

2024

Below are the complete profiles for candidates running in TMA's upcoming election. Elections will begin February 1 and end on February 29 at 5:00 pm CT. For additional information, please visit tnmed.org/elections.

PRESIDENT-ELECT



Nominee: John McCarley, MD

City: Chattanooga, TN

CMS: Chattanooga-Hamilton County Medical Society

Specialty: Nephrology

Medical School: University of Wisconsin Medical School

About Me: I am a practicing Nephrologist with Nephrology Associates in Chattanooga. I have been involved in organized medicine for many years now, initially serving on the Board and then as President of the Chattanooga and Hamilton County Medical Society. I have served on the TMA Board of Trustees for nearly 8 consecutive years replacing Dr Nita Shumaker for Region 6 as she became President Elect in 2016. I eventually served on the Executive Committee as Secretary/Treasurer and most recently as Speaker of the House. I have served as a member of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee during several of the most work-intensive years of that committee's existence. The work facing the TMA in the upcoming years is daunting but also a source of tremendous opportunity for all physicians. Particularly I am interested in scope of practice, prior approval issues, and wellness for all healthcare workers. I further believe it should be our goal for every Tennessean to have adequate health coverage and proper access to primary care. I would appreciate your vote and look forward to working with you in making Tennessee a place that is friendly to Physicians and to their patients.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Nominee for Region 2: Patrick N. Andre, MD

City: Humboldt, TN

CMS: Consolidated Medical Assembly of West TN

Specialty: Family Medicine

Medical School: University of Tennessee

About Me: I completed the John Ingram Institute Physician Leadership Immersion Program in 2018. Having fulfilled two terms on the Judicial Council, I presently hold positions on the Legislative Committee and as the president of the Consolidated Medical Assembly of West Tennessee. My tenure on the Legislative Committee has fueled my dedication to the significance of TMA for both our patients and physician members. I am enthusiastic about the prospect of representing our region on the board of trustees.



Nominee for Region 4: Nicole Schlechter, M.D., Ph.D.

City: Nashville, TN

CMS: Nashville Academy of Medicine

Specialty: Obstetrics and Gynecology

Medical School: Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

About Me: I first joined the Nashville Academy of Medicine (NAM) and the Tennessee Medical Association (TMA) when I was just starting my practice in OB/Gyn, fresh out of residency, back in 1994. I served on the board of directors for NAM from 2009-2015, a fabulous experience in leadership and organized medicine. I have served as the Vice Chief and then Chief of the Department of OB/Gyn, and later as the Vice Chief and then Chief of the Medical Staff at Ascension Saint Thomas Hospital Midtown (formerly Baptist Hospital) during my time in practice. When I left private practice in late 2019 to become the Chief Medical Officer at Ascension Saint Thomas Hospital Midtown, it seemed like the perfect time to dive back into NAM activities, so I agreed to serve as president for 2021 and board chair for 2022.

My engagement has also been consistent at the TMA/statewide level. I am a graduate of the TMA's Physician Leadership College, and still value the relationships I built during that time. I have served as a delegate to the TMA House of Delegates for many years, and I have supported TMA in their legislative efforts as a voice for key issues, especially related to women's health. I have also been honored to serve as the Judicial Council representative for my region. Involvement and support of organized medicine is now more important than ever. I am honored to be considered for this role on the Board of Trustees, representing region 4, as our state and local medical societies remain focused on our goal of supporting physicians and practices to provide quality medicine and good health to the people of Tennessee.



Nominee for Region 5: Leslie M. Treece, MD

City: Cookeville, TN

CMS: Upper Cumberland Medical Society

Specialty: General Pediatrics

Medical School: University of South Alabama

About Me: I am nominated by my local Medical society to serve on the TMA Board of Trustees. I have been a member of my local chapter for more than 20 years and served in the position of Vice President for one year and President the following year. I completed the TMA Ingram Institute Leadership Lab in 2018. My two adult children completed graduate school and undergraduate in 2022. I enjoy spending time with them, traveling with my boyfriend and cooking gourmet meals. I just completed my 2nd year in private practice general pediatrics. I feel that as a woman, a single mom, and as a small town pediatrician, my presence on the board will bring diversity and a unique perspective. I appreciate your support!



Nominee for Region 7: Daniel R. Bustamante, M.D.

City: Knoxville, TN

CMS: Knoxville Academy of Medicine

Specialty: Anesthesiology

Medical School: University of Tennessee College of Medicine

About Me: Having been raised in Cookeville, attending college in Johnson City and medical school in Memphis, interning in Chattanooga, and completing my residency and practice in Knoxville, I have experienced many different parts of Tennessee. I have been blessed to practice with University Anesthesiologists since 1990 where I served on the board of governors for 13 years and as a group officer for 11 years. I have had the opportunity to serve with the Tennessee Society of Anesthesiologists (TSA) as president and on the board of directors; Knoxville Academy of Medicine as secretary and treasurer and on the board of trustees; and variously served as a delegate to the TMA House of Delegates, the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) House of Delegates, and to the ASA Legislative Conference.

JUDICIAL COUNCIL



Nominee for Region 1: Allison Stiles, MD

City: Memphis, TN

CMS: Memphis Medical Society

Specialty: Internal Medicine

Medical School: University of Cincinnati

About Me: Dr. Stiles is a Memphis Midtowner, having moved back after her Med Peds residency at the University of Illinois -Chicago in 2003. She is the founder and owner of her practice, Memphis Internal Medicine and Pediatrics. She attended medical school at the University of Cincinnati. Prior to that she was a Chemical Engineer for Procter and Gamble for 10 years. Her major was a BS in Biochemical Engineering at the University of Missouri-Columbia. She still sees newborns in the hospitals, and all ages in the office. She practices Breastfeeding Medicine as both an IBCLC and a Fellow of the Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine. As Chair of the Shelby County Breastfeeding Coalition she works to reduce racial disparities and improve breastfeeding rates so all can have the many health benefits of this amazing human substance. She has lectured many times on Breastfeeding over her 20 years of practice here, including at the LeBonheur Care of the Complex Newborn conference. She also advocates, lectures, and practices Transgender medicine. She helped to found "White Coats for Trans Youth" here in Memphis. In this new year she wishes for peace on Earth and freedom for all.



Nominee for Region 3: Mark Dentz, MD

City: Franklin, TN

CMS: Williamson County Medical Society

Specialty: Anesthesiology

Medical School: University of Michigan Medical School

About: I retired from clinical anesthesiology after 24 years of practice in Nashville and Franklin. During my tenure, I served in several leadership positions including the group's Board of Directors for 10 years as well as the Chief of Anesthesia at Williamson Medical Center. In addition, I am an active member of the Williamson County Medical Society, have served on the TMA Nominating Committee and as a delegate to the TMA House of Delegates. I appreciate your support and I look forward to serving on the Judicial Council.



Nominee for Region 5: Brent D. Staton, MD

City: Cookeville, TN

CMS: Upper Cumberland Medical Society

Specialty: Family Medicine

Medical School: Flinders University of South Australia
School of Medicine

About: Brent D. Staton, M.D. graduated from Flinders University of South Australia School of Medicine. He has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, Tennessee. He also earned a Master's Degree in Sports Health Science from Life University in Marietta, Georgia. Dr. Staton was named Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of Cumberland Center for Healthcare Innovation (CCHI) in 2014. CCHI is a physician led Accountable Care Organization (ACO) uniquely comprised of Family Medicine and Primary Care Providers who provide high-quality care to economically disadvantaged and underserved rural communities. Dr. Staton is also a practicing Family Medicine Physician in Cookeville, TN.

Serving as CEO of an ACO, Dr. Staton is able to utilize his skill sets in business development and healthcare management to support partner physicians practice evidence-based medicine and provide quality care. He has demonstrated success in facilitating improvements in outcomes and compliance with preventative care and screenings addressing all disease states. He engages in community relations, consults on local and national health care issues and trends, and participates in conferences, panels, and public events relevant to the improvement of healthcare in underserved communities. Dr. Staton remains Board Certified in Family Medicine.



Nominee for Region 7: Timothy S. Wilson, MD

City: Knoxville, TN

CMS: Knoxville Academy of Medicine

Specialty: Plastic Surgery

Medical School: University of Tennessee College of Medicine

About: I am seeking to be elected to TMA's Judicial Council. I have served organized medicine in many ways over the years. I am a past president of the Knoxville Academy of Medicine and the past Board Chairman of the Tennessee Medical Association. I served as Chief of Staff at Parkwest Medical Center in 2021. I am passionate about the TMA and want to continue to serve our organization and our profession.

OFFICE POSITIONS

President-Elect: Serves as head of the Tennessee Medical Association for the year following the election. Responsibilities include serving as official spokesperson with media, government officials, and other entities. The president-elect will serve one year as president-elect, one year as president and one year as immediate past president.

Judicial Council: The Judicial Council meets annually, or more often if necessary, to investigate alleged improper conduct and oversee formal disciplinary action against members or component medical societies. Councilors also assist component medical societies in maintaining viability in the region. Each region has one councilor serving on the Judicial Council. Councilors serve two-year terms.

Board of Trustees: The TMA Board of Trustees determines the policy and details of management of the association between meetings of the TMA House of Delegates. Trustees carry out the directives given by the House. They serve two-year terms