

## Paralegal Statewide Partnership

October 13, 2021

### Participants:

Chemeketa CC: Holly Nelson, Marshall Roache, Celia Nunez, Glen Miller

Clackamas CC: Sue Goff

Portland CC: Jeremy Estrella, Karen Paez, Windy Wahike

Mt. Hood CC: Aaron Sorenson, Dawn Loomis

Tillamook Bay CC: JoAnn Critelli

Treasure Valley CC: David Koehler, Andrea Testi

Umpqua CC: Robin Van Winkle

HECC: KC Andrew

Group of attorneys and judges created a committee called PLIC. They are hoping to partner with community colleges to offer 3 educational pathways:

1. The 2 year degree program (PCC and UCC already have these in place) in which they meet the minimum competencies required plus documented hours of work experience.
2. A verification process for incumbent paralegals to get approved through a competency based assessment of some type plus 20 hours of Continuing Legal Education (CLE) to meet the required competencies (this is the part I think we can help with) for licensure.
3. Continuing Education needed to maintain the license (could be a follow up later)

This would be a license program (not certificate) that paralegals are moving towards as next level of paralegal duties like representing lower income families and tenant laws. Paralegal would work with a firm or can be self-employed. SBDC would help create a pathway for business ownership.

If it is approved, we would then follow up with this subcommittee and develop the work. Each institution could support their local students.

### Questions to answer:

1. How can community colleges help to create a pathway?
2. What trainings can community colleges offer?
3. Credit requirements?
4. Is there a non-credit options?
5. Who would teach classes?
6. Who would pay the fee? Student or firm or scholarship opportunity? What would the cost be?

### Next Steps:

Response is needed from this group by next Monday (Oct 18<sup>th</sup>). We will work with Linda Odermolt who is working on the project from the Oregon state bar. Framework will be taken by PLIC committee to be approved by Oregon Bar and Supreme Court.

Institutions that are interested could attend October 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Info will come from Robin from PLIC.

**Community Colleges that are on-board:** Chemeketa, Clackamas, Mt. Hood, Tillamook, Treasure Valley, Umpqua

Maybe interested: Clackamas and Portland CC