

PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT TO OPA BYLAWS

PURPOSE: The Oregon Paralegal Association (OPA) Membership has voted to research and develop a voluntary, paralegal certification program for Oregon. The OPA Board of Directors has created the Regulation Committee and appointed Chairs to the Regulation Committee for the purposes of researching and creating such a program. In order to align with the goals and tasks directed by both the Membership and the Board of Directors, it is necessary to provide for the authority to administer such a program in Article II, Section I Purposes and Definitions of the OPA's Bylaws.

WHEREAS, the OPA Membership voted to approve the concept of a Voluntary Certification Program in Oregon at the 2014 Annual Business Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the OPA Membership voted to approve the research and development of an Oregon Certification Paralegal Program at the 2015 Annual Business Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the OPA Board of Directors voted to create the Regulation Committee at the December 2015 Board of Directors meeting, whose purpose was to research and develop an Oregon Certification Paralegal Program; and

WHEREAS, it is inherent in the Purposes outlined in Article II of the OPA Bylaws that OPA work to:

- A) Advance and promote the professional and education standards of paralegals;
- B) Encourage and promote the continuing education of paralegals; and
- C) Uphold and elevate the standard of honor, integrity and courtesy in the legal profession.

Administering an Oregon Certified Paralegal Program would assist in these purposes; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of OPA and its members to ensure that the Bylaws of the Association align with the directives of the Membership and its Board.

BE IT RESOLVED, that Article II, Section I of the Second Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Oregon Paralegal Association is hereby amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE II. PURPOSES AND DEFINITIONS

Section 1. Purposes. The purposes and objectives of this Association shall be exclusively of a nonprofit nature, all within the meaning of Section 501 (c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and the regulations thereunder, and shall include the following:

BYLAW AMENDMENT - ARTICLE II, SECTION 1, EFFECTIVE DATE DECEMBER 11, 1999 – Deletions shown as strikethroughs and additions shown with underlines.

A) To advance and promote the professional and educational standards of paralegals;

B) To encourage and promote the continuing education of paralegals;

C) To uphold and elevate the standard of honor, integrity, and courtesy in the legal profession;

D) To administer a voluntary paralegal certification program in order to achieve the purposes outlined in A, B and C noted above.

~~D~~E) To promote the employment, advancement, and education of paralegals, regardless of race, sex, creed, color, national origin, age, sexual orientation or political ideology;

~~E~~F) To establish good fellowship among Association members and members of the legal community;

~~F~~G) To engage in any lawful activity for which a nonprofit corporation may be organized under the Act and within the meaning of the Code.