

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **WISCONSIN PARALEGAL ELECTED TO THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION APPROVAL COMMISSION**

Edmonds, WA – September 2011- The National Federation of Paralegal Associations, Inc. (NFPA) is pleased to announce that Marie Koster was elected to sit on the ABA Approval Commission. The Commission is responsible for approval and re-approval of paralegal programs across the country. As a Commissioner, Ms. Koster will work directly with paralegal educators, attorneys and other paralegals in helping maintain quality educational opportunities for those interested in the paralegal profession.

Marie Koster is a paralegal in the firm's Trust, Estates and Probate practice areas at the firm of McNally, Maloney & Peterson, S.C. in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She has more than twenty years experience, having previously worked at two large Milwaukee law firms and a firm in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

A *magna cum laude* graduate of Concordia University with a degree in business, Ms. Koster obtained her certificate in paralegal studies from Carthage College.

Ms. Koster's professional activities include the Milwaukee Trusts and Estates Specialty Section Group, the Paralegal Association of Wisconsin Inc., where she serves as National Affairs Representative, the National Federation of Paralegal Associations and the American Alliance of Paralegals, Inc. The Board of Governors of the State Bar of Wisconsin appointed Marie to the State Bar Paralegal Task Force to study licensure of paralegals in Wisconsin and she is a member of the Paralegal Advisory Board for Milwaukee Area Technical College.

On the national level, Ms. Koster serves as a site team member of the ABA Standing Committee on Legal Assistants, making assessment visits to schools applying for ABA approval or re-approval of their paralegal programs.

Ms. Koster was named Wisconsin's 2003 Paralegal of the Year and was recognized in the 2007 January/February issue of the *Legal Assistant Today* magazine. She also received the *Wisconsin Law Journal's* Unsung Heroes of Wisconsin's Legal Community award for her *pro bono* work with the Task Force on Family Violence.

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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