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2025 C. Thomas Olivo Outstanding Service Award Recipient Announced



BIG RAPIDS, MI - The NOCTI Board of Trustees has named Ms. Susan Conrad of New Jersey as the recipient of the 2025 C. Thomas Olivo Outstanding Service Award.

Established in 1980, the C. Thomas Olivo Outstanding Service Award is NOCTI's highest honor. The award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership in the areas of career and technical education (CTE) and occupational competency assessment. Recipients exemplify credibility, expertise, a deep commitment to quality assessment, strong leadership qualities, and meaningful contributions to NOCTI programs and professional associations.

Susan Conrad brings more than two decades of distinguished service to career and technical education, workforce development, and competency-based assessment. She is widely respected for her ability to strengthen workforce pipelines, support high-quality training programs, and improve assessment practices that benefit learners, educators, and employers.

A respected leader among colleagues, Conrad excels in implementing NOCTI assessments with integrity, precision, and purpose. She ensures all testing procedures are carried out accurately, trains and supports staff, analyzes assessment data, and guides administrators in using results to strengthen instructional practices and program effectiveness.

"Susan is the ideal candidate for the C. Thomas Olivo Award because she embodies professionalism, dedication, and a deep commitment to student success. Her expertise in NOCTI testing has strengthened the accuracy and meaningful application of assessment data, helping our programs, grow and ensuring students are well prepared for their future," commented Troy Long, Director of CTE at Mercer County Technical Schools.

Susan's peers note her strong communication skills, collaborative leadership style, and unwavering ethical standards, qualities that make her a trusted and respected resource throughout her district. She is actively involved in professional organizations that support CTE and assessment, and her influence extends across local and state networks.

NOCTI congratulates Susan on receiving this prestigious national honor. Her leadership, commitment to excellence, and advocacy for high-quality assessment practices make her a truly deserving recipient of the C. Thomas Olivo Outstanding Service Award.

About NOCTI/Nocti Business Solutions

NOCTI is the nation's largest provider of industry-based credentials and industry association certifications for career and technical education programs. Its validated, reliable technical skill assessments support Perkins accountability, data-driven instructional improvement, and college accreditation efforts, and also play a key role

in CTE teacher certification programs nationwide. NOCTI delivers high-quality credentialing solutions aligned to the standards of ISO 17024.

Nocti Business Solutions (NBS), a wholly owned subsidiary of NOCTI, extends this mission by serving business and industry through high-stakes competency testing. NBS develops and delivers standardized and customized assessments, comprehensive score reports, and workforce skill verification services. Together, NOCTI and NBS strengthen the connection between education and industry, helping organizations translate skills-based knowledge into measurable workforce outcomes.