

Property Descriptions for Rural Alaska: Interpretation and Writing Skills for Land Managers

This 8 hour course provides practical skills in the interpretation and writing of property descriptions. The focus of the course will be on the types of descriptions commonly encountered by rural land professionals such as the U.S. rectangular grid system, metes & bounds, and descriptions by plat reference. Topics will include property description history, description types & formats, linear & angular measurements and a discussion of common conflicts & errors. The course includes a combination of lecture, discussion and exercises in locating as well as writing land descriptions.

Biographical Sketch

John F. Bennett, PLS, SR/WA

A resident of Alaska since 1966, John Bennett is a licensed Professional Land Surveyor, a U.S. Mineral Surveyor, and received his SR/WA (Senior Member International Right of Way Association) designation in 1989. He has been a active member of the Alaska Society of Professional Land Surveyors and served as statewide President between 1995 and 1996. John has served as the IRWA Fairbanks Chapter president and is also an IRWA Certified Instructor for engineering related courses.

Currently, John is the Land Surveyor/Right of Way Engineering Supervisor for the Alaska Department of Transportation, Northern Region. In this position he manages the department's field surveyors and Right of Way engineering staff. His background includes private sector responsibilities in various land, construction, oil field and mineral surveys.