



A Message from the Chairman of the Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants (ARBoPA)

Every year from October 6-12 we celebrate National PA Week and the contributions that 131,000 practicing Physician Assistants make to our nation's healthcare. To the roughly 3000 Arizona PA's, thank you, and well done!

Let's take some time this week to be advocates for our own profession.

Spend a couple of extra minutes with a patient or two (and their families) explaining what PA's are, what we do, and how we got here. The thousands of clinical hours you've dedicate to training and CME, honing your craft, should not go unacknowledged.

Reach out to your elected representatives at both the State and National Level and engage them in a quick conversation about Physician Assistants. Ask them if they have any questions about your role as a provider. Remind them that you appreciate their ongoing support for our profession.

Finally, paraphrasing my good friend Randy Danielsen PhD, PA-C Emeritus, DFAAPA, who serves as the Director of the DMSc program at A.T. Still University, we have another "serious issue" to solve: significant PA Program expansion (238 at last count) has led to increased demand for clinical training sites and preceptors. Consider giving back to your profession by mentoring, and training the next generation of Physician Assistants. Contact your local PA Program, and offer your expertise.

Finally, to the graduates of the first PA Class from that University with the "ok" basketball program in Chapel Hill (Duke) on October 6th, 1967, I offer my congratulations on 52 years of being trailblazers and trend-setters in the practice of Medicine.

Have a great week.

Myles Whitfield, PA-C
Chairman
Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants

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