

NFPA PARALEGAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

Purpose: This award recognizes an individual NFPA member whose on-the-job achievements, including contributions to his/her employer, colleagues and the paralegal profession, have contributed to expansion of the paralegal profession in general.

Nomination Process: Anyone may nominate a member of an NFPA member association or an individual sustaining member of NFPA for this award. Nominations for this award must include no more than two pages describing how the nominee has taken the initiative beyond typical job duties to contribute to expansion of the paralegal profession; how an expanded role has served the paralegal's employer and/or others for whom the paralegal has performed additional duties, contributed to cost savings, added efficiency, added professionalism, increased visibility or other factors that have been a positive result of the paralegal's initiative; and how his /her efforts have been recognized and appreciated by the individuals for whom the paralegal performs paralegal duties.

Eligibility/Criteria for Selection: Nominees for this award must be members of an NFPA member association or an individual sustaining member of NFPA. Paralegals working as traditional or non-traditional paralegals are eligible to receive this award. If the nominee is a freelance or independent paralegal (within the scope of the authorized practice of law), the nominating individual may be a client. All nomination forms must be signed by the individual making the nomination.

Judges for this award will consider the two page description with particular attention to the initiative taken by the nominee, overall contributions to the legal team with which the nominee works, the framework within which the nominee functions on the job and how the nominee has changed that framework, and the effects the initiative has had on the nominee's career, the environment in which the nominee works, and other paralegals in the organization. The award recipient will be chosen on the basis of her or his impact on expanding the paralegal profession and contributions to his/her employer, colleagues and the paralegal profession in general.

Award Presentation: The award is a commemorative plaque.