



California Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Inc.

CRNAs: The solution for a healthier California

June 10, 2020

Dear CANA members and colleagues,

Some things go without saying, but given the latest headlines and civil unrest pre-occupying this great nation in recent weeks, it must be stated unequivocally: **CANA stands by our colleagues, friends, and fellow Americans of color.** There is no place for racial intolerance in our practice, or indeed, in healthcare at large. Nor do we condone the practices that lead to racial inequality and inequity that disproportionately affect the health and safety of people of color. We must do better as a profession, as a community and as a nation.

Perhaps it is a coincidence that this is all coinciding with Gay Pride Month, but this is an excellent time to reflect on the history of the LGBTQ movement from the Stonewall Riots in 1969 to the legalization of gay marriage by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2013. While this decision was a long overdue victory for the LGBTQ community, there is still undoubtedly a long way to go to correct the healthcare disparities and outcomes evidenced in study after study of this population. As advanced practice nursing professionals, we must take ownership of the duty to fulfill this goal for the betterment of our patients, our colleagues and our LGBTQ communities. The evidence is clear: patients cared for by providers that reflect their socio-economic experience have better outcomes. Diversifying our profession is one small yet fundamental step in achieving the health equity that people of color and members of the LGBTQ community have long deserved.

These ideals and convictions start with each of us individually and to that end, we encourage each and every one of you to put your money where your heart is. Make a donation to Diversity CRNA to support and encourage more diversity among our peers. This profession has been a steady source of fulfillment and prosperity for many of us. Let's pay that forward in a meaningful way that not only reflects the evidence, but represents the just and decent principles that the nursing profession represents at its core.

We wish each and every member of our diversity community health, happiness, prosperity and JUSTICE.

We hear you. We grieve with you. We stand by you.

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Mission Statement
CANA advances patient safety, fostering access to the highest quality anesthesia, and supports the nurse anesthesia profession in California.