



# BREAKING NEWS

Empowering Florida Nurse Practitioners as Leaders in Healthcare

## THE FIRST APRNS LICENSED AS AUTONOMOUS ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES TODAY!

### Mom & Daughter first to be Licensed as A APRNs

It's a family affair! There is no prouder moment than when your children follow in your footsteps! But today was very special for **Dr. Vicky Stone Gale** and daughter **Dr. Jennifer Stone**, the mom and daughter NP duo, who practice in Fort Lauderdale. They received notice they met the criteria to be the first licensed in the state under the new A APRN nursing license. The **Autonomous Nurse Practitioner** practices in primary care settings permitting the APRN to be independent of physician general supervision to provide care throughout Florida. APRN's now practice autonomously in 22 states, DC and Guam, according to the American Association of Nurse Practitioner (AANP) in Austin, Texas. Both are members of AANP and Florida NP Network. Vicky is Vice President for Legislation for FNP, and President of the South Florida Council of Advanced Practice Nurses (SFCAPN) and has been a nursing advocate for many years. She is also an Associate Professor at Frontier Nursing University in Versailles KY. Jennifer is a primary care NP in Fort Lauderdale and the practicum coordinator for the NP program at Walden University and serves on the Board for SFCAPN. After years of advocating for our state to support independent practice for Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners, HB 607 became law after many failed attempts to



Dr. Jennifer Stone, DNP, A APRN and  
Dr. Vicky Stone Gale, DNP, A APRN

pass similar legislation. This year, our champions for Florida health care, **Rep. Cary Pigman** and the **House Speaker Rep. Jose Oliva** made healthcare a priority for 2020 calling for removal of NP practice barriers. HB607 was signed by the Governor permitting select A APRNs to practice in primary care. For many NP's in Florida, this will allow them to practice without barriers requiring them to hire a physician to sign a medical protocol. Both are seasoned expert nurse practitioners and involved in community service locally and around the state. Today they made history for nursing in our state!

Congratulations to Dr. Stone Gale, DNP, A APRN and Dr. Stone DNP, A APRN!