

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ILLINOIS PARALEGAL NAMED OUTSTANDING LOCAL LEADER BY THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PARALEGAL ASSOCIATIONS (NFPA)

Edmonds, WA – November 2011 - The National Federation of Paralegal Associations, Inc. (NFPA) selected Colette A. Lemke as the recipient of the organization's 2011 Outstanding Local Leader Award. The award was presented at NFPA's Annual Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota on October 14, 2011.

The Outstanding Local Leader Award is given to an individual who has promoted interest and participation in the activities of his/her local association and has been recognized by the legal community as a professional dedicated to the advancement of the legal profession.

Collette A. Lemke is a Contracts Paralegal with American Agriculture Insurance Company in Schaumburg, Illinois. Ms. Lemke has been a paralegal for 21 years and has worked in the legal field for 28 years. Ms. Lemke has been a member of the Illinois Paralegal Association ("IPA") since 1988.

Ms. Lemke has been involved in IPA since the beginning of her career serving as the Far West Section Co-Chair, Regulation Committee Chair, and Education Committee Chair. In 1997, Ms. Lemke was elected to the IPA Board of Directors and over the years has served two terms as President, Vice President, Publications Editor, Host Coordinator of the 2006 NFPA Annual Convention, Board Retreat Coordinator and Educators Conference Coordinator. She also served on the NFPA Board of Directors as Secretary and Director of Operations.

Ms. Lemke has authored numerous articles for IPA's Newsletter and NFPA's *National Paralegal Reporter*. Many of the schools in Illinois, major corporations and law firms have invited Ms. Lemke to speak on issues such as belonging to an association, regulation and the future of the profession.

Ms. Lemke still finds the time to engage in pro bono work, including Feed the Children, Public Action to Deliver Shelter (PADS) and Adopt a Highway Cleanup. She has also been a mentor to several chairs.

NFPA is a non-profit professional organization representing more than 10,000 paralegals and is headquartered in Edmonds, WA. NFPA's core purpose is the advancement of the paralegal profession. NFPA promotes a global presence for the paralegal profession and leadership in the legal community.

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