



For Immediate Release

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Women in Public Service Conference Committee Announces Keynote and Guest Speakers

(PORTSMOUTH, VA – August 23, 2018) – Portsmouth’s Fire Rescue and Emergency Services Department’s 10th Annual Women in Public Service (WIPS) Conference committee recently announced keynote speakers for the event scheduled Thursday and Friday, September 20-21, at the Portsmouth Renaissance Hotel and Conference Center. The 2018 conference theme is *Breakthrough to Excellence*. **Lynda McNutt Foster**, CEO for Cortex Leadership Consulting, will speak at the opening ceremony at 8 a.m. on September 20. Her topic, *I Will: Finding Your Genius Zone*. She has more than 20 years of experience as a leadership coach. Foster is the author of two books, *Time Mastery: 7 Steps to Richer Outcomes* and *4 Keys to More Effective Leadership Behaviors*. In addition, she is a commentator for WFXR News (Roanoke) and has regular appearances on *Good Day Virginia* with Kathlynn Stone.

Rounding out the morning sessions titled, *Courageous Leadership* and *Respect in the Workplace* are **Captain Tiffanye Wesley** and **Carletta Waddler** respectively. Wesley is a captain with fire and EMS in the Arlington County Fire Department. She is the first African-American female to be promoted in the department’s 71-year history. In her 23 years of service, Wesley has held several positions within the Arlington County Fire Department including a nationally certified bomb technician and bomb commander, station commander for the largest firehouse in Arlington and most recently serving as acting fire/EMS battalion chief from December 2016 to June 2017. Waddler obtained a degree in communications from Howard University and began her career in broadcasting in 1982. She has worked in television and radio and at one time during her career, she was one of two women in the country managing a radio station in a major market. She was the first African-American woman to work in sales at WTKR, the Hampton Roads affiliate of CBS. After a 20-year stint in broadcasting, Waddler started her own marketing and training business Waddler & Associates.

Motivational speaker **Stephanie Logan** brings her unique and energetic persona to this year’s WIPS Conference. No matter what type of venue or engagement, Logan’s content is described as thought-provoking, challenging and extremely humorous. Logan’s breakout session is titled *Get off the Bench*. Her presentation is guaranteed to be an inspiration.

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In addition, the following speakers will also lead seminars:

- Michael Wriston – *Being Heard*
- William Gervin – *Breaking Past Mediocrity*
- Battalion Chief Joy Knicely – *Success on Your Own Terms*
- Chief Graylin Stargell – *Is Your Organization Guilty of Half-Hearted Efforts in Customer Service Delivery*
- David Daniels – *Workplace Bullying, Harassment and Violence Prevention*

WIPS is designed for all level of government and public sector employees. The regional conference committee is committed to providing regional public sector employees with the opportunity to learn, network and share personal and professional experiences. Additionally, participants will be able to participate in workshops dealing with conflict resolution, office-place bullying, preparing for promotion, new methodologies in solving issues unique to municipal government and more.

The WIPS Conference cost is \$200 for the full conference and \$150 for a one-day attendance. Agencies sending 10 or more participants only pay \$125 per person. To register by mail, send registration form and fees to:

Women in Public Service Regional Committee
311 County Street, Suite 200
Portsmouth, VA 23704

For more information, email wifsconference@portsmouthva.gov or call 757-393-8765. Additional registration information follows.

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**10th ANNUAL
WOMEN IN PUBLIC SERVICE CONFERENCE
September 20-21, 2018
Registration Form**

CONFERENCE & HOTEL LOCATION

Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel
425 Water Street
Portsmouth, Virginia 23704

The conference rate of \$93 per night is valid through August 20, 2018.

[Book your group rate for Women in Public Service](#)

PARKING INFORMATION

Parking is included in your registration

WAYS TO REGISTER

Email: wifconference@portsmouthva.gov

Fax: 757-391-3272

Mail: Portsmouth Fire, Rescue & Emergency Services
311 County Street, Suite 200
Portsmouth, Virginia 23704

PAYMENT

All payments must be sent in the form of a check or money order payable to: Portsmouth City Treasurer

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations must be received in writing before September 1, 2018 in order to receive a refund. Substitutions may be made at any time by notification, in writing, to the registration committee.

FULL CONFERENCE

Meals Provided:

- Thursday – Breakfast, lunch
- Friday – Breakfast, lunch
- Access to Social Event (9/20): Spirit of Norfolk