

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA)
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COUNTY OF STANLEY)

CIRCUIT COURT

SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Bryan Anthony Reo Plaintiff, vs. Martin Lindstedt and Susan April Bessman, as Trustee of the Susan April Bessman Revocable Living Trust, Defendants.	58Civ20-07 SECOND ORDER DENYING REEQUEST TO ORDER FREE TRANSCRIPT
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On June 21, 2021, Defendant Lindstedt was notified via email from the court reporter that if he wanted a copy of the transcript from the August 31, 2020 court proceedings, the cost would be \$92.80. (232 pages at the statutory rate of .40 per page for a copy.) The original transcript was ordered and paid for by the Plaintiff through his counsel at the statutory rate of \$3.40 per page. On July 2, 2021 and July 7, 2021, Defendant Lindstedt, via email, requested the court to order the court reporter to produce a transcript at no cost to him due to his indigency.

Although the court has authority to waive filing fees for civil matters under SDCL 16-2-29.2, et seq., there is no authority for the court to order a court reporter or the county to provide a free transcript in civil matters. See *Bower v. Connecticut General Life Ins. Co.*, 347 So. 2d 439 (Fla. 1977). Even if there were, the court exercises its discretion and denies this request.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendant Lindstedt's request to get a free transcript of the court proceedings held on August 31, 2020, is DENIED.

Dated this 7th day of July, 2021.

BY THE COURT:



M. Bridget Mayer
Circuit Court Judge