction, instructions
- 12:45 – 2:45 pm – Depositions, round 1
- 2:45 – 3:00 pm – Break
- 3:00 – 5:00 pm – Depositions, round 2
- 5:00 pm – End

Friday, June 24

- 9:00 – 9:30 am – Breakfast

- 9:30 – 11:30 am – Depositions, round 3
- 11:30 am – 12:15 pm – Lunch
- 12:15 – 2:15 pm – Depositions, round 4
- 2:15 pm – End

## **CASE & EXHIBITS**

Cooley is finalizing the case file with exhibits and will provide a PDF prior to the mocks. Here is a summary of the case.

### **4<sup>th</sup> edition case file info:**

Intellex, an ambitious US video game company, comes into conflict with Cranbrooke, a traditional manufacturer of children’s games for the European market. Their dispute? The terms of a contract for Cranbrooke to license and manufacture Intellex’s newest virtual reality system. Cranbrooke claims that the new system is an improvement over the original system and therefore covered by the terms of the contract and that it has the exclusive right to distribute Intellex's virtual reality products in the European Union for at least five years. Intellex counters that the new system is no more an “improvement” than compact discs were merely an improvement on phonograph records and that Cranbrooke’s contract only provided a first right of refusal on innovative new products. At stake are distribution rights for the improved system throughout the European Union.

The fourth edition of Cranbrooke is a substantial update over previous version. The Cranbrooke offices have been moved to fictional Britannia to avoid any Brexit conflicts. Exhibits have been updated to reflect modern business practices, including text messaging. Expert witness reports have been updated to reflect more realistic pricing. And the game system in dispute has been modernized.

This international contract case file provides the flexibility that you’ve been looking for. It comes in formats that can be used as a fact investigation file, a deposition file, or trial file on liability or damages or both. The Trial file contains all witness depositions and documents. The Deposition versions reflect the reality of deposition practice, when each party only has certain documents: the Plaintiff file contains materials only available to the plaintiff side to aid in prepping for depositions; the Defendant file contains materials only available to defendants; the Faculty file contains both the plaintiff and defendant material and is for instructor use. The plaintiff and defendant each have three witnesses, including accounting experts for each side.

Participants will use exhibits. Reporters may be given an exhibit to mark. Once done, reporters hand it back to the taker of the deposition. If you don't have stickers, writing on the document is just fine.

## **SPEAKING UP**

As the Court Reporters Board of California states in [\*Best Practice Pointer #1: How to Interrupt Proceedings\*](#), *"The fundamental duty of a court reporter is to protect the record, including interrupting" whenever "the accuracy of the record is jeopardized."*

Your #1 task is to SPEAK UP for the record every time you cannot hear or understand what is being said.

## **REPORTER'S ADMONITION**

Reporters will also state their Reporter's Admonition before going on the record to remind participants of your fundamental duty as a court reporter: to protect the record.

## **READING BACK**

During the mocks, you may be asked to read back what you just wrote.

## **ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPTS**

Reporters will produce rough drafts of all Q&A sessions they report. The key to producing rough drafts is not to make them perfect but do your best to capture what is said and speak up when needed to reduce editing time.

## **REPORTER PAY**

All apprentices will be paid the following amounts upon completion and submission of all rough drafts. In addition, Cooley offered to reimburse BART and mileage

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Per Diem per 2-hr session, per reporter	\$100.00
Rough draft, per page	\$1.50
Mileage at current federal rate, per mile	.056
BART travel expense	At cost – save your receipt

You will create an invoice and submit a [W-9 form](#) for payment through [Costa Coaching & Consulting](#).

## **COVID PROTOCOLS**

Cooley is asking everyone invited into their offices to be vaccinated and will send a brief health questionnaire for all attendees to complete before entering their offices. They are not requiring masks to be worn in the office but are encouraging anyone who wants to wear one to do so.

## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- Manage time (pre-mock prep, showing up, delivering rough drafts)
- State your Reporter's Admonition before going on the record
- Speak up for the record in Q&A sessions with junior and senior associates
- Read back immediately or prior testimony
- Create, edit, and produce rough drafts

## **EXPERT SUPPORT**

- Case file, exhibits, dictionaries, and participants' names
- Rough draft transcript templates with disclaimers
- One-on-one transcript reviews
- Coaching and breathwork support and practice
- Practice speaking up and reading back in weekly Mock Squad team Zooms
- Membership in Mock Woman Apprenticeships Facebook group (by invitation only)

Interested apprentices:

To experience being one of several reporters at this prestigious event, contact me to schedule a Zoom ASAP and discuss the details!

*Ana Fatima Costa*

Retired RPR and CSR (Ca)

SpeakUp Maven

[www.MockWoman.com](http://www.MockWoman.com)