

# MEDIA RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PARALEGAL ASSOCIATIONS (NFPA®) ANNOUNCES WILLIAM R. ROBIE LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT**

Edmonds, WA – November 2014 - The National Federation of Paralegal Associations, Inc. (NFPA) selected Judy Stouffer, RP® as the recipient of the organization's prestigious 2014 William R. Robie Leadership Award. The award was presented at NFPA's Annual Convention in Dallas, Texas on October 11, 2014.

NFPA established this award in 1993 to honor the memory of the late Chief Immigration Judge William R. Robie for his dedication to the expansion of legal services and equal access to justice for all Americans, and his commitment to the paralegal profession. The winner of the annual award must have made a lasting legacy through his or her contributions to the community and paralegal profession.

Ms. Stouffer is a senior paralegal for a small Philadelphia family law firm, Berner Klaw & Watson LLP, where she has worked for 18 years. Since 2010, she has also served as the firm administrator.

In May 2007, Ms. Stouffer won The Philadelphia Association of Paralegals' (PAP) inaugural Pro Bono Award, as a non-member. She immediately joined PAP and has held various leadership roles, including President 2013, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President 2012, and Board Advisor 2014. She took and passed NFPA's Paralegal Advanced Competency Exam (PACE®) in 2008, and is one of the biggest promoters of PACE® and PCCE™ certifications.

Ms. Stouffer was named NFPA's 2011 PACE Study Materials Coordinator, which work resulted in the Sixth Edition of the PACE Study Manual. In 2012, she wrote the Communications chapter for the First Edition of the PCCE Study Manual and assisted with the coordination of additional authors and the editing of that manual. In her quest for expanding the delivery of legal services and equal access to justice for all Americans, she created a divorce training manual for the Philadelphia Volunteers for the Indigent Program, which is now used for training volunteer attorneys and has been updated annually by Ms. Stouffer since 2009. She has also served as a course planner for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute.

She is very dedicated to the paralegal profession and shows this pride through serving as a mentor for Community College of Philadelphia's paralegal mentor program and on the Peirce College Paralegal Studies Advisory Committee, and through pro bono and community service. She has worked hard to improve the relationship between paralegals and the Philadelphia Bar Association, and convinced the Bar to offer a joint membership with PAP voting paralegals in 2013. Ms. Stouffer continues to serve on numerous committees and in various capacities for PAP, including the Bar's Board of Governors and as a volunteer for the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia and Support Center for Child Advocates.

NFPA is a non-profit professional organization representing more than 8,500 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.

*NFPA – The Leader of the Paralegal Profession*<sup>®</sup>

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