

The Official Publication of the Florida Society of Anesthesiologists | Serving Anesthesiologists and Patients



Jeffrey S. Jacobs, M.D.
President, Florida Society of Anesthesiologists

Presidential Pennings

The Value of Checklists

“Why shouldn’t we have a checklist for our professional responsibilities?”


I grew up in South Florida. And I grew up poor. Free school lunch poor. That’s probably why I like to go grocery shopping: I can finally buy what and as much as I want. Despite this, I don’t go to Publix without a shopping list. I can get what I want, but I don’t want to forget what I *need*.

I suppose a grocery list is a checklist of sorts. We all are able to keep a lot of information stored in our heads, but we use a checklist to ensure we don’t forget the necessities. Clearly there are many people much smarter than I who believe checklists are crucial to the safe practice of medicine. There are checklists used in the ICU, before we take patients back to the operating room, and there will likely be checklists when we transition care from one provider to another.

So, why shouldn’t we have a checklist for our professional responsibilities as well? Most anesthesiologists remember to pay their dues. Check. Some remember, without prodding, to make an annual PAC contribution. Check. However, there are other things that we all should be doing as physician anesthesiologists. So, to make it easy, I’ve created a checklist of what you can and should do to support our profession, our future and, most importantly, our patients.

- ✓ [Renew your membership](#)—the lifeblood of our society that enables lobbyists, attorneys and public relations to work on our behalf.
- ✓ Renew PAC donations, both [state](#) and [national](#) (FSAPAC and ASAPAC). How much? Would you believe just \$45/month TOTAL makes a huge difference? That’s right; the cost of dinner for two at your local Japanese buffet can get us a seat with our legislators!
- ✓ Ensure your partners aren’t freeloading off your efforts. [Show them the value that this organization has](#) to protect our futures.
- ✓ [Find out who your elected officials are](#), and make it a point to meet them!
- ✓ Sign up for legislative text alerts. I promise we will (a) not share your info and (b) only use it when it’s crunch-time. **Text FSA to 33733 to join.**
- ✓ Keep practicing the great medicine you do, showing your ability to be a physician leader in your institutions.

Simple, easy and no need to memorize things ... I look forward to a great year, led by all 1,500 of our members working as one with one common goal.

Oh yeah, don’t forget dessert. 



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FSA Today is published quarterly by the Florida Society of Anesthesiologists Inc., 701 Brickell Avenue, Ste. 1550 Miami, FL 33131 786/300-3183

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Unless otherwise noted, all articles are the opinions of the contributors, and the FSA does not agree, disagree or endorse any services or products.

A Look at the November Election

By Jon Johnson, FSA Legislative Consultant

The November 2014 election is quickly approaching. The entire Florida Cabinet is up for reelection—governor, attorney general, agriculture commissioner and chief financial officer. The most contentious will be the race for governor, with Governor Rick Scott likely facing former Governor Charlie Crist. In the Florida Senate, of the 20 incumbent senators up for reelection, only seven have any opposition.

All members of the Florida House of Representatives are up for reelection. Due to term limits and members leaving the House early to pursue other opportunities, however, only 104 of the 120 incumbents are seeking reelection. Of those 104 seats, only 16 are truly “open.” That equals 16 opportunities for brand new legislators.

Now is the time if you want to get involved in who represents your interests in Tallahassee. We always encourage giving early and often to the Florida Society of Anesthesiologists’ Political Action Committee. But certainly during a crucial election year, and with so many issues swirling around the anesthesia profession, your political gifts are a great way to be involved. **FSA**



Jon Johnson

Text FSA to 33733 to Join the FSA Legislative Action Alert!

We are excited to announce that we have secured text messaging capabilities to provide for instant communications capability with our membership. Thank you to the more than 200 members who have already opted in to our alerts!

Communicating with members through LIMITED text alerts will provide us with an immediate and real-time platform for engaging membership on critical legislative issues. You will continue to receive regular email communications from us with the text message feature reserved only for the following:

1. Reminders to contact specific legislators via text/tweet/phone regarding a particular piece of legislation; some texts will be accompanied by a suggested message you can forward
2. Important legislative updates

We are very sensitive to members’ privacy and have developed strict protocols to ensure that the text outreach will take place only during the most critical moments of our legislative efforts.



ASAPAC: Your Society Needs You

Each year you are bombarded by requests for donations to our ASA Political Action Committee (ASAPAC). I know that the regular email reminders and flyers we send out during the summer months are annoying. However, I do not offer apologies for this minor infringement on your cyberspace—the message is so important. Our profession is under attack. We face very serious scope of practice issues that if enacted would not only impact your ability to work but also the safety of our patients. There are constant attempts by legislators to reduce your payments; funding for educating the next generation of anesthesiologists is also under threat—and the list goes on.

The AANA, unlike many of our members, sees the opportunity that a well-funded PAC creates. AANA members give at almost 100 percent (as compared to about 20 percent of our members).

Please consider these issues and make a gift. A gift that you feel comfortable with! It will feel so good that you have joined the team.

Michael C. Lewis, M.D.

Please Make a Contribution to the ASAPAC! It's Easy:

1. Go to the ASA webpage: www.asahq.org
2. Log in at top of page
3. Click on ASAPAC tab
4. Donate



Join Today!

What Is the FSAPAC?

Political Action Committee contributions provide funding for candidates for political office in Florida. Recipients of PAC funds are selected based on their willingness to listen to our message and share our vision of providing quality anesthesiology care.

Get Involved!

To keep patient safety and the quality of care issues at the forefront of legislative attention, we must remain vigilant in our fight by supporting pro-anesthesiology candidates. The ALC is our single most effective tool in this effort!

How Can You Help?

Donate today! Contributors receive special recognition in Action Updates, *FSA Today* and at the FSA annual meeting. Go online to www.fsahq.org to donate now!

Make A Difference!

Anesthesiologists are asked to make contributions to FSAPAC, which are then presented to candidates by representatives of the FSA on the contributors' behalf.

**For additional information
contact the
FSA Headquarters at
786/300-3183**

Contribution Suggestions:

Active Member - \$200
Retired Member - \$200
Affiliate Member - \$75

I am committed!

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____ toward the election of candidates that support anesthesiologists in Florida.

**Florida Society of
Anesthesiologists PAC**

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Miami, FL 33131

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fsapac@fsahq.org

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Visa MasterCard American Express

Check enclosed payable to FSAPAC

Credit Card #

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CVV (on back) Exp. Date

Signature



Society News

FSA Members Gain Valuable Practice Insights at Society's Annual Meeting

The 2014 FSA annual meeting, held June 13-15 in Palm Beach, drew more than 275 members to discuss trends and practices in the field and tools for safeguarding patient care and safety. Topics included Ethical Considerations With Drug Shortages and Impacts of Health Care Reform on Patient Care. Past President Kurt Markgraf, M.D., was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award, the FSA's top honor.

The Distinguished Service Award is the highest tribute the society can pay to an FSA member for outstanding clinical, educational or scientific achievement, contribution to the specialty and exemplary service to the society. Dr. Markgraf has remained very active as FSA's chairman of legislative affairs, is chair of the Department of Anesthesiology at Lee Memorial Hospital and is a partner at Medical Anesthesia and Pain Management Associates.

Also at the meeting, FSA's new President Jeffrey Jacobs, M.D., addressed the causes and ethical implications involved with the current drug shortages affecting anesthesia providers. According to a 2012 ASA study, nearly 98 percent of anesthesiologists at the time of the survey were experiencing a shortage

of at least one anesthesia drug. Amid such drug shortages, 96.3 percent of anesthesiologists have had to use alternative drugs, over half have had to change procedures in some way and over 10 percent have had to postpone or cancel cases. Dr. Jacobs presented an update on the status of the shortages and shared tips on what physicians can do in their daily practice through education and legislative involvement.

FSA member Saurin Shah, M.D., spoke about perioperative management in the Affordable Care Act era along with the impacts of health care reform on patient care before, during and after surgery. He also discussed the growing role of the anesthesiologist in the management of the perioperative environment.

Joining the meeting again this year was Congressman Andy Harris, M.D., R-Maryland. Congressman Harris shared his unique perspective on current topics in the U.S. health care system given his background as the only anesthesiologist in the U.S. Congress.

The three-day program included additional panel sessions, presented more than 40 cutting-edge research abstracts and featured the latest technological advances in the field of anesthesiology. **FSA**



University of Miami was the winning team for FSA Jeopardy 2014. Host and moderator Dr. Al Varon (center) stands with the team and Dr. Sonya Pease (far right), CMO of TeamHealth Anesthesia, FSA Jeopardy's sponsor. The team members are Julio Benitez, Jordan Taylor, Jennifer Charles and Susan Barnes.



Dr. Lateef Opabola discusses his work with Dr. Thomas Fuhrman during the 2014 FSA Annual Meeting's poster presentation sessions.

FSA 411

By Christian Diez, M.D., M.B.A., FSA Assistant Treasurer

It was discussed at the board of directors (BOD) meeting in June that it would be helpful to have a concise introductory article on the makeup of the Florida Society of Anesthesiologists. We are hopeful this will be useful to our entire membership, especially those inquiring about how they can best serve. The following is intended to be a summary of the positions, responsibilities and duties of the FSA and those who make up its leadership. Most of this information is taken from the society's bylaws. This is meant only as an introduction, and I encourage everyone to read the bylaws for more specifics. I hope that especially our residents and most recent members can use this as a guide.

Affiliation

The FSA is a component society of the American Society of Anesthesiologists. No rules, regulations or policies of the FSA shall be in conflict with those of the ASA.

Board of Directors

- President
- President-Elect
- Immediate Past President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Assistant Treasurer
- District Directors (3 per district, 5 districts)
- ASA Delegates (usually consists of officers and members who have served as district directors)
- ASA Director From Florida
- ASA Alternate Director From Florida
- Chairpersons of the FSA Standing Committees
- Representative to the FMA Specialty Society Section

If an individual is elected to more than one position, such individual shall have only one board vote.

FSA Staff

The executive director is Christina Kasendorf, and associate executive director is JJ Jackman. Christina and JJ have an incredible team that helps them.

Executive Board Positions (1-year terms)

President

- Attempts to further the aims and objectives of the society to the fullest extent
- Ex-officio member of all committees except for the Judicial Committee
- Presides and officiates all major functions of sessions and may deliver an annual address
- Authorized to pay all society obligations when treasurer is unavailable

President-Elect

- Upon expiration of the president's term, automatically succeeds to president
- Becomes familiar with the personnel and work of various committees
- Counsels the president on matters affecting the future of the society
- In the absence of the president, the president-elect presides at meetings and shall represent the president at other functions
- Nominates the chairperson and other members of each committee to be appointed at the beginning of his/her presidency

Vice President

- Assists the president and the president-elect in the performance of their duties; may represent the president if requested to do so

Secretary

- Supervises and handles all secretarial matters of the society
- Acts as corporate secretary insofar as the execution or authentication of official documents
- Assists the treasurer
- Prepares, or causes to be prepared, minutes of all meetings of membership, the BOD and the Executive Committee
- Maintains, or causes to be maintained, a current roster of all members and officers of the society, classified according to membership, and reports any changes
- Forwards, or causes to be forwarded, to the executive office of the ASA a list of authorized delegates and alternate delegates
- Forwards, or causes to be forwarded, a copy of current society bylaws to the ASA every year

Treasurer

- Custodian of, or supervises the person with custody of, all monies, securities, valuable papers, books and records of the society
- Makes deposits or invests the society's monies, subject to direction of the BOD
- Pays, or causes to be paid, all obligations of the society
- Keeps, or causes to be kept, a detailed account of all receipts and disbursements, and reports annually concerning the financial transactions for the preceding year

Assistant Treasurer

- Shall assist the treasurer in all duties and keep current in the duties of that office
- Assumes position if the treasurer is not able to complete his/her term
- Learns about the financial and budgeting process of the society under the treasurer's guidance, to provide continuity of financial knowledge and leadership for the good of the society

Immediate Past President

- Serves as chairperson of the Nominating Committee and member of the Judicial Committee

District Directors

(3-year terms)

There are 15 district directors, with three in each district. These are North, Central, West, East and South.

- Each director shall have been a voting member of the society for at least one year prior to election and shall practice in elective district; nominations for director shall be made at the annual meeting by voting members
- District directors are the closest representation of the board of directors to the general membership; two current main issues that directors assist on is increasing district membership and increasing members' political advocacy

ASA Delegates and Alternates

ASA delegates and alternates include 37 positions: one ASA director and one ASA alternate director (3-year terms); 17 delegates to the ASA (3-year terms); and 18 at large ASA alternate delegates (1-year terms). All delegates shall have been a voting member of the society for at least one year prior to election. Delegates and alternates shall, whenever possible, counsel with the officers and directors on all matters pending in the ASA House of Delegates in the interest of making certain any action is in accordance with the desires of the society.

- In the event that a delegate is unable to attend a meeting or session of the ASA House of Delegates, any elected alternate shall be eligible to serve in this position
- The ASA director, ASA alternate director and FSA president will rank the ASA alternate delegates in the order to be contacted to serve
- The FSA president will be responsible for ensuring that the FSA has a full delegation

FMA Delegates and Alternates

(1-year terms)

The number of FMA delegates and alternate delegates is determined by the FMA. There are currently five delegates and five alternate delegates.

- Must be active members of the Florida Medical Association
- Nominated and elected in the same manner as the society officers

Committees

Committee on Charter, Bylaws and Rules

- Considers matters pertaining to the charter, bylaws and rules; makes recommendations to further the work of the society

Committee on Economics

- Investigates matters affecting the economic status of the practice of anesthesiology
- Cooperates with the Legislative Committee to aid membership to secure and enforce legislation and regulatory rulings in the interest of the specialty

Committee on Public Relations

- Duties encompass all matters relating to improvement of the practice of anesthesiology in the eyes of organized medicine and the public at large

Committee on Education and Regular Sessions

- Plans, prepares and secures all scientific programs and make arrangements for all meetings of the society
- Presents the planned program in which papers, discussions and business matters are to be presented to the president and the secretary

Education Programs Site Selection Committee

- Serves as a subcommittee; facilitates the selection of meeting sites and dates

Committee on Membership

- Makes investigations concerning applicants for the categories of membership and shall encourage qualified members to apply for membership
- Approves credentials of members who shall desire to register at regular sessions

Legislative Committee

- Shall be kept informed by the secretary and be knowledgeable of all legislative, regulatory and court actions affecting anesthesiology at all levels of government
- Represents the society in aiding membership to secure and enforce legislation and rulings in the interest of the specialty

Nominating Committee

- Consists of the immediate past president (chair), president, president-elect and two board members at large
- Develops recommendations for candidates for positions coming open due to expiring terms

Patient Care Committee

- Initiates studies and recommends policies and actions relating to the clinical practice of anesthesiology
- Makes recommendations on the effort to increase the number of physicians in anesthesiology, and on those matters relating to interspecialty relationships and the prestige of the specialty

Judicial Committee

- Consists of the immediate five past presidents; chaired by the least recent past president
- Hears and considers all specific questions of ethics, discipline, professional relationships and the rights and standings of members
- Holds hearings in the case of membership denial or expulsion of a member following due process
- May nominate an individual for the Distinguished Service Award, ratified by the BOD and awarded at the annual meeting to an individual who has significantly contributed to anesthesiology in the state of Florida

Committee on Critical Care Medicine

- Responsible for all matters pertaining to the anesthesiologist's role in acute care medicine, critical care medicine, pulmonary medicine and medically related fields
- In conjunction with the chair of this committee, the president of the society appoints a liaison to the Florida Society of Respiratory Therapy

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Committee on Anesthesia Care Team

- Makes recommendations concerning the development of policies relating to the members of the anesthesia care team, and advises and assists in the development of education programs of value to members of the anesthesia care team

Residents' Section Committee

- At least six resident members, chosen by their peers, two from each accredited residency program in the state with nine or more resident members whose primary site of training is in Florida; residency programs not represented may send up to two observers each to attend committee meetings
- Selects ASA resident component
- In addition, three active members of the society, appointed by the president, shall serve as nonvoting members to provide guidance and act as liaison of the committee to the BOD

Executive Committee

- Consists of the Executive Board and is chaired by the president-elect
- Functions include reviewing the annual budget, FSA assets, dues structure, staff compensation or management agreement and proposing changes relating to the above to the BOD

Committee on Pain Medicine

- Considers matters and recommends policies pertaining to the practice of pain medicine, and assists members in the practice of pain medicine

Electronic Media Committee

- Interacts with the electronic media, including, but not limited to, the internet, maintains the society's website and monitors the interaction of the website and related websites

Committee on Office Based Anesthesia

- Monitors standards and staffing of anesthesiology in surgery performed in the office or by surgeons or surgical groups
- Makes recommendations, with BOD approval, to regulatory authorities regarding office safety and standards of patient care, and assists regulatory agencies in data collection and interpretation for office surgery and anesthesia

Audit Committee

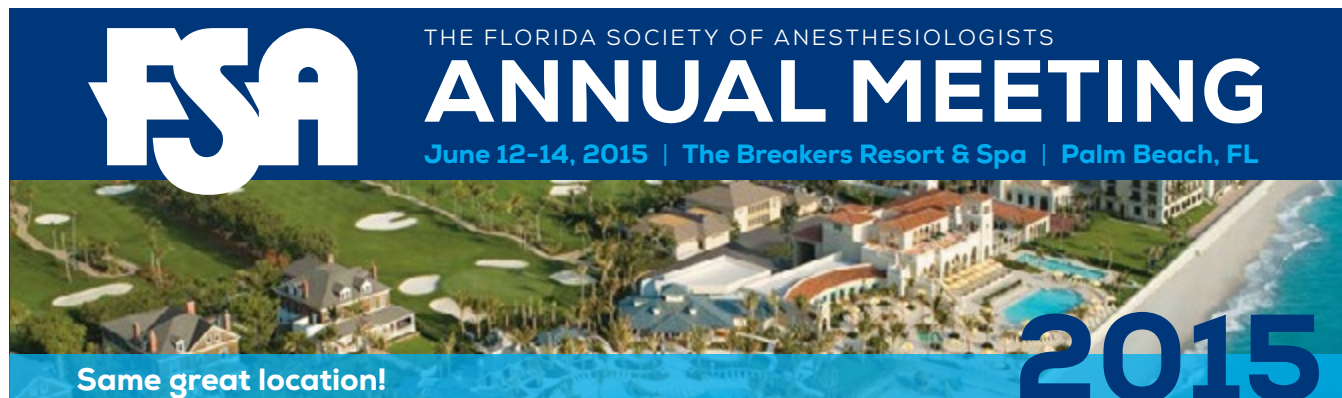
- Determines the extent of financial reporting needed, to include options of audit, review or compilations and when a periodic financial report should be undertaken, with no longer than five years between reports
- Reviews the board's charter annually
- Identifies and recommends to the BOD qualified independent financial professionals and the scopes of engagement
- Oversees the report of the society's finances and preparation of the society's tax returns and annual Florida corporation taxes by a qualified financial professional

Ad Hoc Committees

- At the president's discretion, he/she may establish specific committees to fulfill specific functions

There are many opportunities to become involved with your specialty within Florida. If you love education and teaching, there are committees for you. If you practice some OR and some pain, there are committees for you. If you are tired of the political process in Tallahassee, there is a committee for you. You can serve as much or as little as your time allows, but our success depends on all members being involved in some fashion.

Where do you fit in? Contact us to learn more! 



FSA THE FLORIDA SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS
ANNUAL MEETING
 June 12-14, 2015 | The Breakers Resort & Spa | Palm Beach, FL

Same great location! **2015**

A Matter of Perspective

By Zachary B. Deutch, M.D.

Consider a huge cohort of fully grown men and women, sporting glorified pajamas, paper hats and booties, scurrying around a windowless labyrinth day after day in pursuit of the sacred triumvirate of quality, safety and efficiency while simultaneously navigating numerous pitfalls in the form of acronyms (CMS, JCAHO, DPH, MOCA, AQL, NACOR, ABA, ASA, AANA, RVU, ICD-10, etc).

This begs the question, is our glass half empty or half full? Do we toil in an annoying or an exhilarating branch of medicine? I invite you to read on and make your choice.

Top 10 Reasons Why It Is Annoying to Be an Anesthesiologist

10. Going to bed at the same time as (or before!) your school-aged children, in order to be up at the crack of dawn each day
9. Drug shortages—especially propofol, scarcity of which is like Kryptonite for us
8. Having to continually validate our profession and re-invent ourselves, because apparently we are a “service industry” and “shift workers”
7. Dealing with officious regulatory personnel during site visits, who are often unfamiliar with their own agency’s standards and guidelines
6. Getting totally crushed when taking labor and delivery call
5. Shelling out big bucks in the effort to keep pace with increasingly burdensome recertification requirements
4. Facilities changing vendors for crucial equipment (e.g., intravenous catheters) overnight without consulting us (Aren’t we “perioperative stakeholders”?)
3. The awkward situation that arises when patients imploringly ask “Is my surgeon good?” and such is NOT the case
2. Invariably wolfing your meal in five minutes, regardless of social setting, because it is ingrained in your routine (akin to ex-convicts still asking permission to use the bathroom)

And

1. Watching, at 3:47 a.m., the medical student close on the (laparoscopic! why?) appendectomy that started at 1 a.m.


Top 10 Reasons Why It Is Exhilarating to Be an Anesthesiologist

10. Doing more interesting things by 11 a.m. than most clinicians do all day
9. Working in the high-camaraderie, team-oriented environment of the operating theater
8. Not having to wear business attire every single day, nor work in a cubicle
7. Patients who say “Your job is more important than the surgeon’s job.”
6. Having obstetric patients thank us, rave about us, name their kids after us, etc., after we reassure them and take away their pain
5. Not having to see 50 clinic patients a day (with possible apologies to pain and pre-op assessment doctors)
4. The look on a patient’s face five minutes after you have performed “rescue” regional anesthesia in the PACU
3. Getting to know surgeons well, and thereby knowing who you would want to operate on yourself, a friend or a family member
2. Endless variety in our clinical practice settings (hospital ORs, ASCs, OBA, L&D, ICU, pain clinic, pre-admission clinics, etc.)

And

1. Seeing the life of a young, otherwise healthy trauma patient saved at 2 a.m., as a result of your skilled efforts

Please reflect and choose “annoying” or “exhilarating.” I would be pleased to record your vote and/or register any comments via email: zachary.deutch@jax.ufl.edu.

Zachary B. Deutch, M.D., is assistant professor of anesthesiology at University of Florida Health in Jacksonville. 

Meet Your Leaders

Who Is the FSA? We Are You.

In each edition of FSA Today, we profile a member of your FSA board of directors to help you get to know your leaders better...

FSA Secretary D. Kurt Jones, M.D.

D. Kurt Jones, M.D., has served on the FSA board of directors since 2004. He has been with JLR Medical group in Orlando since completing his residency at Shands at the University of Florida in 1998. Dr. Jones serves as vice president of JLR as well as sits on the board of directors for USAP and serves as chief of anesthesiology for Florida Hospital Fish Memorial. Dr. Jones earned his medical degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas after graduating with degrees in zoology and Spanish from Duke University.

Dr. Jones practices all facets of anesthesia including concentrations in cardiothoracic and neuroanesthesia cases. In addition, like many FSA members, he has travelled on several medical mission trips, with a special place in his heart for the people in the mountains of Peru.

When not in the operating room, Dr. Jones is an avid scuba diver and spear fisherman throughout the Florida waters as well as an active triathlete with six Ironman finishes to his credit. He and his wife, Misty, live in Longwood, where they are busy rearing their two children, Trevor (14) and Madison (12). And as with many busy parents, they spend weekends with the kids at soccer games, at horse shows and escaping whenever possible to New Smyrna Beach to relax and spend family time on the beach. **FSA**



D. Kurt Jones, M.D.

“Like many FSA members, Dr. Jones has travelled on several medical mission trips, with a special place in his heart for the people in the mountains of Peru.”

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FSA Calendar

September 20-21, 2014
November 15-16, 2014

ASA Certificate in Business Administration Program

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Dallas, Texas

education.asahq.org/CBA2014

October 11-15, 2014

ANESTHESIOLOGY 2014 ASA Annual Conference

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Convention Center
New Orleans, Louisiana

www.asahq.org/Annual-Meeting.aspx

June 11-13, 2015

FSA Annual Meeting

The Breakers
Palm Beach, Fla.

www.fsahq.org/meeting/2015-annual-meeting

FSA Board of Directors

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District Director 1 North

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District Director 4 East

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District Director 4 East

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Moises Lustgarten, M.D.

District Director 5 South

Gerald P. Rosen, M.D.

District Director 5 South

Nicole Martin, M.D.

Executive Office

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Executive Director: Christina Kasendorf
christina@fsahq.org

ASA Delegates

ASA Delegate FL Director to ASA

David Varlotta, D.O.

ASA Delegate Alt. FL Director to ASA

Jeffrey S. Jacobs, M.D.

ASA Delegate 1 North

James K. Kerr, M.D.

ASA Delegate 2 Central

Rebecca H. Welch, M.D.

ASA Delegate 3 West

Devanand Mangar, M.D.

ASA Delegate 4 East

Sonya M. Pease, M.D.

ASA Delegate 5 South

Steven I. Gayer, M.D.

ASA Delegate 6 At Large

Leopoldo V. Rodriguez, M.D., FAAP

ASA Delegate 7 At Large

David J. Birnbach, M.D., M.P.H.

ASA Delegate 8 At Large

Jeffrey S. Jacobs, M.D.

ASA Delegate 9 At Large

Jay H. Epstein, M.D.

ASA Delegate 10 At Large

Charles J. Chase, D.O.

ASA Delegate 11 At Large

Thomas Furchman, M.D.

ASA Delegate 12 At Large

Rafael V. Miguel, M.D.

ASA Delegate 13 At Large

Adam L. Blomberg, M.D.

ASA Delegate 14 At Large

Chris Giordano, M.D.

ASA Delegate 15 At Large

Michael C. Lewis, M.D.

ASA Delegate 16 At Large

Jonathan H. Slonin, M.D., M.B.A.

ASA Delegate 17 At Large

D. Kurt Jones, M.D.

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Charles J. Chase, D.O.

FMA Delegate 2

Jonathan H. Slonin, M.D., M.B.A.

FMA Delegate 3

Jeffrey S. Jacobs, M.D.

FMA Delegate 4

Michael C. Lewis, M.D.

FMA Delegate 5

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