STATEMENT OF POSITION

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

[FEBRUARY 11, 2019]

The Louisiana Society of Anesthesiologists (LSA or Society) is a voluntary membership organization. Membership is a privilege, not a right. According to LSA Bylaws, the Society exists to, “advance the medical practice of anesthesiology,” “to safeguard the professional interests of the Members of the Society,” and to “uphold, adhere to and promote the aims, principles and purposes of the ASA.”

The Society is a component society of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA). The LSA fully supports and endorses the ASA Statement on COI (conflicts of interest) approved by the ASA House of Delegates on October 13, 1993, amended on October 15, 2003 and last updated on November 19, 2008. It states that members representing the ASA have “a duty to avoid involving themselves in conflicts, or apparent conflicts, between their duties to the Society (ASA) and personal interests or duties they may have to other organizations.” The full text of that statement can be found here.

Likewise, while this Society supports member involvement in other organizations, its officers, board members, ambassadors, committee members, staff and anyone else representing the Society must avoid actions that conflict with the interests of the Society. This Society shall require that all officers, board members, ambassadors, committee members, staff and anyone else representing the Society report annually to the LSA board any conflicts of interest or apparent conflicts of interest that could lead to or be perceived as the inability to fully support the positions and Bylaws of the Society. Members should remove themselves from their position in the Society if they are unable or unwilling to avoid an outside conflict.