FLORIDA SOCIETY OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS

Affiliate of the American Association of Medical Assistants

Date: November 17, 2018

To: Marsha Benedict, MSA, CMA-A (AAMA)
President FSMA 2018-2019

From: Kathryn J. Panagiotacos, CMA (AAMA)
Chair - Bylaws/Policy & Procedures

Report Fall 2018

The Florida Society of Medical Assistants held our annual meeting along with the General Assembly meeting on April 20, 2018 in Orlando, Florida. After the General Assembly completed the FSMA business and annual elections, the 2018-2019 Officers, Chapter Representatives and Committee Chairs ~~the~~of the newly elected individuals were published and distributed to the membership. The test of a healthy society is supporting the newly elected Executive Council who meet changes and challenges with respect to each circumstance and the member/s needing to make decisions which impact their life and must keep priorities in perspective. Following the change in our newly elected president Kathleen Quinn, CMA (AAMA) with the announcement of her resignation, the FSMA members extended appreciation and best wishes. Then action was taken to place Marsha Benedict, MSA, CMA-A (AAMA) as current President, the Executive Council along with the FSMA members then congratulated and extended our appreciation to her for willingly agreeing to the task.

After accepting the request to chair Bylaws/Policy & Procedures, now ready to work alongside the Executive Council with the FSMA members. It is the responsibility of this Committee to Update and Maintain accurate copies of the Bylaws and Policy & Procedures documents. Also, to perform editorial changes to the bylaws when AAMA HOD makes changes to membership qualifications. And, provide new chapters with sample Bylaws which are available on the FSMA website.

An Official Announcement regarding FSMA Bylaws change 2018 was published and placed on aamafsma@hotmail.com for the membership to be informed and aware on May 6, 2018. A copy is included with this report as well as the following:
Bylaws change effective immediately.

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Article V – Membership Section 1. Classes. D-Associate Member

An "associate" member is an American Association of Medical Assistant (AAMA) member and medical assistant who is not a CMA (AAMA) and does not fall under any

other membership category such as active, sustaining, life, student or honorary member.
In order to vote in the general Assembly and to hold an office, the associate member must be current member in good standing with the AAMA with dues paid by December 31 of the preceding calendar year.

Following AAMA Bylaws, an associate member is NOT permitted to serve as a national voting delegate in the AAMA annual conference House of Delegates.

A communication will be sent to Chapter Presidents regarding update to be made to their Chapters Bylaws.

A request was made by President Benedict and Vice President Kistler to active Chapter Presidents to send their Chapter Bylaws. All Chapter Bylaws have been received. ~~The f~~Following is a list of Active Chapters: Brevard, Central Gulf Coast, Central Florida, Mid-Gulf, North Florida, Southeast, Southwest, Treasurer Coast.

President Benedict forwarded from AAMA Kathy Langley, Board Services, an email for Amendments to AAMA Bylaws.

For your information (and for dissemination to your members) the following two amendments to AAMA Bylaws were approved by the 2018 House of Delegates at the September Annual Conference:

ARTICLE V—Component Chapters
NEW WORDING
Component (Local) Chapters are those county or district chapters of medical assistants within the geographic limits of a Constituent Society. The Component Chapters shall be under the jurisdiction of that Constituent Society. ***Annual chapter dues for all classes of members shall be fixed by the state society.***

ARTICLE XXIII---AMENDMENTS
NEW WORDING
These Bylaws may be amended at any annual House of Delegates meeting by a two-thirds vote provided the proposed amendments shall have been submitted in writing to the elected Delegates no later than ***45*** *days prior to the meeting at which they are to be acted upon.*

NOTE: *These amendments do not affect any of the mandatory areas of the AAMA Bylaws, therefore state societies are* ***not*** *required at this time to make any changes to their own bylaws.*

The AAMA Bylaws will be updated and reposted to the AAMA website.

Received communication from President Benedict regarding the consideration to a new Bylaw addition pertaining to a Judicial Council for the FSMA.

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The AAMA has in their Bylaws as well as other State Societies a Judicial Council. Currently the FSMA does not have a Judicial Council. With the consensus of the Executive Council, research will be initiated to investigate information and present at the FSMA annual General Assembly 2019.

Information has been received during this time between the annual meeting and now, as well as being acted upon in a timely manner.

Joining the FSMA members to promote the growth of our society. This quote by Mahatma Gandhi, “You must be the change you wish to see in the world”

Respectfully submitted,
Kathryn J Panagiotacos, CMA (AAMA)