

**California Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Board of Directors Candidates
2018-2019**

CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT



Gregory Crawford, MSN, CRNA

EDUCATION:

MSN, Samuel Merritt University, Oakland, CA 2013

BSN, University of Nevada, Reno, NV 2005

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Kaiser Permanente South Sacramento Medical Center 2013-present

POSITION STATEMENT: My involvement with CANA continues to be a rewarding experience. As a trustee, I've helped make decisions that impact CRNAs throughout the state, hopefully positioning the profession for a strong future. I have enjoyed speaking with CRNAs and SRNAs throughout California to hear about the issues most affecting them and how the organization can help them have their best practice. As Federal Political Director, I've had the pleasure of introducing CRNAs and SRNAs to the excitement of the legislative process influencing CRNA practice. In these roles, I've learned the importance of adjusting to challenges as the healthcare playing field changes. I see how crucial it is for CRNAs to maintain a leadership role while continually working with stakeholders at every level. These experiences have fueled my passion for the profession and helped prepared me to serve as your president-elect. I humbly request your support so that I may continue to represent the Member-Owners of CANA.

CANDIDATES FOR THREE-YEAR DIRECTOR



Maricel Isidro-Reighard, DNAP, CRNA

EDUCATION:

DNAP, Texas Wesleyan University – 2012

MSNA, Texas Wesleyan University – 2005

BSN, University of Southern California – 1997

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: President & CEO Maricel Isidro-Reighard, Nursing Anesthesia, Inc.

Chief CRNA- Southern California Orthopedic Institute

Director of Anesthesia Services – New Horizon / The Oaks Surgical Centers

POSITION STATEMENT: As a steward of CANA members and students for the past six years, the experience I present is encompassed not only by positions held, but in the relationships that I will continue to build with member owners, students, educators, legislators and colleagues in the private practice world. The platform of leadership has become a multifaceted full circle, and the 3-Year Director position is a full-fledged holding, created by the association that marks the intent of my candidacy. These commitments are:

To foster CANA's strategic plan with fiscal responsibility. To focus on leveraging CANA's political influence and positioning to banish barriers of CRNA practice. To provide the elected CANA Board with historical context to support fully informed and responsible decision making. To ensure the ecumenical well-being of the association to dutifully provide for its current and future member owners. Thank you for the opportunity to continue serving you!



Debra Malina, DNSc, MBA, FNAP, CRNA

EDUCATION:

DNSc, University of Tennessee Memphis Health Science Center, Memphis, TN

MBA, Madison University, Gulfport, MS

MSNA, Barry University, Miami Shores, FL

BSN, Florida International University, Miami, FL

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Malina Anesthesia and Consulting Services 2004-present

POSITION STATEMENT: The world is moving at a fast pace. Streams of non-stop communication and information make turbulent 'permanent whitewater' the new norm. Organizations regularly encounter unexpected challenges; they strain capabilities, can't be dismissed, nor planned for. In chaotic environments, contemporary organizations require fluidity and innovative leadership.

CANA has the duties and due diligence responsibilities required of larger organizations. Internal checks and balances, information sharing, and fiscal accountability are 'musts'. Being not-for-profit does not mean we are not a business; we exist to serve members, maximizing the return on your investment.

CANA must be capable of adjusting to the changing environment, the needs of our members and profession. Your Board and staff must work together improving efficiencies, streamlining processes, and achieving successes only obtained when everyone has the same vision and goals. To assist CANA with its transformative evolution into a dynamic 21st century partnership with members, I ask for your vote.

CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY



Nilu Patel, DNAP, CRNA

EDUCATION:

DNAP - Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA - 2011

MSN - University of Southern California, Program of Nurse Anesthesia, Los Angeles, CA - 2002

BSN - University of Southern California, School of Nursing, Los Angeles, CA - 1998

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: University of California, Irvine, Senior CRNA 2008 - Present

Private practice – Plastic Surgery Institute, Rancho Mirage, CA 2017 – Present

Private practice – Roxbury Surgery Center, Beverly Hills, CA 2017 - Present

POSITION STATEMENT: I humbly request your vote again, but this time for CANA Secretary. Serving on the BOD as a Trustee has been a tremendous honor. Collaborating with our hard-working BOD and committee members has reinforced my commitment to protect our practice in California. Your BOD has accomplished a lot over the years, from preventing another AA Bill in our state to promoting our role as Advanced Practice Nurses as a solution for safe and effective patient care for our communities. However, our work is never done! Our mission at CANA of supporting each one of you requires diligence, and I remain steadfast in my commitment to honor our mission. I promise to continue to listen and advocate for you, our valued Member-Owners, to advance patient safety and promote excellence in our practice. I look forward to building my experience with CANA, hopefully extending into 2018 and beyond.

CANDIDATES FOR TRUSTEE



Sarah Giron, PhD, CRNA

EDUCATION:

PhD, University of San Diego Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science, San Diego, CA – 2015

MSNA, Columbia University, New York, NY – 2005

BSN, Columbia University, New York, NY - 2002

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Assistant Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology, University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine, Los Angeles, California, 2017 - present

Faculty Nurse Anesthetist, Keck Hospital of University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, 2009 - present

POSITION STATEMENT: It has been an honor for me to identify myself as a California CRNA for over 13 years and I thank you for your consideration to serve as Trustee on the CANA Board of Directors. My experience as an educator, clinician and researcher has afforded me a wonderful means to repay and advance such an amazing profession, but to protect our craft, I chose to become involved with CANA. I have been active with CANA since 2009 chairing the Communications and Editorial Committees, penning numerous CANA policies, overseeing two CANA website overhauls, acting as Editor-in-Chief for CANA publications, serving on ad hoc committees and speaking at our terrific meetings. To serve on your Board of Directors would enable me to continue to fight for our profession and voice your concerns. Allow me the privilege to be your advocate and the opportunity to better our practice. Thank you for your support.



Robert Olson, DNAP, CRNA

EDUCATION:

DNAP, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA - 2017

MSN, University of Southern California/Keck School of Medicine, Los Angeles, CA - 2006

BSN, Linfield College/Good Samaritan School of Nursing, Portland, OR - 1998

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Nurse Anesthetist II at LAC + USC Medical Center, Los Angeles. SRNA Clinical Coordinator for the USC Program of Nurse Anesthesia at LAC + USC Medical Center.

POSITION STATEMENT: An organization is as strong as its members, which is why CANA maintains such a powerful influence on the political environment surrounding Nurse Anesthesia practice in California. I am both grateful to and amazed by our leaders for their energy and commitment to protecting and advancing this wonderful profession. Having recently completed my Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice degree, I feel that I have a deeper

understanding of the importance of political action, at all levels. Attending CANA conferences and working with many of our state leaders has inspired me to become more involved on a higher level ... now! I look forward to the opportunity of gaining new knowledge, experience, and working to promote and maintain the profession that has given me so much. Thank you for this nomination and consideration, it is truly an honor!



Rommel Uniza, MSN, CRNA

EDUCATION:

MSN, Samuel Merritt University - 2009

BSN, University of San Francisco – 2002

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Kaiser Permanente Medical Center South Sacramento, Sacramento, CA, 2009 – present.

POSITION STATEMENT: The truth is, I began my career as a CRNA indifferent to the issues that continuously challenge our profession. My turning point into active advocacy began when misleading and false statements claiming CRNAs were unqualified to independently care for veterans surfaced on mainstream and social media. As both a CRNA and a veteran, I knew I could no longer stand idle. Two years ago, I accepted the committee position of CANA Northern California Government Relations Specialist. It is in this role that I learned misconceptions about our profession extend far beyond any isolated debate. It is my vision that the proven, safe, independent, and excellent care we provide our patients will neither be minimized or unnoticed. With your vote, I will support our organization and its leaders as we take steps toward this vision. Thank you for considering me for a position on the CANA Board of Trustees.



Jon Wilton, DNAPc, MS, CRNA

EDUCATION:

DNAP, Midwestern University, Glendale, AZ - 2009

MSA, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Nashville, TN – 2005

BSN, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN - 2002

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Chief CRNA, Parish Management Consultants/Mercy Mount Shasta, 2017 – present; staff CRNA, Mercy Mount Shasta, Mount Shasta, CA, 2013-2017

Ultrasound guided regional anesthesia instructor, Twin Oaks Anesthesia, April 2018 - present

POSITION STATEMENT: It is a great honor to have been nominated as a candidate for CANA Trustee, and I gladly accept the opportunity to run. I am currently already working on two important scope of practice projects with CANA that will benefit all CRNAs in California, and I look forward to any additional challenges this new position might bring. Currently, in my role as a Chief CRNA for a 100% independent all-CRNA group, I am frequently challenged with obstacles put in place by the opposition. I have fought and won the ability to have SRNAs at our site, and I am actively fighting trade restrictions put in place by the physician lobby. It is my goal to support both ACT and independent CRNAs by breaking down these barriers so that all CRNAs will have the opportunity to practice in whichever setting they see fit. Our future as a profession is bright, and I look forward to working hard on your behalf if elected. Thank you in advance for your vote.



Florence Zilko, MSN, CRNA

EDUCATION:

MSN, National University, Fresno, CA – 2016

BSN, California State University, Dominguez Hills, CA - 2012

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: St. Bernadine Medical center, San Bernardino, CA, January 2018 - Present

POSITION STATEMENT: As a trustee candidate, I will be able to bring in a fresh perspective into the California Association of Nurse Anesthetists. This is important as I can identify with most of the CRNAs just getting started with navigation into this elite group. I attended Mid-year Assembly as a student and have since been fired up on the importance to protect and defend our profession. The importance to stay up to date with the political climate and preserve our future that we have worked so hard for as CRNAs. With your vote for trustee, I will work hard for our profession in line with the vision of CANA. Thank you so much in advance!