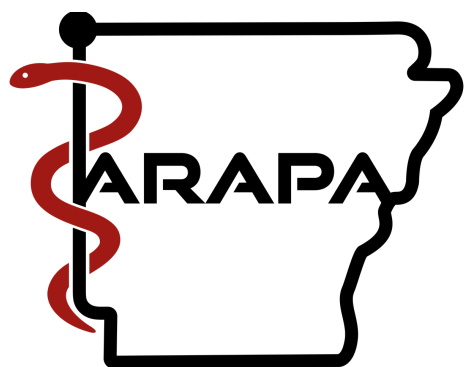




A Message from the President



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Hello ARAPA Members,

I hope this message finds you enjoying a warm and joyful Arkansas summer, filled with family, friends, and a bit of well-deserved relaxation! As the new ARAPA leadership team begins our term, I'm excited to introduce the 2026 Board of Directors and share what's ahead for our organization.

Over the past few years, we've benefited from outstanding leadership and victories for the PA profession in Arkansas. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to our immediate past president, Audra Wilson, for her dedication and service in advancing PA practice throughout her tenure. As your president over the next 12 months, I aim to build on that strong foundation, with intention, momentum, collaboration, and, most importantly, guidance from you, our valued members!

In 2027, Arkansas will enter into its legislative cycle and ARAPA Legislative Committee and Board of Directors are busy planning for this. ARAPA will continue its work of improving PA practice in the state of Arkansas so PAs can best serve our patients. We are also following up with the Arkansas Department of Human Services to monitor the implementation of Medicaid billing changes and PCP status that were passed into law in 2025, and expect final implementation in September. Be on the lookout for updates! If you have any opinions or comments on items ARAPA should consider for the next legislative cycle, email LegislativeChair@arkansaspa.org!

2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Lachan Siebenmorgen

Past President: Audra Wilson

President Elect: Audrey Roberts

Vice President: Aaron Woodall

Secretary: Ashley Hallbauer

Treasurer: Ryan Crowder

Directors at Large:

Central: Payton Williams

Northeast: Lee "Wally" Thomas

Northwest: Amber Acord

Southeast: Allen Childers

Southwest: Jesse Clark

Looking ahead to the fall, I encourage you to save the date for **PA Day at the Capitol**—Thursday, October 15, from 1:00–4:00 PM at the Arkansas State Capitol. This event is a great opportunity to meet with legislators, share our stories, and advocate for the PA profession. With recent legislative successes under our belt, we're eager to keep the momentum going and strengthen relationships with policymakers across the state.

Finally, be on the lookout for announcements about our **2027 CME Conference**! Our planning committee is already hard at work identifying the best date and location for this annual highlight. If you're interested in joining the CME committee, we'd love to have you! Reach out to cmechair@arkansaspa.org to get involved.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your president. I look forward to working alongside all of you to move our profession forward and make ARAPA stronger than ever!

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