

Louisiana Council of Emergency Nurses  
2018 Board of Directors Candidate Profiles  
Deadline August 31, 2017 @ 10pm

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## President Elect



### **Vickie Stagg**

Vickie graduated from Nursing school in 1977 and began her career in labor and delivery but transitioned to Perioperative Services where she 13 years, ultimately leading to the level of Services Director. Vickie also served as a Chief Nursing Officer for 5 years. Finding a new passion, Vickie has spent the last 21 years in the Emergency Department where she has been an ED director. Vickie has been a member of ENA for over 20 years. She has served the membership as a member of the LENA Board of Directors for 4 years. During her tenure on the board, Vickie has been instrumental in growing membership as the LENA Membership Chairperson.

#### **Personal statement:**

I would like the opportunity to continue the work I have started as a board member, supporting ER nurses in any way that I can preparing them to provide care to emergency department patients which has been my passion for 25 years of my 40 years as a RN. Both my TNCC and ENPC are pending renewal. My 2017 plans include sitting for the TCRN certification.

# Board of Directors



## John Armand

John has been a nurse for 28 years. He began in the ED and worked his way through both management and education tracts. He has been teaching TNCC and ENPC for over 10 years. John previously was a Director on the LENA Board of Directors and is an LENA past president. In his role as Injury Prevention Coordinator, he assists with car seat safety checks within the community.

### Personal Statement:

As a past director I found the network priceless. One of my goals is get involved in injury prevention at the state level. As an ENA Board Member, I hope to increase involvement of emergency nurses across the state.



## Leslie Batson

Leslie has been a nurse for 21 years with the last 11 ½ years in the ED. She has been actively involved in the LENA State Council as a member of the board of directors and has served the members as conference/education chair and Treasurer.

### Personal statement:

I believe it is important to be involved in a professional organization to help impact change and be a role model for new nurses.



## Rachelle Conish

Rachelle began her nursing career as an ortho/neuro nurse at a large 600 bed teaching hospital. Two years later she moved to Louisiana and began her career in the ED. She has worked at several rural community hospitals and is currently on the Nurse Practice Council and the ED Practice Council at her current hospital. She has been actively involved on the state board of directors and has assisted on numerous committees, in addition to attending the National conference and serving as a delegate to General Assembly.

### Personal statement:

I have enjoyed the last two years serving on the board. It's been a busy two years while I was working full time and completing my BSN. Now that I have completed my BSN, I feel like I can apply myself even more to ENA and be a strong leader for other Louisiana nurses. I think I can be the voice for the smaller Emergency Departments, the critical access facilities and the community hospitals I currently work at. I am committed to emergency nursing and love being a voice for my colleagues. I believe in the mission of ENA and feel serving as a board member allows me the opportunity to ensure Louisiana nurses have the resources to promote safe practice and safe care



## James Luce

James began his career in the medical field as EMT basic progressing to a Paramedic and a flight Paramedic. He continued in this profession until 2009 when he became a Registered Nurse. He began his career as a nurse in the Emergency Department while remaining a flight paramedic. He also has experience in the Trauma ICU. His experience also includes 3 years of home health nursing. James is currently a house supervisor which includes working in the ED as needed and is the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator at his hospital. He currently is on the Board of Directors for the Louisiana State Nurses Association as an executive member and the Director of Transition into Practice.

### Personal statement:

Emergency and trauma nursing are my background. Prior to becoming a nurse, I was a flight paramedic. I have worked in large emergency rooms, such as Ochsner New Orleans as well as working in critical access facilities with limited ER capabilities. I believe I will bring experience to the table as well as sharing issues that affect the rural emergency room setting. I enjoy sitting on the board of directors for the LSNA and I feel that I can assist in continuing to build the relationship between the LENA and LSNA.

## Courtney (CJ) Marbley



CJ began his career in nursing in the Emergency Department of a Level 1 Trauma Center. He then began traveling, working in Emergency Departments, until he assumed the role of Clinical Leader of a Pediatric Trauma program. He assisted in the upstart of a nursing agency, growing the nurses from 17 to over 300. His journey led him to the role of manger of MICU and CCU for 6 years until he was promoted to the Director of Perioperative Services. In 2016, CJ moved to Louisiana and has served in the role of Emergency Department Director. CJ was active member of his ENA State Council in his previous state for 10 years and understands the role ENA plays within each state as well as the national level.

### Personal statement:

I have made a full circle back to my nursing roots in the ED and am willing to serve as needed. I look forward to becoming more involved again with the ENA. I have achieved my CCRN and Surgical Services certifications and will strive to achieve the ED certifications this year.

## Layne Mistretta



Layne has been devoted to Emergency Nursing for the past 25 years holding positions of staff nurse, coordinator, educator, and director. He is currently the Supervisor of Education and Research, assisting with many of the general education opportunities throughout the organization including ED specific training such as TNCC/ACLS.

He has been a member of the state board of directors for approximately 10 years and has had an active role in the promotion of “safe practice, safe care” throughout our state. Layne has promoted injury prevention through concussion programs and the Stop-the-Bleed campaign. Additionally, he has assisted with educational activities, including conference preparation.

### Personal statement:

I feel the voice at the table to represent State, regional, and local concerns regarding Emergency Nursing Practice needs to maintain a connection with the national level. Through listening to the emergency nurses through the state and in my local area, I bring concerns to the appropriate venue. I also frequently identify the gaps in knowledge, skills, and practice and promote education topics throughout the state to address these gaps.



## Tammy O'Connor

Tammy has 27 years of nursing experience with 18 of those years representing emergency nursing. The past 13 years she has served as the ED Director/Manager for an 18 bed ED. During this past year she has completed her Master's degree with a focus on Leadership/Management.

She obtained her CEN in 2010 and has supported and encouraged other emergency nurses to achieve certification. In addition, she has served as a member of the ENA for 11 years and has been a member of the Board of Directors for 5 years. Tammy served as 2016 LENA State Council President. She has also participated in ENA's Day on the Hill, educating members of Congress on the needs of Emergency Nurses.

### **Personal statement:**

Early in my nursing career, I was fortunate to work alongside many great emergency nurses and leaders who served as mentors promoting my personal and professional growth. A desire and dedication to pay it forward promoting an environment that supports professional growth and learning while creating a positive, safe working environment in which emergency nurses can flourish is what steered me into a leadership role.

I am interested in continuing to support my professional organization at the National and State level. Emergency Nursing is my passion and professional career that I am actively engaged within. I enjoy mentoring fellow emergency nurses to become involved in the organization expanding their knowledge and skills.



## Clothilde Tilly Richard-Gard

Clothilde began her career in the ED as a Patient Care Tech. Upon graduation in 1999 as a Registered Nurse she began on a Medical/Surgical Unit for two years. The next two years she worked in several Emergency Departments as a PRN nurse. She was a clinical supervisor in the ED for one year along with working PRN at several other Emergency Departments. Her next three years she worked with patients preoperatively and postoperatively as well as pre-admitting patients. She was the interim PACU Manger and participated in the Nurse Excellence Council. She continues to work with patients preoperatively and postoperatively and assisting with conscious sedation. Since 2012 she has been a Trauma Program Manager and continues to teach TNCC and ENPC.

### **Personal statement:**

I believe in furthering the cause in creating Trauma Program and Centers in the state of Louisiana and to raise awareness regarding the importance of Injury Prevention and Trauma Education. I believe in becoming involved in legislation that effects healthcare and practice. I also enjoy working with our pre-hospital providers regarding developing working relationships in order to better communication.



## **Karen Silady**

Karen began her nursing career in 1974 as an Ortho and Neurosurgery nurse. She continued this track through two hospitals and 5 years also caring for patients with Urology, same day surgery, and infectious disease patients. The next seven years she was a mobile intensive care nurse and Paramedic Liaison nurse. Karen has also worked as a travel nurse, taking her to many areas around the world. She then began to work in the ED and continued her service in the pre-hospital realm. Karen moved to Louisiana in 1991 and began her career in the Emergency Department. She has held various other roles throughout the hospital. Additionally, she taught nursing students for 10 years prior to returning to the hospital setting in the capacity of Performance Improvement Coordinator for Regulatory Affairs. She is currently working as an ED psych intake nurse. She has been a TNCC and ENPC faculty member and not only has been on the state board of directors for many years but has held several positions on National committees, including chairperson. She has been a vital part of every committee throughout her dedicated time to ENA.

### **Personal statement:**

I still very much enjoy serving my colleagues as a representative to the Emergency Nurses professional organization, bringing forth concerns not otherwise identified and networking with other organizations to improve patient care. My more recent cause to champion is the care of the mental health patient in our emergency departments. As a participant on the Jefferson Parish Mental Health Task Force I am working towards shorter lengths of stay and improved follow up and dispositions for this population.

## **Jennifer Sing**



Jennifer has been a nurse since 2009 and began her career in Emergency nursing. She worked at the stretcher side for 6 years and then transitioned in to the role of Emergency Department Clinical Educator and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. She achieved her CEN in 2015. She joined ENA in 2015 and has been an active board member for the past 2 years. She represented the state council at ENA Day on the Hill where she addressed Mental Health Patient issues with our state Senators and Representatives. She has been selected to speak at the National Conference in September regarding Emergency Management: Preparing for a Mass Casualty Incident. Jennifer was recognized for her "Excellence in Nursing" at the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebrate Nursing Banquet.

### **Personal Statement:**

I have been privileged to serve as a ENA board member over the past two years. As an ED Clinical Educator, I truly value investing in the future of Emergency Medicine. Serving my profession as a leader and servant has been one of my greatest professional achievements. I am committed to the advancement of Emergency Medicine and will continue to advocate for the advancement of Emergency Nurses. I would be honored to continue to serve as a Louisiana Emergency Nurse Association Board Member. I will always remain committed to the success and advancement of my chosen profession.