

**From:** [Karen Polite](#)  
**To:** [Court Of Appeals Filings](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: advance transcript payment request to pro se litigant 2020-CP-07-00899  
**Date:** Friday, August 5, 2022 10:12:09 AM  
**Attachments:** [Emails of 8-3-22 requesting advance payment.pdf](#)

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\*\*\* **EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from outside the organization. Please exercise caution before clicking any links or opening attachments. \*\*\*

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Theresa Saxon** <[tdsaxon@gmail.com](mailto:tdsaxon@gmail.com)>  
Date: Thu, Aug 4, 2022, 5:14 PM  
Subject: advance transcript payment request to pro se litigant 2020-CP-07-00899  
To: Karen Polite <[porshiap@gmail.com](mailto:porshiap@gmail.com)>, A Theresa <[tdsaxon@gmail.com](mailto:tdsaxon@gmail.com)>

Ms. Polite,

Today is 8/4/22 at 2:54 p.m. My intent is not to be difficult or give you a hard time in any way in your ordering of the 4/11/22 hearing transcript in the case we have been communicating about, Rachel M. Polite v Karen Polite, Civil Action No. 2020-CP-07-00899. However, because you are a pro se Defendant in this case and want to order a transcript, the transcript will have to be paid for in advance before I begin working on it.

Please let me explain so that you maybe will understand from my point of view. In order to work on this large transcript from an all day hearing, I will have to put aside other work. This transcript will be time consuming, and I will have to turn down other court reporting assignments to get this hearing transcript completed.

I have been advised in the past by an experienced local lawyer I do court reporting work for, and whose opinion I trust, that court reporters should **always** collect up front payment from pro se litigants. Additionally, the official court reporter I spoke with also told me to be sure to collect the transcript fee up front with a pro se litigant, in other words, **before** I transcribe it. This reporter said she always collects payment of the transcript **before** even working on a transcript for pro se litigants.

The amount I have quoted you, \$1,572, may end up being more or less than the actual amount. That is my estimate of the price, but since the transcript may be longer or shorter due to punctuation, paragraphing, paginating, et cetera, if the transcript is longer, you will owe more money. If it is shorter, I will most assuredly refund the excess to you. Since I can't accept your personal check or credit care, payment will have to be in the form of a cashier's check or a money order. Please let me know your response, Ms. Polite.

Yesterday's email exchange with you is attached as a PDF. It seems to get confusing when trying to copy emails.

Also, I have recapped the previous events below to try to provide clarity.

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**RECAP OF EVENTS:** At a July 28th Webex hearing, the judge said there seemed to be a miscommunication as to whether you had ordered a transcript or not, and I said you had not ordered a transcript from me. You have not been clear in your past communications about what you were trying to express. Regarding your first two emails to me, dated April 14 and April 20, I sincerely did not understand in the April 14th email "all files and flash drives of surveillance videos" and in the April 20th email "all files and flash drives from surveillance footage" referred to transcript preparation. My apologies for misunderstanding, but if you recall, there was video played during the hearing of house surveillance footage, during which no transcript takedown by me took place. I assumed there were some more surveillance tapes being produced or something. I forwarded that first email you sent on April 14 to Ms. Eversole's office. I did not think you were referring to ordering a transcript. Then the second email you sent of April 20th was sent to myself and to your attorney at the time, Rob Varnado:

My Attorney and I Karen P. Polite  
Requesting copies of all files and flash drives from surveillance footage, when they're ready please.  
Any questions please feel free to contact me 843-321-3722  
Thank you

Karen P. Polite.

6 ladson Rd,

Ms. Polite, please be aware I most assuredly did respond on April 21 by email to your email with the following response:  
**"I am not sure what files or flash drives you are referring to. I am an independent court reporter who was contracted by Ms. Eversole's office to report the hearing. The exhibits for the hearing are with the Clerk of Courts office. Maybe you should contact Ms. Eversole's office."**

I was not aware you wanted a transcript. And by that response to you from me, if you read it, it seems that it would have been evident to you that **I was not aware you were seeking a hearing transcript.** And the reason I mentioned being an independent court reporter is that I was letting you know I was not affiliated with the court; I don't work for the court and am not involved in this case, and my thought at the time was that I must be out of the loop on some surveillance footage you had requested or were going to receive through counsel of Ms. Eversole or something, or that you were seeking the hearing exhibits from the court. I did not know what you were talking about. I responded to you saying I was not sure what you were referring to. I was busy with work at the time on another matter and responded to you that I didn't know

what you meant.

Then you sent out the following email on June 21:

**Subject:** Requesting Documents Please

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Hi Miss Allison Eversole, this is Karen P. Polite I contact your office on yesterday to request copies of documents that you sent to Rob Varnado on last Friday June 17, 2022 moving forward I would like to be a part of any and all conversation and receive all documents by mail and or email please.

Also Miss Eversole I have made several attempts to get the transcript from the April 11th trial, I believe this would be my third attempt by phone and email since April 19, 2022 I reached out to your court reporter Theresa D. Saxon who gave me her card before the trial, in case I needed copies of the transcript this is what I believe to be true. Do I have rights to the transcript? I truly apologize Ms. Theresa if you did not know what I wanted. Your court reporter "said that I needed to contact you Ms. Eversole and or Beaufort county for copies of such. Ms. Theresa also "said she is a independent court reporter contracted by; you Ms Eversole ok. Again I'm requesting the transcript from April 11, 2022 from the trial please.

I can be reached at (843-321-3722) or email it to me. I believe I only have 30 days to appeal my case so if you put it in the mail, I will not get it in time please understand that if there is a problem and I'm not entitled to a copy of the transcript please let me know thank you all..

On June 22 I then responded to you: On Wed, Jun 22, 2022, 12:59 PM Theresa Saxon <[tdsaxon@gmail.com](mailto:tdsaxon@gmail.com)> wrote:

Good Afternoon,

No hearing transcript was ordered by Ms. Eversole's office. There has been no transcript prepared. This was an all day hearing, and a transcript will take time to prepare. Ms. Polite or her attorney will have to contact me individually regarding transcript preparation and billing arrangements. When Ms. Polite emailed me, "files and flash drives of surveillance footage" was requested. In my response email, I referred Ms. Polite to Ms. Eversole's office or to the Court for this request. In my response email, I informed Ms. Polite I didn't work for the Court but was hired by Ms. Eversole for the hearing, and I let her know the exhibits were with the Court and that I didn't have any surveillance footage. I certainly did not understand "files and flash drives of surveillance footage" to be a transcript request.

Then you responded:

Wed, Jun 22, 1:37 PM

to me, Maggie, Rob, Alysoun, Heather, Jared 

I believe I made several phone calls to you Ms. Saxon and I also email you several times requesting the transcript I also left you my phone number. If there was any question about what I wanted or needed from you, and of course it was obvious what I needed from you. You could have reached out to me as well. I know that it takes time to prepare and there are fees as well but I made several attempts since April 19th 2020 reaching out to you almost two months ago, if there was any misunderstanding what I needed from you or wanted from you in all my attempts reaching out to you, you could have reached back out to me thank you. Also at that time I did not have an attorney, so could you please tell me how much time this will take for me to get the transcript and or cost associated so that I can inform the courts and request more time on to prepare my appeal. Again my phone number is 843-321-3722 if there is cost or fees associated with this transcript will you be able to Email it to me as I will cash app you or send you a money order which is quicker. I can even come where you are and pick them up, but I will need the transcript so I can get started on my appeal. Again as far as I know for now, I will be appealing my case "Pro SE" I believe I'm not sure Mr. Varnado is (Unreachable) at this time. Thank you

Ms. Polite, Just to be clear, at that time we **had not spoken several times** by phone, first of all.

Secondly, when I received your emails of June 21 (after 5:00 p.m.) and June 22, in those emails you did finally refer to a transcript. I then called you on June 22, and, at the time at least, I thought we were able to communicate more effectively. That conversation on June 22 was **our first (and only) post-hearing verbal communication**. Prior to that, in searching on my phone, I had **one** missed call from your number back on April 14.

In this conversation of June 22, preparation of the hearing transcript was **discussed for the first time**. I told you the transcript would be costly due to the length of the April 11 hearing. The hearing began at 9:00 a.m. and continued until after 4:00 p.m. Then you said that you needed my estimate, in writing, of the cost to prepare the hearing transcript and timeline. You also indicated you would be seeking payment assistance and said you would get back to me but that **you needed something in writing right now**.

I did comply with your request for a written estimate. However, I had not heard back from you since sending you the written estimate on June 22. Please note that I began my estimate with "**if you order a transcript,**" and I ended my estimate saying "**Please let me know.**"

And that brings us to the point of the June 28th hearing where the judge asked us to communicate.

It is not my responsibility, I don't believe, as a court reporter to interpret what you are trying to do or what your intent was or is, and I did not understand from your early communications that you were talking about a transcript or trying to order a transcript. As soon as you did mention a transcript, I communicated with you the very next day (your email mentioning transcript for the first time came after five).

Ms. Polite, I'm very sorry that all of you are having to go through the stress of this lawsuit.

Thank you, and take care.  
Theresa Saxon, Court Reporter  
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[tdsaxon@gmail.com](mailto:tdsaxon@gmail.com) 843.338.6388