



**FLORIDA SOCIETY OF
ANESTHESIOLOGISTS**

Physician-led. Patient-centered.

NEWSLETTER

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**AUGUST
2021**

FSA Executive Office
786-300-3183 ext. 172
executiveoffice@fsahq.org
www.fsahq.org

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

LEOPOLDO RODRIGUEZ, MD, MBA, FASA

Dear FSA Members,

After a challenging 2020, when we thought the COVID-19 pandemic was over, the delta variant has once again taken center stage in our lives in Florida. Anesthesiologists continue to be front-line physicians, providing anesthetic care and critical care to patients in hospitals throughout the state. We thank you for your service to your fellow citizens.

We face a social challenge; our society is divided in many ways. We must take every opportunity to educate our patients about vaccinations, personal protection, and hygiene.

This year we were forced to cancel the FSA Annual Meeting; however, the Board of Directors is committed to our members, and we created a series of free FSA member-only CME webinars. The webinar can be found [HERE](#). If you need assistance in logging into the site, please let us know.

The Board of Directors elections were successfully completed during our recent online FSA Business Meeting, and I am honored to address you now as your new FSA President.

I am pleased to announce that **Dr. Adam Fier, D.O.**, has become the newest officer for the Society as Assistant Treasurer. Dr. Adam Fier has dedicated significant time to our society's membership committee. I would also like to congratulate all other new board members for 2021-2022. The results of our elections are announced in this newsletter.

I'm also pleased to announce that **Dr. Jay Epstein, MD, FASA**, received the **FSA Distinguished Service Award 2021**. Dr. Epstein is a Past-President of the FSA, and for many years has chaired and led all FSA advocacy efforts of this state component society. Per the FSA By-Laws, "A Distinguished Service Award may be granted annually to an individual who has contributed significantly to anesthesiology in the state of Florida. Nomination for this award will be made by the Judicial Committee* and presented to the Board of Directors for ratification." Jay Epstein, MD, FASA, also chairs the ASA Task Force on State Advocacy, Committee on Governmental Affairs; he is an attending Anesthesiologist at the Baycare Health System, Anesthesia Associates of Pinellas County, Morton Plant Hospital, Mease Dunedin Hospital, and Mease Countryside Hospital, Clearwater, Florida. Dr. Epstein is an exceptional individual to our Society, our Specialty, and his patients. We want to congratulate him for this accomplishment and thank his family and his partners for allowing him to spend a significant amount of time away on our behalf.

The American Society of Anesthesiologists has decided to hold an in-person Anesthesiology 2021 annual meeting in San Diego, CA, October 8-12. The ASA will offer a Virtual Track to access a small, curated selection of presentations.

This year, the Florida Society of Anesthesiologists board will continue to advocate for our profession in Tallahassee and the district offices. **The FSA is your voice in Tallahassee and the only voice for anesthesiologists!** We would like all members to be engaged in our society to help us educate the public and legislators about the importance of physician-led Anesthesiology. We will continue working synergistically with the Florida Medical Association and other specialty organizations on behalf of Medicine and our specialty. A few days ago, **Dr. Charles Chase, D.O.**, Past-President of the FSA, was elected Treasurer of the Florida Medical Association. We wish to congratulate him.

Anesthesiologists are the Perioperative Medicine specialists that lead the Anesthesia Care Team and develop an integrated, and personalized approach to patient care before, during, and after any surgical procedure involving anesthesia, to improve the patient's experience and surgical outcomes by reducing postoperative complications, length of stay and decrease early re-admissions following surgery.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Florida Society of Anesthesiologists, thank you for your membership. I also want to thank **Dr. Frank Rosemeier** for his exceptional performance last year and his continued engagement in financial matters and advocacy related to Anesthesiology in Florida.

Leopoldo V. Rodriguez, MD MBA FAAP FASA SAMBA-F
President, Florida Society of Anesthesiologists



FSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021-2022

JUNE 13, 2021 – ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Executive Committee



Leopoldo Rodriguez, MD, MBA, FASA
President



Brence Sell, MD
President Elect



Chris Giordano, MD
Vice President



Asha Padmanabhan, MD, FASA
Secretary



Jared Weiner, MD
Treasurer



Adam Fier, DO
Assistant Treasurer



Frank Rosemeier, MD
Immediate Past President

In June, FSA conducted its annual Business Meeting via zoom. Members had the pleasure of hearing from Dr. Beverly Philip, ASA President and Dr. Frank Rosemeier, FSA 2020-2021 President. Thank you to Dr. Christian Diez for successfully leading the elections in a virtual format. Congratulations to the new *Board of Directors*.

District Directors

Steven Porter, MD (North)
John Doyle, MD (North)
Greg Hickman, MD (North)
Jonathan Hadaway, MD (Central)
Mooed Azam, MD (Central)
Suvikram Puri, MD (West)
Rosemarie Garcia-Getting, MD (West)
Sean Daley, MD (West)
Salomon Imiak, MD (East)
Cameron Howard, MD (East)
Steven Minear, MD (East)
Lydia Jorge-Reynolds, MD (South)
Javier Lopez, MD (South)
Alecia Sabartinelli-Stein, MD (South)

FMA Delegates

Charles Chase, MD
Jonathan Slonin, MD, MBA
Christian Diez, MD, MBA
Frank Rosemeier, MD
Keya Locke, MD
Brence Sell, MD
Sher-Lu Pai, MD
Elena Holak, MD

ASA Delegates

Jeffrey Jacobs, MD (FL Director)
Jonathan Slonin, MD, MBA (Alt FL Director)
Knox Kerr, MD (North)
Charles Chase, DO (Central)
Jay Epstein, MD (West)
Jonathan Slonin, MD, MBA (East)
Steven Gayer, MD (South)
Leopoldo Rodriguez, MD, MBA (At Large)
Luis Rodrigriguez, MD (At Large)
John Doyle, MD (At Large)
Christian Diez, MD, MBA (At Large)
Zachary Deutch, MD (At Large)
Adam Fier, DO (At Large)
Chris Giordano, MD (At Large)
Brence Sell, MD (At Large)
Kurt Jones, MD (At Large)
Frank Rosemeier, MD (At Large)
Asha Padmanabhan, MD (At Large)
Jared Weiner, MD (At Large)

ASA Alternate Delegates

Paul Anderson, MD
Adam Blomberg, MD
Brenda Fahy, MD
Aparna Chunduri, MD
Lydia Jorge-Reynolds, MD
Jonathan Hadaway, MD
Keya Locke, MD
Asif Mohammed, MD
Sher-Lu Pai, MD
Suvikram Puri, MD
Vicente Behrens, MD
Mark Schlangel, MD
Aryeh Shander, MD
Alecia Sabartinelli-Stein, MD
William Turnage, MD
Thomas Fuhrman, MD

FMA Alternate Delegates

Paul Anderson, MD
Leopoldo Rodriguez, MD, MBA
Asif Mohammed, MD
Nicholas Nedeff, MD
Rene Przkora, MD
Mark Schlangel, MD, MBA
Todd Smaka, MD

PHYSICIAN HIGHLIGHTS

2021 RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Jay H. Epstein was awarded the 2021 Distinguished Service Award at the 2021 FSA Business Meeting. The FSA Distinguished Service Award is given annually to a member for outstanding vision, dedication and commitment to the organization. Dr. Epstein is the FSA Legislative Committee Chair, leading efforts to advocate for our practice and our patients. He is an ASA Delegate and FSA Past President



**Jay Epstein, MD, FASA
Distinguished Service
Award**



President Engagement Award

The FSA President Engagement Award is given annually in recognition of a member's commitment and selfless contributions of time and effort on behalf of the Society.



Luis Rodriguez, MD, FASA



Adam Fier, DO

FSA 2021 ANNUAL MEETING WEBINAR SERIES

SAVE THE DATES & PAST RECORDINGS



SAVE THE DATE

THE FLORIDA SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

ANNUAL MEETING 2021

Webinar Series | Starting June 2021

August 26th - Legislative Update
September 23rd - NeuroAnesthesia
October 21st - Hot Blocks of 2021 (Sponsored by Pacira)
November 11th - Professionalism & Diversity
December 9th - Obesity & Pregnancy



FSA 2021 ABSTRACT OF DISTINCTION AWARD

Congratulations to **Mariana Restrepo-Holguin** with her talk on *New Disease Diagnoses and Intervention for Elective Surgical Patients by the Preoperative Evaluation Clinic: A Review of 10,589 Patient* being selected as the abstract of distinction.

The Abstract of Distinction Award was selected by the moderators and judging criteria was based on the presenter's presentation and Q&A Listen to the top abstracts submitted for the 2021 meeting with live Q&A with the abstract presenters through the link.

Members can view recordings of 2021 FSA Annual Meeting Webinar Series online. First log into the FSA website and use the link below to view!

[**VIEW PAST WEBINAR RECORDINGS HERE**](#)



American Society of
Anesthesiologists

ANESTHESIOLOGY 2021 | October 8-12
San Diego

FLORIDA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (FMA)

2021 ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

ON AUGUST 1, 2021, THE FMA CONCLUDED ITS 2021 ANNUAL MEETING AFTER THE SUNDAY HOUSE OF DELEGATES (HOD) SESSION.

FSA would like to thank our nine delegates (Drs. Leopoldo Rodriguez, Chuck Chase, Jonathan Slonin, Christian Diez, Brence Sell, Sher-Lu Pai, Paul Anderson, Jonathan Hadaway, and Elena Holak) for representing FSA and our specialty of Anesthesiology. FSA would also like to thank Drs. J. Knox Kerr and Rosemarie Garcia Getting for serving as delegates of their county medical societies.

Although quieter than the previous FMA Annual Meetings with all the educational sessions provided via the virtual format, this FMA Annual Meeting was overall a success! Dr. Chuck Chase, a dedicated leader within our FSA, was elected [FMA Treasurer](#) this past weekend. He will continue to be the voice of Anesthesiology within the FMA.

Another success was within the FMA HOD. While the HOD sessions discussed everything related to the practice of medicine, one resolution was particularly important for all the anesthesiologists--the Credentialing of Anesthesiologist Assistants (AA). This resolution was pass in the HOD on Sunday. With it, the FMA would support a change in statute that that Certified AA may not be denied clinical privileges at hospitals or ambulatory surgical centers as long as the supervising physician is a staff member in good standing. Also, no resolution with the potential of impeding the practice of anesthesiology were passed this year. The FSA apricates Drs. J. Knox Kerr and Brence Sell for dedicating their time as members of the FMA reference committees.

The representation of Anesthesiologists within FMA is absolutely crucial. It can allow all medical specialty physicians within the State of Florida to join force on blocking the scope of practice expansions by non-physicians, keeping our patients safe.

To learn more about FMA, go to the [FSA WEBSITE](#). Let's combine force with all the physician in the Sunshine Florida on keeping our patients safe and healthy.



FMA
FLORIDA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



Chuck Chase, DO, FASA
A Letter from the Newly Elected FMA Treasurer

[CLICK TO READ](#)

(must be logged into the FSA website to view)



2021 FMA Delegates (FSA)

Pictured: Dr. Sell, Dr. Anderson, Dr. Pai, Dr. Rodriguez, Dr. Slonin, Dr. Diez, Dr. Chase, Dr. Fier, Dr. Hadaway



FSA Sponsored Reception at FMA

Dr. Fier (FMA PAC Board Member), Dr. Anderson (FMA PAC Board Member), and Dr. Chase (FMA Treasurer)