

**2010 NFPA /Regulation/Leadership/PACE® Ambassador Joint  
Conference  
-Embracing Change!-**

By: K. Paezlè Harris, RP®, CP

It just so happens that the recent promise of *Change* in our nation's capital coincides with National Federation of Paralegal Associations, Inc.'s ("NFPA") change in the way that we will conduct our Regulation, National Leadership, and PACE Ambassador's Conferences in Washington, D.C. beginning this year.

All three of the conferences will be held simultaneously June 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> and hosted by NFPA at the Doubletree Hotel Washington in the heart of Washington, D.C. As usual, NFPA will supply our paralegals, from across the country, with notable speakers who will provide the latest information on Regulation, PACE®, and Leadership. This is a great opportunity for networking while learning new things and having fun.

**Friday– Regulation Conference**

Friday's Regulation Conference will begin with welcoming remarks from NFPA's current President, Georgette M. Lovelace, RP®, and will continue on with speakers, Tracey L. Young, RP®; Lisa Vessels, CP, FRP; David Nelson; and, several other great guests. If your association is considering tackling certification, licensure, or registration in your association's state, this is the conference for you! Even if this is an effort that will not be attempted in the near future but that you know your state will eventually investigate, it is important to learn the different types of regulation; the status of regulation efforts in other states; how to handle legal professions who are not keen on regulation; and, understanding the legislative process. This conference is an important one to attend in order to gain an understanding of what your state is likely to come up against in its future endeavor into regulation.

**Saturday & Sunday – National Leadership Conference**

Whether you are leader-in-training or already wearing your leadership hat, NFPA's National Leadership Conference is a *MUST!* You will spend two days among the smartest and most experienced paralegals from across the country who are there to both learn and teach. You will gain knowledge about how to lead effectively; actively participate as you are trained and influenced; and, make friends, mentors/mentees, and connections that will prove valuable for years to come. It is recommended that, if possible, associations send a representative to this conference who is an up and coming leader.

**Saturday & Sunday –PACE® Ambassadors' Conference**

**This year, the PACE® Ambassadors' Conference is aimed at guiding associations' boards and ambassadors along the steps of being a great PACE Ambassador. Ann Price, RP will be speaking on the history of PACE and current events involving PACE and the Paralegal Core Competency Exam ("PCC"); K. Paezle Harris, RP, CP will be speaking about the ins and outs of the exam and duties of the PACE Ambassador; and Suellen Honeychuck, RP, Natalie Nelson, RP, Tracey L. Young, RP, and Cindy Byfield, M.ED. IOM, CAE will all be speaking in their areas of expertise as well. This year, NFPA's PACE Coordinators have gone to extra lengths to make sure that the participants go away with a wealth of knowledge and a mission to carry out: CREATE or BE a GREAT PACE AMBASSADOR in your local association!**

### **NFPA JOINT SOCIAL EVENTS**

#### **Dinner at Gordon Biersch – Friday 7pm – 9pm**

**On Friday evening, the entire group of NFPA is invited to dinner at Gordon Biersch. Conveniently located in the heart of Washington, DC on F Street in the old Riggs Bank Building, this architectural beauty displays the traditional elegance of the Capitol. Gordon Biersch is committed to using only the freshest and finest ingredients; their restaurant showcases a passion for food. The cost is \$33 per person and should be paid for during registration. This fee includes a salad appetizer, choice of one of 4 entrees, and dessert as well as soft drinks, tea/coffee and tip.**

#### **Tourmobile® Sightseeing – Saturday 7pm – 10:30pm**

**On Saturday evening, the entire group of NFPA is invited to hop on the live narrated shuttle tours of the Tourmobile to SEE WASHINGTON BY NIGHT. Spend a memorable twilight amidst Washington's illuminated points of interest. Enjoy timed visits at the Jefferson, Franklin Roosevelt, Lincoln, Korean, Vietnam Veterans and WW II Memorials. The cost is \$30 per person and should be paid for during registration. Those who went on this tour in 2005 really enjoyed it. The DC monuments are beautiful and moving during the daylight but even more so at twilight. Dinner will be on your own, but you can purchase food at one of the many food vendors at Union Station and bring it with you on the open air bus.**

#### **Registration Information**

**There is no cost for the conference if you are NFPA members; however, you are responsible for your travel and hotel expenses. Lunch on Friday and Saturday are included with your registration.**

**Please register for one or more of the conferences at [www.paralegals.org](http://www.paralegals.org) and make your reservations for the Doubletree Hotel Washington by calling 202-232-7000.**

**The hotel cost is \$150 per night and includes full breakfast for two persons per room.**

### *Getting to Washington, D.C.*

Getting to Washington, D.C. is easy. Three major airports serve the area and offer flights on both traditional and discount air carriers, including Southwest, Jet Blue, Frontier, Air Tran, Midwest Express and most major carriers. Of the three airports, Washington Reagan National Airport (code DCA) is the closest to DC and the Metro (subway) comes right to the airport and can take you to a station near the hotel. Taxis are also plentiful, and the “blue bus” Supershuttle and Washington Flyer also provide transportation into the City. Reagan airport is actually in Arlington, VA, just across the Potomac from D.C. Dulles International Airport (code IAD) is about 15 miles west of D.C. You would need to take a taxi into D.C. or you could use the Super Shuttle or Washington Flyer express busses. BWI airport is near Baltimore, about 45 minutes north of D.C. There are several ways to get to D.C. from BWI, including an Amtrak train from BWI station to Washington’s Union Station, taxis (the most costly), Washington Flyer, or Super Shuttle. Amtrak offers many trains throughout the northeast corridor to Washington, D.C.’s Union Station. From Union Station, you could take the Metro Red line to DuPont Circle or an easy cab ride. Taxis in D.C. operate on a meter system.

**We look forward to seeing you in our Nation’s capital in June and hope that you embrace this change for the better in our 2010 NFPA Joint Conference!**



K. Paezlè Harris, RP, CP is a certified and registered paralegal on her 6<sup>th</sup> year as a Senior Paralegal position at Cox Communications, Inc. in Atlanta, Georgia where she is responsible for litigation, civil investigative demands, disputes, small claims, and attorney general complaints. Paezlè is a Certified Mediator and Georgia Neutral with an advanced paralegal certificate and is currently finishing a BS in Business Administration (Legal Studies Major) at Adams State College and plans to begin their Master of Business Administration (MBA) Degree Program thereafter. On the local level, Paezlè is

the Vice President of the [Georgia Association of Paralegals](#) and on the national level she is the [NFPA](#) PACE Ambassadors Coordinator.