

**NFPA 2020 Joint Conference
Certification Conference Agenda
Saturday, April 25, 2020**

	Topic	Presenter(s)
8:40 a.m.	Opening Remarks	Linda Odermott, RP®, OCP <i>NFPA Vice President & Director of Paralegal Certification</i> Oregon Paralegal Association
8:45 a.m.	Introduction to PACE/PCCE A deep dive into the PACE and PCCE examinations and useful tips and information to guide your members.	Becky Kerstetter, OSBA <i>NFPA Certification Ambassadors Coordinator & NFPA Strategic Planning Coordinator</i> Cleveland Association of Paralegals
9:45 a.m.	Break – Get a cup of coffee and say hi to a new friend	
10:00 a.m.	NFPA Presents: Certification Ambassadors Boot Camp	
	A series of speakers discussing various certification topics including: study groups, motivation, self-study techniques, the Certification Ambassador's Toolkit, and more	Angela Woodlee, RP® Indiana Paralegal Association
		Becky Kerstetter, OSBA <i>NFPA Certification Ambassadors Coordinator & NFPA Strategic Planning Coordinator</i> Cleveland Association of Paralegals
		Erin Ramil <i>Paralegal Certification Coordinator – Study Materials</i> United States Air Force
		Glenna Fugazzi, RP®, CKP <i>NFPA Certification Ambassador of the Year, 2019</i> Greater Lexington Paralegal Association
11:45 a.m.	Lunch Break – Invite someone new to join you	
1:15 p.m.	The Do's and Don'ts of Renewal Applications	
1:15 p.m.	A panel of leadership aficionados on all things certification renewal including best practices and mistakes that can cause a renewal to be denied.	Beth Bialis, RP® <i>Former NFPA Vice President & Director of Profession Development, Former PACE Renewal Coordinator</i> Western New York Paralegal Association, Inc.
		JP Fountain, RP® <i>NFPA PACE Renewal Coordinator</i> Paralegal Association of Rochester
		Mary Ann Myskiw-Jones, CRP™ ACP <i>NFPA Certification Item Writing Committee Member, Former PCCE Renewal Coordinator</i> South Florida Paralegal Association
		Tracey Woolsey, RP® <i>NFPA Region III Director</i> Indiana Paralegal Association
		Moderator: Linda Odermott, RP®, OCP <i>NFPA Vice President & Director of Paralegal Certification</i> Oregon Paralegal Association
2:15 p.m.	Spotlight on Local Certification Programs	

2:15 p.m.	An inside look into local association's (or state enacted) recently enacted certification programs.	Beth Bialis, RP® <i>Former NFPA Vice President Y Director of Profession Development, Former PACE Renewal Coordinator</i> Western New York Paralegal Association, Inc.
		Lori Boris, RP®, MnCP <i>NFPA Vice President & Director of Positions & Issues</i> Minnesota Paralegal Association
		Mary Dannevik, OCP Oregon Paralegal Association
3:15 p.m.	Break – Stretch your legs, say hi to our fantastic vendors, use the restroom	
3:30 p.m.	The Process of Updating the NFPA's Certification Exams An inside look at the process, production, and the implementation of an updated or refreshed exam.	Linda Odermott, RP®, OCP <i>NFPA Vice President & Director of Paralegal Certification</i> Oregon Paralegal Association
4:00 p.m.	E-Discovery Certification What's new and why is it important to paralegals?	Speaker to be announced D4/Special Counsel
4:55 p.m.	Closing Remarks	Becky Kerstetter, OSBA <i>NFPA Certification Ambassadors Coordinator & NFPA Strategic Planning Coordinator</i> Cleveland Association of Paralegals
5:00 p.m.	Dismissal so you can go get ready for the social event!	

Introduction to PACE/PCCE

A deep dive into the PACE and PCCE examinations and useful tips and information to guide your members.



Becky Kerstetter, OSBA is an Ohio State Bar Association (OSBA) Certified Paralegal with over 15 years of experience at the law offices of Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP in Cleveland Ohio in the public finance and infrastructure department. She earned a B.A. in Paralegal Studies and Justice Studies from Kent State University in 2005 and has been working in the paralegal field since the completion of her degree. She also served multiple terms as President of the Cleveland Association of Paralegals and is the current Vice President of Membership and in this role also works closely with the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association on their charitable events, pro-bono opportunities and inner-city student educational learning programs. Becky also serves NFPA as Secondary Representative and is the NFPA Strategic Planning Coordinator as well as the NFPA Certification Ambassadors Coordinator. She volunteers and sits on the Advisory Boards for Ursuline College's Legal Studies Program and Kent State University's Paralegal Program. Her expertise encompasses all types of public finance issues including working with bond counsel in both general obligation and revenue bond and note financings for Ohio school districts, municipalities and counties and also for underwriters' counsel for national and regional underwriters of tax-exempt bond issues by Ohio issuers.

Certification Ambassadors Boot Camp

A series of speakers discussing various certification topics including: study groups, motivation, self-study techniques, the Certification Ambassador's Toolkit, and more. Gather some tricks of the trade to motivate your local associations to come up with creative and successful ways to motivate and inspire its members to study and prepare for certification examination offerings.



Angela Woodlee, RP® is a PACE® Registered paralegal who works closely with the national health care litigation attorneys of Hall Render Killian Heath & Lyman, P.C. providing paralegal support in all areas of health care law. She is a PACE® Registered Paralegal and holds a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Indianapolis and a Paralegal Certificate from IUPUI. Angela is a member of the Indiana Paralegal Association and has served in various director and committee member positions. Away from work, Angela is married to her best friend, Jeff, and together they have two amazing and high-octane boys and one furbaby girl, Bella George.



Becky Kerstetter, OSBA is an Ohio State Bar Association (OSBA) Certified Paralegal with over 15 years of experience at the law offices of Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP in Cleveland Ohio in the public finance and infrastructure department. She earned a B.A. in Paralegal Studies and Justice Studies from Kent State University in 2005 and has been working in the paralegal field since the completion of her degree. She also served multiple terms as President of the Cleveland Association of Paralegals and is the current Vice President of Membership and in this role also works closely with the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association on their charitable events, pro-bono opportunities and inner-city student educational learning programs. Becky also serves NFPA as Secondary Representative and is the NFPA

Strategic Planning Coordinator as well as the NFPA Certification Ambassadors Coordinator. She volunteers and sits on the Advisory Boards for Ursuline College's Legal Studies Program and Kent State University's Paralegal Program. Her expertise encompasses all types of public finance issues including working with bond counsel in both general obligation and revenue bond and note financings for Ohio school districts, municipalities and counties and also for underwriters' counsel for national and regional underwriters of tax-exempt bond issues by Ohio issuers.



Glenna Fugazzi, RP®, CKP is a litigation paralegal at Fowler Bell PLLC for 25+ years and is the 2019 recipient of the NFPA's Certification Ambassador Award. Glenna has served on the Greater Lexington Paralegal Association (GLPA) Board for many years as President, NFPA Representative (Primary and Secondary), NFPA Certification Ambassador, Student Relations Chair and Board Advisor to GLPA President. She has Chaired/Co-Chaired paralegal-focused conferences on a national, state and local level, and is a member of the Kentucky Paralegal Association. Glenna received her paralegal education from Sullivan College (now Sullivan University), is currently a Paralegal Advisory Board Member for Morehead State University and previously served on the Paralegal Advisory Board at Eastern Kentucky University. She and her

husband, Anthony, have two children, Britton and Jenna, and are avid University of Kentucky basketball fans! Go Big Blue!



Erin Ramil has over 16 years of paralegal experience. She serves as a civilian Paralegal Specialist for the United States Air Force Warfare Center, Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada. She has worked as both an active duty and civilian paralegal in the areas of military justice; analysis and research evaluation in all civil law matters including: ethics, administrative law, environmental law, legal assistance, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), Privacy Act and preventive law; the Victim Witness Assistance Program (VWAP); and has served as the law office manager.

The Do's and Don'ts of Renewal Applications

A panel of leadership aficionados on all things certification renewal including best practices and mistakes that can cause a renewal to be denied. Some examples of topics to be discussed include the evolution of the renewal process, ensuring you are getting the required amount (and classification) of CLE credits for renewals, the pitfalls of outdated CLE credits, the importance of timeliness and accuracy in the renewal process, following procedures and guidelines as they are subject to change and much more!



Beth Bialis, RP® is earned her paralegal certificate in 1990 from the National Academy for Paralegal Studies, an ABA approved program and obtained her Registered Paralegal credential in 2012. Beth has over ten years of litigation experience as well as real estate and bankruptcy experience.

Beth has been a member of the Western New York Paralegal Association (WNYPA) since 1996. Throughout the years Beth served the members of WNYPA in various roles on the Board of Directors including Liaison to the Bar Association of Erie County, Vice President and Director of Programming, ESAPA representative and NFPA representative. In 2010 Beth was elected to the National Federation of Paralegal Associations ("NFPA") Board of Directors serving three years as Region V Director and two years as Vice President and Director of Profession Development.

Beth currently serves as the President of the Western New York Paralegal Association and the President of the Empire State Alliance of Paralegal Associations.



JP Fountain, RP® is a paralegal in the firm's trust and estate department where he assists attorneys in all aspects of trust and estate administration including probate, estate litigation, fiduciary accounting and preparation of estate, gift and fiduciary income tax returns. JP has worked as a paralegal for over nine years. Prior to joining Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC, JP was a paralegal in the business immigration practice of a large international law firm. He is a member of the Paralegal Association of Rochester, Inc. and is the Treasurer of the Empire State Alliance of Paralegal Associations, Inc.



MaryAnn Myskiw-Jones, CRP™, ACP is a paralegal in the Gang Unit of the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office and has been there since 2010. She graduated with honors from Miami Dade College's ABA-approved paralegal program in 2010. She is currently on the South Florida Paralegal Association board as NFPA primary. She is a member of LEX Paralegal Honor Society and the Paralegal Advisory Committee at Miami Dade College. She was a NFPA Coordinator for CRP Renewals for 2015-2019. She earned her Advanced Certified Paralegal designation in Discovery and is a NFPA CORE Registered Paralegal. She is President of the Florida Alliance of Paralegal Associations and co-coordinated their 2017-2020 seminars. She would like to continue to support NFPA, SFPA, FAPA and the paralegal profession. Mary Ann has volunteered many hours with the Florida Immigrant Coalition, helping fill out immigration forms for applicants.



Tracey Woolsey, RP® is a graduate from Illinois State University in 1993 with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice science. She worked as a court clerk for the first 7 years after college. Tracey began her paralegal career in 1999, starting in litigation and finally finding her passion in corporate and transactional (M&A) work. She has been with Cummins Inc. since 2014 and is currently a Senior Corporate Paralegal - Corporate Administration. Tracey joined her local association, the Indiana Paralegal Association ("IPA"), in 2003 and has served as IPA's Secretary, Treasurer, Monthly Meeting Director, Technology Director and Primary Delegate to NFPA. She has received IPA's Paralegal of the Year and Board Member of the Year Awards.

She enhanced her career as a paralegal by becoming a PACE Registered Paralegal in November 2016.

She is currently the Region III Director for NPFA and formerly held the positions of PCCE Renewal Coordinator under the Vice President and Director of Paralegal Certification and Membership Growth Coordinator under the Vice President and Director of Membership. She is also a member of the In-House Paralegal Committee that is currently making strides toward focusing a spotlight on paralegals in non-traditional roles.

Tracey has always had a heart for serving, as she has volunteered for iCan (service dogs) and KIB (Keep Indianapolis Beautiful), as well as devoting her time to her family by being a Boy Scout and Girl Scout leader, a Marching Band Booster Leader, and being the President of her kids' school PTA.

Spotlight on Local Certification Programs

An inside look into local association's (or state enacted) recently enacted certification programs. For this session, attendees will get a brief overview from Beth Bialis, RP® about the history of certification efforts in New York as she will provide an overview of certification program requirements, the promotion of the certification program, the communications with the New York State Bar Association and outreach to all paralegals in New York. In Minnesota, their paralegals have been frustrated by the fact that there seemed to be no standards set for paralegal education in the state, and that individuals enter the job market calling themselves "paralegals" with little to no formal education or experience. After being disappointed by the Minnesota Supreme Court and the Minnesota's Legislature's refusal to deal with the regulation of paralegals, the Minnesota Paralegal Association (MPA) took it upon themselves to create the MnCP certification, a voluntary credentialing program that sets a standard for Minnesota paralegals. Through this credential, potential employers, fellow legal professionals, and the community at large can tell at a glance that this paralegal has met the education and experience standards set by the Minnesota Paralegal Association. Lori J. Boris, RP, MnCP will talk about the initial idea, its development, how it was implemented and accepted by the members, and the current status of the credential. And to round out the discussion, Mary Dennevik, OCP from The Oregon Paralegal Association will discuss the Oregon OCP certification program.



Beth Bialis, RP® earned her paralegal certificate in 1990 from the *National Academy for Paralegal Studies*, an ABA approved program and obtained her Registered Paralegal credential in 2012. Beth has over ten years of litigation experience as well as real estate and bankruptcy experience.

Beth has been a member of the Western New York Paralegal Association (WNYPA) since 1996. Throughout the years Beth served the members of WNYPA in various roles on the Board of Directors including Liaison to the Bar Association of Erie County, Vice President and Director of Programming, ESAPA representative and NFPA representative. In 2010 Beth was elected to the National Federation of Paralegal Associations (“NFPA”) Board of Directors serving three years as Region V Director and two years as Vice President and Director of Profession Development.

Beth currently serves as the President of the Western New York Paralegal Association and the President of the Empire State Alliance of Paralegal Associations.



Lori Boris, RP®, MnCP is a litigation paralegal since 1998, is currently employed as a Product Liability Litigation Paralegal at Nilan Johnson Lewis, PA. Over her nearly 22 years as a paralegal, she has assisted attorneys in representing multiple and varied clients in many areas, including toxic torts, product liability, employment law, wrongful death, personal injury and contract claims. Lori is a graduate of the Minnesota Paralegal Institute, an ABA-approved post-baccalaureate program, became a PACE® Registered Paralegal in 2009, and was credentialed as one of MPA’s inaugural MnCPs in 2014.

Lori currently serves as NFPA Vice President and Director of Positions and Issues for 2018-2020. She also served as Certification Coordinator – Ambassadors for three years (2013-2015). She has had several articles published in the National Paralegal Reporter. In addition, Lori has been very involved with the Minnesota Paralegal Association (“MPA”) holding various positions, including MPA’s Internet Coordinator, Publications Editor, Vice President, President, Primary, Secondary, Certification Co-Ambassador, Regulation Committee Chair, and Litigation Sectional Co-Chair.

At her firm, Nilan Johnson Lewis PA, Lori chairs the Paralegal Professional Development Working Group and mentors incoming paralegals.



Mary Dannevik, OCP is currently an in-house litigation and workers’ compensation paralegal at TriMet (the public transportation agency for the Portland metro region). Prior to that, she was a family law and plaintiff personal injury paralegal, and also worked for an insurance defense law firm in Chicago for many years. Mary earned her bachelor's degree from Roosevelt University in Chicago, and later completed the ABA-accredited paralegal degree at Portland Community College in Portland, OR. She became involved in the Oregon Paralegal Association in 2017, quickly becoming a member of the Regulation Committee that administers the Oregon Certified Paralegal (OCP) voluntary certification program. She is now a credentialed OCP, a member of OPA’s Board of Directors, and serves as the Chair of the OCP Regulation Committee.

The Process of Updating NFPA Certification Exams

An inside look at the process, production, and the implementation of an updated or refreshed exam. Linda will take you on an exclusive backstage tour as she explains the many intricacies, science, studies and processes that go into such a monumental and integral task to keep NFPA's examination offerings relevant in today's professional development environment.



Linda Odermott, RP®, OCP is the NFPA Vice President and Director of Paralegal Certification. She began her paralegal career in 2007 and currently focuses on complex litigation, municipal law, and real property with an expertise in land use, construction defect, real property and cannabis-related matters. In 2012, she received her RP® credentials from NFPA and in 2017, received the OCP credentials from the Oregon Paralegal Association (OPA). She currently works with attorneys at the law firm of Dunn Carney in Portland, Oregon, in both of the firm's litigation and real estate practice groups. Linda is also an instructor and member of the adjunct faculty with the Portland Community College, where she is entering her sixth year teaching real property to paralegal students.

In 2015 and 2016, Linda was awarded the Paralegal of the Year Award from OPA and then in 2015, she was also fortunate enough to receive the Certification Ambassador of the Year Award from NFPA. Linda was appointed by the Oregon State Bar Board of Governors (BOG) to two consecutive task forces to research licensing of paralegals in Oregon, similar to the Washington LLLT and in January of 2020, she was again appointed to an Implementation Committee to create the rules to license paraprofessionals by the BOG. In addition, Linda co-authored the Oregon Certified Paralegal program, which issues the OCP credentials during her tenure as the OPA Regulation Committee Co-Chair, which also implemented the program in 2016-17.

E-discovery Certification

What's new and why is it important to paralegals?

[Insert Photo]

Speaker to be announced.