

Jim Stith, MSPAS, PA-C

Platform Statement



JimStith@hotmail.com

Nominee for SEMPA Vice President 2021 -2022

26 years of service and dedication to Emergency Medicine

Currently serving as SEMPA Director at Large

Experience and award-winning performance in municipal finance

Proven track record of hard work and common sense

This year the COVID-19 pandemic has wreaked havoc upon our profession causing a temporary decrease in patient visits and the furloughing or termination of many of our PA colleagues. As volumes return to pre-pandemic levels will our employers return to previous staffing levels or will use this as an opportunity to improve profits by keeping staffing low or replacing experienced providers with new, lesser trained and cheaper options? What will be our function as Emergency Medicine Physician Assistants, how do we fit into this brave new world of medicine? What are our obstacles, our political barriers, and who is our direct competition? Will we still exist in 20 years? These are times of change, our profession requires active forward thinking leaders to preserve our practice and defend our rights. Now is the time to serve and be a catalyst for our future. It is my goal to use my unique skill set to improve our organization and profession.

Practicing as a PA since 1994 I have worked exclusively in emergency medicine, a field in which I have dedicated my life's work. Beginning practice in a time where PAs could not treat patients independently, nor have prescription authority, I have worked within many hospital systems, often being one of their first PA. At that time many of us experienced initial resistance to the concept of a PA. Through our example of hard work and professionalism we gained acceptance and the respect of medical coworkers and hospital staff thereby strengthening our profession.

As City Auditor, serving the public for 12 years as an elected official, managing a municipal finance office I have gained experience in financial management and reporting. These financial reports are audited by the State of Ohio annually with several being honored by the Government Financial Officers Association Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

My experience with data analysis and reporting has grown significantly as Auditor through extensive use of database software and Excel. Similar skills were used in the analysis and compilation

of data for a variety of political campaigns for targeted mailing and walking lists. This experience will be useful performing analysis and research to be applied to the growth of our organization.

According to data published by the NCCPA there are currently 12,519 PA's practicing Emergency Medicine, our second largest specialty. SEMPA has just over 3,000 members, 24% of PA's practicing Emergency Medicine. We must aggressively expand our membership by attracting new members, seek to bring back former members, and focus on retaining our current membership. With greater numbers comes greater power, greater political influence, and the ability to protect our practice and expand of our privileges. Analysis of available data, targeted outreach, and continual communication are the keys to the expansion which will ensure our future.

Now is the time to apply the skills, honed in the private and political arenas, to strengthen our profession and help us continue to grow. I am willing to dedicate myself to the service of SEMPA membership and work with other members of the Board as Vice President utilizing my organizational skills, experience in politics, financial knowledge, and dedication to the PA profession.

Thank you for taking the time to consider me for this position.

Sincerely,

Jim Stith PA-C