



March 18, 2020

Hello All,

Just wanted to send out a synopsis of our Board of Directors call and town-hall conference last night.

Firstly,

We want to thank you all in advance for your flexibility and grace over the next few weeks. We are sure to be challenged by many unprecedented circumstances.

What we are just starting to endure with this novel virus could last through the summer months, requiring a dynamic response from healthcare providers worldwide. As new local/state/federal decisions are enacted, each of us is affected by new closures as we mitigate the spread of this growing pandemic.

Patients are depending on their healthcare system now more than ever. Along with our global colleagues, we anticipate being in overdrive here in Southern California as we defend the population against COVID-19.

Our daily routine has us well-prepared as anesthetists; we are hand-hygienic, mask-wearing, fast-paced caregivers who always put the patient first. At this point, we will continue to provide the service in which we excel as CRNAs— anesthesia delivery. However, we may be asked to help outside of our normal activities. KPNAA will communicate with you via personal email and our website as we get updated, and we expect you will work with your reps and local administration as we adapt to this temporary new normal. Please encourage a flow of communication from your DA/Chiefs so that we can best address foreseeable concerns.

Here are the facts as we know them now:

- 1- If you are a benefitted employee and you want to work, then you will continue to be scheduled to your status.
- 2- If you are per diem, it is quite likely that some or all of your scheduled shifts are subject to cancellation.
- 3- If you are currently scheduled to work hours over your status (i.e. extra shifts), those shifts are very likely to be cancelled as well.
- 4- Your current schedule might change. Shift needs are in a constant state of flux and in these times—the more adaptable we can be, the better service we can

provide to our patients and our community.

5- We encourage CRNA groups to have the discussion around how elective ETO, shift changes, and assignment to different workflows should be handled so that these issues are controlled by our peer group. Professionalism has never been more important.

6- Speak up about what you are comfortable doing. You are all expert nurses, but that doesn't mean you can go anywhere and do anything. Do not take any risks by agreeing to provide services that you are not trained, competent, or capable to perform. There will be things that you can do to help and things that you should not do or may even be harmful to you or patients.

7- If you are sick, stay home. If you are not sick, please answer the challenge of these times. The things we do today may define our profession for years to come.

8- Safety guidelines have come out from multiple sources, as of now these are guidelines not mandates. Your BOD recommends following the guidelines set out by KP. If you feel that you are at serious risk or the situation you are in is unsafe please excuse yourself from the situation and contact your Union Representation immediately.

CRNAs are leaders in the OR and we will continue to be leaders as we face this unique challenge. Recognizing this "call to arms" is our opportunity to showcase CRNA dedication and flexibility. Firemen during and after the 9/11 attacks were heroes— this is our time to shine as we deliver vital, high-quality care in our nation's time of need.

Thank you for your patience and diligence as we try to navigate these uncharted waters. Your suggestions, comments, and opinions are important to us. We are here to serve you so that you can serve others. We are proud to part of a helping profession and to be among the most trusted professionals in our society. Thank you for all you have done and will do to help bring this situation to a quick conclusion.

In Unity and with Gratitude,

Josh Carr, DNP, CRNA
KPNAA President

Thomas Bachtler, MSN, CRNA
KPNAA President-Elect

