

# *Kentucky Society of Anesthesiologists*

*Fall 2017*



Kentucky Society of Anesthesiologists

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## **KSA Reception at ASA Annual Meeting**

Attending the ASA Annual meeting in October? Then please join us for the annual KSA reception, jointly sponsored by the KSA, University of Kentucky and University of Louisville. This is a great opportunity to network with colleagues and friends. Many of your KSA officers and delegates to the ASA House of Delegates will be in attendance and can update you on the important issues for our specialty at both the state and national levels. Most importantly, there will be good food and drink as you enjoy the venue's location on the Boston Harbor! Details are below.

**When: Monday, Oct. 23**

**Time: 7:00 - 10:00 PM**

**Where: 75 on Liberty Wharf - Boston Harbor  
220 Northern Avenue**



## ASA Legislative Conference

The KSA was well represented at the ASA's Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. in May. Our Vice President, Michael Harned, Chair of our Legislative Committee, Anjum Bux, resident members Bob Weaver and Liam Fitzpatrick, and our society's lobbyists attended the meeting. Speakers educated attendees about the many legislative issues facing our specialty in preparation for the final and most important day of the conference - visits with our elected representatives on Capitol Hill. Our delegation met with our state's Congressmen, Senators, or their staff to discuss the concerns and issues facing our specialty and our patients. The group is pictured below with Senator Rand Paul.



## KSA 2018 Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for the 2018 KSA Annual Meeting. It will be held March 17 in Louisville at the University Club on the University of Louisville campus. Some of the most pertinent issues confronting anesthesiologists in their daily practice will be discussed by an excellent panel of speakers. Dr. Rick Dutton, Chief Quality Officer for US Anesthesia Partners and past Executive Director of the ASA's AQL, will speak on "Quality in Anesthesiology" and "MACRA Today." Dr. Erica Lin from Cincinnati Children's Hospital will address "Anesthetic Neurotoxicity in Infants and Children: Harm or Hype?" and "Congenital Heart Disease: Not Just for Kids Anymore." Dr. Curtis Baysinger from Vanderbilt University will discuss "Nitrous Oxide Analgesia for Labor: Should We Make the Effort?" and Dr. Robert Gaiser from the University of Kentucky and Past President of SOAP will address "Hot Topics in Obstetric Anesthesia in 2018." We hope many of you will take advantage of this CME event and also enjoy all that the great city of Louisville has to offer.



## KSA Legislative Update

During the 2017 session it was apparent that both the Legislative body and the Governor's Office were on the same page in their efforts to control the rising costs of drug abuse in the state. This was most apparent in the introduction and passage of HB 333, sponsored by freshman legislator, Rep. Kim Moser. This bill placed 72-Hour prescribing limits on schedule II drugs and placed limits on the use of fentanyl. KSA worked with other physician groups, the bill sponsor and other policymakers during the session to promote responsible prescribing and continued discussions on the topic during the interim. Highlighting the physician's dedication to responsible prescribing and providing leadership to the medical community has been paramount during the past several months. KSA remains at the forefront of discussions about curbing opioid abuse in the state while promoting safe and best prescribing practices. Discussions about further restrictions on opioid prescribing are under consideration even while mid-level practitioners push to do away with physician collaboration. The upcoming session will see additional efforts by nurses to do away with the collaborative agreement they have with doctors for prescribing controlled substances. This effort is led by the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Association and championed by Sen. Paul Hornback of Shelby County. KSA and other physician groups are currently involved in these discussions to shape future policy.

Efforts to bring additional tort reform to Kentucky will continue in the 2018 regular session in January. Sen. Ralph Alvarado is expected to reintroduce several items that seek to further his successful medical malpractice legislation from this past year. His legislation on Medical Review Panels, 2017's SB 4, was implemented earlier this year and it is likely too early to tell how successful it will be in curbing frivolous lawsuits. Further efforts will likely include legislation that protects a physician's right to express sympathy to a patient or their family without it being used against the physician in court at a later date and a law regulating the use of information discovered by Medical Review Organizations. Healthcare policy is certain to be front and center once again during the upcoming 2018 session of the Kentucky General Assembly and a major factor in administrative actions during the coming year. KSA continues to work with ASA on obtaining information on the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA). There has also been a recent threat to the VA rule on preserving the current model of physician led Anesthesia with the introduction of bills essentially trying to reverse this ruling. KSA will continue to follow this and other developments closely to keep our members informed.

The KSA PAC continues to work closely with the ASA PAC in developing relationships with our lawmakers to influence legislation which protects our patients and advances our specialty. We make contributions to legislators based on recommendations from our lobbyists and PAC board. In order to continue developing and maintaining these relationships, please do your part and contribute to the KSA PAC and ASA PAC. Our current participation is 12% for the ASA PAC and 20% for the KSA PAC. We can do

better. Please contribute to help achieve our goal of 25% participation for both the KSA and ASA PACs. You can contribute online at our website or at the upcoming ASA meeting in Boston.

Anjum Bux M.D.  
KSA PAC Director

Sean Cutter  
Lobbyist  
MML&K Government Solutions

## ASA UPDATES

### Federal Legislative Update

- [American Society of Anesthesiologists Applauds Jerome Adams, M.D., on Surgeon General Confirmation](#)

### Federal Regulatory Update

- [ASA Meets with HHS Secretary Price and CMS Administrator Verma, Offers Input on Regulatory Relief](#)
- [CMS Includes ASA Recommendations in Final IPPS Rule; Revisions to H-CAHPS and Definition of Covered Professional Services](#)
- [NACOR Approved as QCDR for 2017 MIPS Reporting](#)

### Payment and Practice Management Update

- [Perioperative Surgical Home Support by Urology Group, Acceptance by CMS as 2018 MIPS Improvement Activity, Validate Model of Care](#)
- [CMS Releases MIPS "Special Status" Information](#)
- [CMS Releases Proposed Rule for 2018 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule](#)
- [CMS Issues Proposed Rule for MACRA's Second Year](#)

### Public Relations Update

- [ASA Secretary Discusses Solutions to the Nation's Opioid Crisis on FOX Business News](#)
- [Premier Inc. Launches National Hospital Initiative to Improve Opioid Safety, Partners with American Society of Anesthesiologists](#)
- [American Society of Anesthesiologists Named as a Best and Brightest Company to Work For® in Chicago](#)

### State Affairs Update

- [Florida Supreme Court Rules Medical Malpractice Caps Unconstitutional](#)
- [Pennsylvania Supreme Court Rules Physicians Cannot Delegate Key Components of Informed Consent](#)
- [When Seconds Count Patient Story Initiative Highlights Specialty's Critical Role in Patient Care](#)

## FASA Designation program

In May 2017, the American Society of Anesthesiologists launched the Fellow of the American Society of Anesthesiologists™ (FASA) designation program. The FASA designation is ASA's highest acknowledgment that recognizes years of dedication to exceptional education, leadership and commitment to the specialty. ASA Active members who meet specific qualifications and criteria are invited to apply for the FASA designation. Achieving the FASA designation recognizes you as a leader dedicated to excellence in the field of anesthesiology to your patients, your practice and your specialty.

Participation in state component society leadership, education and advocacy opportunities helps qualify Active members for this prestigious designation. Full details on eligibility, qualifications and the FASA application can be found [here](#).

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## ASA Priorities on Out of Network Billing and the APRN Compact Recognized at AMA 2017 Annual Meeting

At the June 9-14 American Medical Association (AMA) 2017 Annual Meeting, there were positive responses to two of ASA's top advocacy efforts: out of network care and the APRN Compact. At the meeting, AMA adopted a proposal, Resolution 115, adopting principles related to unanticipated out-of-network care, and ASA President Jeffrey S. Plagenhoef, M.D., presented on the APRN Compact.

Through Resolution 115, AMA will adopt principles related to unanticipated out-of-network care. Those principles closely mirror the intent of the [consensus principles](#) as

part of ASA and the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP's) advocacy efforts concerning out-of-network care. Resolution 115 was cosponsored by the: American College of Emergency Physicians; American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons; American College of Radiology; American Society of Anesthesiologists; College of American Pathologists; American Association of Neurological Surgeons Congress of Neurological Surgeons; Colorado; Georgia; Pennsylvania; Washington; Connecticut; Maine; Massachusetts; New Hampshire; Rhode Island; and Vermont. Representatives of the ASA Ad Hoc Committee on Out-of-Network Payment who were AMA delegates worked closely with ACEP delegates and others to ensure the Resolution was adopted.

In addition to ASA promoting Resolution 115 and helping protect it from harmful amendments, ASA President Jeffrey S. Plagenhoef, M.D. presented on the APRN Compact at the AMA's 2017 Scope of Practice Summit. His presentation, entitled "APRN Compact: The latest tool in the independent practice toolbox" provided an important opportunity to educate physician leaders and staff from a number of specialty and state medical organizations on this dangerous legislative initiative. Dr. Plagenhoef reminded the audience that this is not a scope battle, it is a patient safety/quality of care battle. Dr. Plagenhoef's presentation aligned with the ASA Delegation's APRN Compact Resolution which calls on the AMA to convene an in-person meeting of relevant stakeholders to initiate a national strategy to address the APRN Compact. This resolution will be considered at the AMA's Interim Meeting of the House of Delegates in November.

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