

Fellow SEMPA Members,

I'm writing to request your support for the president-elect for the coming 2022-23 year. I began my passion for SEMPA as a PA student. Over the 21 years of my practice I have been a SEMPA member and have progressively become more involved with the organization. It is an outstanding organization. It stands only for one reason: to support you in your practice as an EMPA. SEMPA continues to provide excellent educational opportunities that are evidence-based and up-to-date, hands-on procedural programs to help develop your skill, and a legislative voice to ensure protected practice and ongoing communication with other advocacy groups. We have been through a tumultuous time the last two years. You have been unrelenting in your practice caring for the people. I am humbled by your valor and effort. Issues with workforce and physician advocacy group relations continue to be strained. The physician community is fearful that they will be overstaffed in the next 10 years. I think that's probably unlikely but the reality is they are circling the wagons and that makes it difficult for relationships.

Over the last 2 years I served as SEMPA Director-at-Large. I'm very proud of the work we have accomplished. SEMPA continues to be deliberate in it's responses to physician group criticism on your behalf. We had our first Virtual SEMPA 360 conference that provided great CME lectures. Unfortunately hands-on workshops were impossible. We are excited for next year to return in person with the full conference in 2022. As chair of the EMS committee we produced guidelines for the EMSPA. As chair of the Rural EM Section we produced guidelines for the Rural EMPA. Both of these works involved consultation with our physician partners and members of NAEMSP and ACEP, and provide framework for our members in these respective EM environments. For the last four years I served as liaison from SEMPA to the Colorado Chapter of ACEP. This developed a great working relationship with our physicians locally. We have developed a network of EMPAs in Colorado and hope this is a growing project in other states through the SEMPA Advocacy Committee. The Advocacy Committee is also working on comparison between the PA and the NP. The differences are stark. We continue to be the best trained clinicians in our field.

I would like to progress my involvement with SEMPA as President-elect to continue to serve you. My primary goals begin with improving relationships with ACEP and other physician organizations. In doing so I will leverage the relationships I developed in Colorado with our physician partners to improve on the national level by increasing dialogue to develop positive solutions to the EM workforce issues. Also it is important to continue the excellent educational programs provided by SEMPA. Our Education Committee is gearing up for the coming year with workshops and a return to in person conference. We need to grow our membership to increase our strength and standing. I hope to foster this by having members from each state reach out to their EMPA colleagues to hopefully increase our exposure. Finally, I would like to improve resources that advocate for PA work-life balance and wellbeing. I will continue to attempt to make available mental health resources that will help benefit EMPA's. For instance, the Colorado Physician Health Program hopefully can serve as a model to develop other resources that can help each of us through these trying times. We need to keep your talented hands caring for patients as you care for yourself with good work-life balance. Please support me to continue supporting you.

Tom McNally, PA-C