

Truett Smith, MPAS, PA-C, DFAAPA

Platform Statement for the 2025 Board of Directors

Candidate for: **President-Elect**

It would be a great honor to be considered as your 2025 North Carolina Academy of PAs President-Elect. I was recently asked why I wanted to run for this position and my answer was very simple, I believe that I can make a difference. It's honestly what gets me out of bed every morning. I feel that through leadership and advocacy, we can continue to move our profession forward. My very first volunteer leadership role with the NCAPA was as the Student Director from Wake Forest. Since that initial role, I have served as Regional Chapters Chair, Vice-President, Delegate to the APPA House of Delegates, as well as President of the NCAPA. I currently serve on the Conference and the Government Affairs Committees, as well as Chair the Optimal Team (OTP) Taskforce. The OTP Taskforce was created when I last served on the Board. It has been instrumental in not only assessing the interest of our membership to adopt OTP, but also in the creation of both House and Senate bills that have been passed, but unfortunately have stalled in Committee over the last few General Assembly sessions. My greatest desire, if elected, would be to not only see Optimal Team Practice ratified into law, but also to help direct the appropriate companion Rules by the North Carolina Medical Board. This legislation as well as the Board regulations will help to propel our profession into the 21st century by modernizing our current practice laws and giving experienced PAs the ability to decrease cumbersome administrative burdens, as well as to practice at the top of their license and experience.

I believe that we have made significant progress over the last 5 years, but our work is not complete. I currently serve as Director of Advanced Practice over a large team of primary care providers in the Charlotte region. Through this job, I have learned so much about developing cohesive teams that function better than the sum of their parts. This invaluable experience has given me the additional skills needed to lead the NCAPA into the future.

Personally, I believe that the very best leaders that I know are servant leaders. Servant leaders are authentic and real in their relationships with others, they communicate directly and effectively, they exhibit integrity in all they do, they perform their roles with compassion, they make their teams better through empowerment of the members of the team, and they desire continuous improvement in all that they do. My desire is to be that kind of servant leader for the PAs of North Carolina. Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,
Truett