



# TPMA E-NEWS

August 2009

## IMMEDIATE ATTENTION REQUIRED TO HELP SOLVE SCOPE BATTLE

As per the wishes of the TPMA membership, TPMA's leadership is in serious negotiations with TOA and TMA regarding an agreed resolution to the current scope of practice issue and the pending lawsuit before the Supreme Court. Although we tried in earnest to mediate this situation in 2003, that never resulted in a final agreement at that time.

There is renewed interest by all parties to try again to resolve this issue. We hope to be able to agree upon language that could jointly be presented to the Texas Legislature during the 2011 legislative session. Talks with TOA indicate they want to meet and try to resolve this issue. This may be the result of a couple of years of ongoing discussions with the leadership of both TOA and TPMA, but it is very encouraging.

If it is successful, it could very well be the most important single event with the most far-reaching effect in TPMA's recent history.

Martin Sloan, DPM, President of TPMA will convene a TPMA Mediation Task Force Meeting on Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup> in Austin, Texas. That Task Force will consist of 16 TPMA past presidents and others who have been very close to this issue for the last 8 years. At that meeting we will discuss issues such as:

1. Texas State Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners Rules
2. Other state laws regulating Podiatric Medicine
3. Core credentialing
4. Podiatric procedures
5. Board Certification or demonstrated competence and documentation of training or experience
6. Goals and Strategies for the Mediation

Dr. Sloan has requested that each participant list in outline format their primary goals for the mediation, assessment of the sticking points, possible solutions, and to have that and supportive documentation available at the meeting.

And the actual Mediation will be conducted by Patrick Keel, JD a professional mediator and former District Judge in Austin, Texas on Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>.

**To be able to adequately represent your interests, we need your input!**

**Please click on the link below to take a quick survey** regarding your own practice and the procedures you currently have privileges at a JCAHO affiliated hospital or ambulatory surgical center.

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2fy6Qpf71PRxhAzLCwGLOqA\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2fy6Qpf71PRxhAzLCwGLOqA_3d_3d)

We need your response immediately, but no later than Monday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you in advance for helping shape the profession with your valuable input.

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