



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### ***Joint Statement from the Oregon Paralegal Association and National Federation of Paralegal Associations***

Minneapolis, MN, July 1, 2021 – The National Federation of Paralegal Associations, Inc. (NFPA) and the Oregon Paralegal Association (OPA) issue this joint statement regarding the Annual Convention and Policy Meeting, planned for October 7-10, 2021, at the Hilton Portland Downtown.

NFPA and OPA are proud to host this event for both in-person attendees in Portland, Oregon, and those who will join virtually around the country. Planning for this event began prior to the Covid-19 Pandemic. In response to Covid-19 concerns, the planning committee has redoubled its efforts to provide a world-class paralegal educational and networking experience with up-to date health and safety protocols.

Like many U.S. cities during the past year, the pandemic and civil unrest drew national attention to the challenges Portland faces concerning social issues; particularly race, class, and political polarization. While these issues are significant and important to our members and in our communities, the ways in which the national news told the story of events in Portland is not reflective of life in Portland as we move into the summer of 2021.

OPA would like to acknowledge that some potential Convention attendees may be apprehensive about visiting Portland. We would like to reassure our guests that despite those challenges, Portland is a city that is awakening. As local and national vaccination rates increase, restaurants and attractions are reopening and expanding services. The familiar orange bikes and scooters are once again zipping along Portland's streets. Effective June 30, 2021, Oregon Governor Kate Brown announced the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions across the state. For more information about visiting and safety in Portland, [click here](#).

NFPA and OPA continue to monitor ever changing local and national guidance for hosting in-person events. Guests are encouraged to be fully vaccinated prior to attending the Convention. Additionally, OPA respects that the choice to receive a vaccination or any form of healthcare is deeply personal. During Convention, guests will be required to follow safety protocols, which may differ from current guidelines or guidelines in other geographical areas.

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*As the Leader of the Paralegal Profession*, NFPA, is excited to partner with OPA in presenting this in-person and virtual event to connect members and serve the paralegal profession.

OPA is a volunteer-based professional association whose members are paralegals, students and others who are interested in the paralegal profession. OPA is the 2021 NFPA Convention host.

NFPA is a non-profit professional organization representing more than 8,000 paralegals and is headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota. NFPA's core purpose is the advancement of the paralegal profession and promotes a global presence for the paralegal profession and leadership in the legal community.

*NFPA – The Leader of the Paralegal Profession*®  
[www.paralegals.org](http://www.paralegals.org)

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