

## 2018 NJANA DIRECTOR CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS

### **Nicholas A. Blanck CRNA, MSN, APN-Anesthesia**

- Executive Experience:
  - Past President of the New Jersey Association of Nurse Anesthetists
  - Executive Director of Legislative Affairs - The NJANA
  - CEO - Nursed Anesthesia Services, LLC
  - Owner and Managing Partner - UltraCare Anesthesia Partners, LLC
- Committee Experience:
  - Federal Political Director
  - Chairman of the Government Relations Committee
  - Chairman of the Political Action Committee
  - Chairman of the New Jersey State Nurses Association Joint Protocol Steering Committee
- Task Force Assignments:
  - Historical Documentation Preservation
  - Budget and Finance Strategy
  - Alternative Revenue Stream Generation
  - Foundation of NJANA Charity And Relief Expenditures fund (NJANA- CAREs Fund)

My time as your representative on our board has been the highlight of my professional career; and I am grateful to you for allowing me to serve over the years. I have practiced in an ACT for years, as well as independently in office based and Ambulatory Surgery Centers; and am acutely aware of the issues and challenges that face all of us across the state.

I opened UltraCare Anesthesia Partners as a full service anesthesia company that employs NJ CRNA's in a variety of practice settings from offices to hospitals in an effort to create a better working environment for all of us, in addition to advocating on your behalf throughout NJ. Having done over 80-100 meetings each year for the last three years, I have a proven track record of being trusted, dedicated, and committed to you and your professional well being.

I am humbly asking for your vote to continue our work in protecting our practice as anesthesia professionals.

Thank you.

### **Albina Gerike, CRNA, MSN, APN**

Dear NJANA board members,

I am interested in pursuing a position on the NJANA board. I have been a member of the NJ chapter since graduation in 2002. I have been a frequent attendee at the fall and spring meetings.

I had the opportunity to help organize a party for the PAC fund at the fall meeting in Atlantic City in the fall of 2015. I also attended a political fundraiser for Congressman LoBiondo this past summer with board member Jeff Murray.

In my career I have worked with students and mentored recent graduates, and I look forward to continuing to grow professional and personally as a board member.

Very Sincerely,



Albina Gerike

**Biju Muchal, Kuriakose, DNAP, CRNA, APN**

Hello friends and CRNA's in State of New Jersey,

My name is Biju Muchal Kuriakose; I am a CRNA and currently practicing in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. I graduated from Thomas Jefferson University Philadelphia and received my doctorate from Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia. I am running for NJANA board. I kindly request all CRNA's to support my position and vote for me in the coming board election in April 2018.

As a United States immigrant and now proud citizen, I have a special appreciation of the liberties we all can easily take for granted. CRNA's in New Jersey are fortunate to practice in a wide variety of clinical opportunities and staffing arrangements. Professionally, I enjoy working as a CRNA among several diverse clinical opportunities and value the need to secure and protect this diversity so that each CRNA can find their happy place. As your NJANA Board member, I will work hard for you so that we can continue to enjoy the practice liberties we all can easily take for granted.

With love,

BIJU MUCHAL KURIAKOSE DNAP, CRNA

**Mamdoh Michael, MS, CRNA, APN**

Dear Colleagues,

My name is Mamdoh Michael; I am a practicing CRNA within the state of New Jersey. I graduated from Rutgers University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1998, and received my master degree from Drexel University with Certificate of Anesthesia from the Lady of Lourdes Anesthesia program in 2009.

Being a CRNA was a dream that I was able to accomplish, thanks to a welcoming country that is diverse and inclusive of people of different walks of life, the support of my wife and children, and my strong Christian faith. As a proud member of NJANA, I feel it is time to serve our profession and my New Jersey Colleagues. I have practiced in several hospitals across the state and have come to understand not only our diverse needs, but also how important it is for us to have a voice in our practice and to be united to further our profession. I am running for a seat on the NJANA board and am asking your support in the upcoming April Board Elections. I will work hard to ensure that our CRNA rights are advanced and to promote independent practice in the state of New Jersey.

Thank you for your support.

Mamdoh Michael, MS, CRNA

**Thomas J. Pallaria, DNP, APN/CRNA**

Colleagues and Friends,

I would like to ask you to take a moment and consider me to represent you on the NJANA Board of Directors. As many of you know, I have been involved with the NJANA for over a decade, most recently as the planning committee for the spring and fall meetings. I have also championed the Russ Lynn Memorial Education Lecture Series, and supported SRNAs in presenting their evidence-based research.

My time as a practicing CRNA has been rich in diverse experiences, including education, administration and clinical practice. I am currently the Director of the Nurse Anesthesia Program at the Rutgers School of Nursing. Before this appointment in 2015, I served as the assistant director since the program's inception as co-founder of the UMDNJ Nurse Anesthesia Program in 2004. Throughout my tenure at UMDNJ and through the merger with Rutgers, I have taught nearly every course offered in Nurse Anesthesia.

My extensive clinical experience includes establishing valuable hospital partnerships. With 11 years of CRNA experience at the states trauma center, in 2011 I introduced CRNA practice at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center and worked with hospital management and the medical staff to grow CRNA practice to the level in which approximately 70% of the anesthetics in perioperative surgery at that hospital are delivered by CRNAs. I have most recently taken on the role of Chief CRNA at Saint Barnabas Medical Center, once again introducing CRNA practice to an institution that had only utilized physician anesthesiology services.

As a lecturer for the Perioperative Health Division in the RWJ Barnabas Health System, I deliver quarterly lectures to the perioperative nursing staff, as well as the OB/GYN residency program. I also present regularly at the New Jersey Association of Nurse Anesthetists meetings, and nationally at health management leadership summits.

I would be proud to continue to grow CRNA practice in the State of New Jersey as a board member and would appreciate your support.