

Statement of Interest  
Association of Air Medical Services At-Large Director  
René Borghese

My dedication to the Critical Care Transport industry began early in my career. As a nurse with the bare minimum experience, I applied to and was given my first job as a flight nurse in 1993. I have had the honor and privilege to work alongside some of the finest people in our industry. Together, we have seen improvements in safety as well as the quality of care we provide. My professional life is rich with memories and many of my colleagues have become my most cherished personal friends. At this point in my career, I feel more compelled than ever to give something back to the community responsible for my professional growth and development. As such, I am pleased to submit this statement of interest and hope to continue serving on the Association of Air Medical Services (AAMS) Board of Directors.

As the end of my first term on the Board comes to a close and I reflect on the past two years, I have gained a much greater appreciation for the contributions AAMS makes to our industry. From government affairs to advancing education and safety, the work of the Association impacts many aspects of our industry. It is my desire to make a personal contribution of my time and energy to ensure this valuable work continues. This election period, I am seeking re-election as an At-Large Director. If given the honor of serving another term, I will continue to contribute to the AAMS Board by maintaining the position of Treasurer, serving as a crossover member of the MedEvac Foundation Board of Trustees, and as an active member of the Government Relations Committee.

With more than ten years leadership experience, I am adept in administrative and financial decision making, team building, and change management techniques. I never hesitate to engage in difficult conversations and will often speak up and ask for clarity when others might not feel compelled to do so. If re-elected to the Board, I will utilize these skills to support the AAMS mission of advocating for our industry and ensuring the members are supported. I hope you will allow me the pleasure of serving as your AAMS At-Large Director.

Kind regards,

René Borghese, MSN, RN, CMTE

**Cynthia René Borghese, MSN, RN, CMTE**  
713 Southpoint Crossing Drive, Durham, NC 27713  
919.530.0639 / rene.borghese@duke.edu

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## **Goals**

As an At-Large Director on the Association of Air Medical Services Board, I will actively participate in current and future initiatives to ensure our industry continues to focus on quality and safety. I will support the mission, vision and values of the Association as well as serve the interests of the members.

## **Education**

Master of Science, Nursing: Leadership. East Carolina University, December 2016

Bachelor of Science, Nursing. Winston-Salem State University, May 2013

Bachelor of Applied Science. Campbell University, May 2010

Associate of Science, Nursing. University of South Carolina, May 1990

## **Employment**

Administrative Director, Duke University Hospital Life Flight, Durham, North Carolina  
December 2017 – present

- Operational oversight for rotary and ground critical care transport program
- Operational oversight of communications center
- Develop and implement departmental budgets
- Develop short and long term strategic plan
- Collaborate with outsourced billing company to ensure compliance
- Manage vendor contracts

Program Manager, Duke University Hospital Life Flight, Durham, North Carolina  
September 2014 – December 2017

- Clinical and operational oversight for rotary and ground critical care transport program
- Develop and manage departmental budgets
- Oversee the development of medical protocols, policies, and procedures
- Collaborate with outsourced billing company to ensure compliance
- Assure compliance with governing agencies
- Develop and implement annual strategic plan

Nurse Manager of Operations, Duke University Hospital Emergency Department, Durham North Carolina  
December 2011 – September 2014

Staff Nurse / Unit Educator, Duke University Hospital Emergency Department, Durham, North Carolina  
June 2010 – December 2011

Clinical Supervisor / Educator, WakeMed Health & Hospitals Stand- Alone Emergency Department, Apex  
December 2007 – June 2010

Staff Nurse, WakeMed Health & Hospitals Stand-Alone Emergency Department, Raleigh  
July 2005 – December 2007

Flight Nurse / Chief Flight Nurse, University of North Carolina Hospitals Air Care, Chapel Hill  
December 1999 – February 2008

Staff Nurse, WakeMed Health & Hospitals Float Pool, Raleigh, North Carolina  
1998 – 1999

Utilization Review Nurse, Blue Cross / Blue Shield of North Carolina, Durham, North Carolina  
1997-1998

Staff Nurse, Duke University Hospital Cardiac Intensive Care / Life Flight, Durham, North Carolina  
1992 – 1997

Staff Nurse, Georgetown Memorial Hospital Intensive Care Unit, Georgetown, South Carolina  
1990 – 1992

### **Professional Presentations and Publications**

*Guiding a Team through Tragedy*. Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses, Spring Conference, March 2018. Podium Presentation

Berger, J. D., Kuszajewski M., Borghese, C., & Muckler V. C. (2018, January). *A Quality Improvement Project Using High-Fidelity Simulation Training to Improve Critical Knowledge among Critical Care Transport Nurses*. *Clinical simulation in Nursing*, 14, 54-60. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecns.2017.11.008>.

*From Identification to Recovery: The Cycle of Drug Diversion*. Association of Air Medical Services, Air Medical Transport Conference, December 2016. Podium Presentation

*Using Situational Briefing Model to Curb Adverse Drug Effects*. Emergency Nurses Association Annual Conference, San Diego, California, September 2012. Poster Submission

*Treatment and Transfer of the Burn Patient*. Duke University Fall Trauma Conference, Durham, North Carolina, September 2011. Podium Presentation

*Weeding the Flower Bed: Retaining Talent*. Association of Air Medical Services, Air Medical Transport Conference, November 2002. Podium Presentation

*Targeted Selection: Hit the Bulls-Eye with your Hiring Selections*. Association of Air Medical Services, Air Medical Transport Conference, September 2001. Podium Presentation

### **Honors / Organizations / Credentials**

East Coast Helicopter Operations Flight Crew Assistance & Support Team, 2018-present

Medical Transport Leadership Institute Faculty, 2018-present

Board of Trustees Member, MedEvac Foundation 2018-present

Director At-Large, Association of Air Medical Services, 2016-2018

Certified Medical Transport Executive, 2016-present

Vice-President, North Carolina Air Medical Association, 2016-present

Sigma Theta Tau, Beta Nu Chapter Inductee, 2015

Transport Professional Advanced Trauma Course, current



Duke University Hospital

Emergency Services & Patient Flow

May 10<sup>th</sup> 2018

Nomination Committee  
The Association of Air Medical Services  
2018-2020 AAMS Board Nominations  
909 N. Washington Street, Suite 410  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Nomination Committee,

It is my great pleasure to write a letter of support for Rene' Borghese's candidacy for the 2018-2020 term on the AAMS Board of Directors.

Rene' has been an extremely valuable member of our Emergency Services team over the past years. This past year, she was promoted to Administrative Director of Life Flight after serving as Program Manager of Life Flight for the past 3 years. Rene's promotion was due to her commitment to the team, to Duke and most importantly to the patients we serve each and every day.

Rene's success as a leader has been due to her ability to balance the mission of the program with the vision and keep them in alignment with the overall vision of Duke Health. Rene' has had to lead her team through the best situations as well as some very difficult situations. She has done so in the most compassionate and professional manner. Rene' has stepped up not only as a leader in Life Flight but as an example of what a leader in the institution should be. Rene' was recently recognized and invited to be a participant in the Duke University Hospital Leadership Academy, which selects a few individuals across the hospital to participate in a yearlong set of classes and learning experiences to continue to grow as a leader in the institution. Rene' completed the Leadership Academy work in April of this past year.

Her co-workers and direct reports are extremely complimentary of her work ethic, sincerity and her willingness to support them in any way. Rene' continues to raise the bar of Life Flight and continues to promote them forward as a great place to work at Duke University Hospital.

In conclusion, Rene's academic accomplishments as well as her 25+ years of Clinical Practice, professional organization involvement at both the local and national level, makes her again an excellent candidate to serve on the AAMS board. I support her candidacy with no hesitation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chad S. Seastrunk'.

Chad S. Seastrunk, MS, MHA

Vice President, Emergency Services & Patient Flow

Duke University Hospital

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dukehealth.org

12 April 2018



To whom it may concern,

This letter is in support of René Borghese, MSN, RN, CMTE in her pursuit of re-election as a member-at-large on the Board of Directors for the Association of Air Medical Services.

Her background is a living testament to her dedication to our industry. She has spent a lifetime of providing help, compassion and healing to others while at the same time improving herself through education. Among her most admirable traits is the example she portrays as a servant leader sharing her skills and expertise with her team members. Leadership, compassion, determination and dedication are all words I would use to describe her. Having known Rene' for over 20 years I can, without hesitation, lend my support as she seeks another term on the AAMS Board.

Please feel free to contact me for additional information.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John G. Grindstaff, Jr." with a stylized, cursive script.

John G. Grindstaff, Jr., ME, BSN, AAS-EMS, RN, Paramedic, CMTE, CFRN, CPEN, CCEMTP, PNCCT

Supervisor, Air Medical - MAMA

Mission Hospital, B-681

509 Biltmore Ave. Asheville, NC 28801

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