

Recent Events with St. Joseph Hospital Representation

Physician Legislative Advocacy Day Wednesday, Feb. 26, Sacramento, CA

John Cross, MD, Chief of Staff represented St. Joe's in joining Staff Officers, CMO's and Providence Government Affairs Officers from across Providence South Division (California) to discuss important issues with legislators and staffers. Issues discussed include holding health care insurers to account to improve timely reimbursement and decrease delays in prior authorizations, expanding those qualified to release 5150 holds to include emergency medicine physicians, encouraging state support for healthcare workforce development programs, and mitigating the impact of state seismic retrofit requirements for inpatient buildings.

Providence South Division (CA) Strategic Advisory Council Tuesday, March 18th, Irvine, CA

Representing St. Joe's were John Cross, MD, Chief of Staff, Elaine Lee, MD, CMO, Chris Wills, MD, Orthopedic Surgeon (ret.) and Member, South Division Board of Directors, Kathleen O'Leary, Esq., Chair, Community Ministry Board, Troy Gideon, Chief Administrative Officer and Brian Helleland, Chief Executive. Of partic-

ular value was the afternoon breakout session chaired by Brian Helleland, reviewing plans for Orange County / High Desert. In addition to hearing Providence plans for the future, we had opportunities to network with colleagues and share solutions to common issues we all face.

Providence South Division (CA) Physician Advocacy Day

Wednesday, March 19th, Irvine, CA
Representing St. Joe's were John Cross, MD, Chief of Staff, Melissa Rudolph, MD, Vice Chief of Staff, Elaine Lee, MD, CMO, Brian Lee, MD, Medical Director, Emergency Department, Van Mai, MD, Physician Director, Case Management, Janis Fee, MD, OB/GYN, Anita Gregory, MD, Colorectal Surgery, Alex Ramirez, MD, Medical Director, Surgical Services and Brian Helleland, Chief Executive. (Apologies if I missed anyone, we had a strong showing!) The guest speaker was Diana Ramos, MD, OB/GYN, Surgeon General of California, who spoke on the importance of maximizing physician wellness. Susan Huang, MD, Chief Physician Executive and Erik Wexler, MD, CEO spoke about bringing joy back to the practice of medicine at Providence. Hearing that improving physician practice is now a priority for Providence was gratifying.



From left, front row: Amy Herold, MD, CMO, Providence Queen of the Valley Medical Center, Napa, Sue Chung, MD, Chair, Providence Medical Group Board of Trustees and Vice President, Facey Medical Group, Rachel Selleck, Providence Chief Government Affairs Officer, California, Sameer Mistry, MD, Immediate Past Chief of Staff, Providence Little Company San Pedro, Jonathan Hughes, Providence Government Affairs Director. Back row: John Cross, MD, Chief of Staff, Providence St. Joseph Orange, James Goldberg, MD, CMO, Providence St. Joseph Eureka, Rex Hoffman, MD, CMO, Providence Holy Cross, Nick Birtcil, Providence Government Affairs Officer, Northern California. Not pictured: Ranjit Hundal, MD, CMO, Providence South Division (California).

Welcome, New Medical Staff



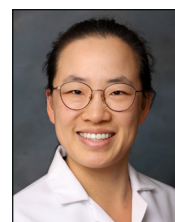
Michael Bolton, MD
Psychiatry
OC Progressive Recovery



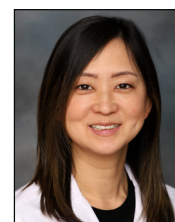
Theodore Bryan, MD
Interventional Radiology
Vascular & Interventional
Specialists of OC



**Ata Soleimani
Rahbar, MD**
Internal Medicine
Zand Medical Partners



Karoline Wang, MD
Internal Medicine
St. Joseph Heritage
Medical Group



Jenny Wang, DO
Family Practice
St. Joseph Heritage
Medical Group

MEDICAL STAFF BRIEFS

A Publication from the Chief of Staff and Chief Medical Officer

March/April 2025



1100 W. Stewart Dr.
Orange, CA 92868
www.providence.org/stjoseph

SUBMISSIONS SOUGHT:

Please send news items to 714-771-8056
or SJO-MEDICAL-STAFF@stjoe.org

Lights, Camera, Appreciation!



Chiefs of Staff, from left: former COS Brian Boyd, MD, current COS John Cross, MD, former COS Michele Carpenter, MD, and Immediate Past COS Peter Smethurst, MD.

Doctor's Day was a huge success! This year's "A Million Stars"-themed luncheon celebrated our physician superstars for their unwavering dedication, stellar leadership and unmatched expertise via a Hollywood-style extravaganza. More than 200 physicians joined in the fun.

As part of the festivities to thank all of our physicians for shining bright every day, those in attendance nominated their Medical Staff colleagues in five categories. The winners are:

- Best Doctor in a Leading Role (Best in anything): **Brian Palafox, MD**
- Best Doctor in a Technical Role (Best with IT, EMR or social media): **Melissa Rudolph, MD**
- Best Doctor in a Comedy Role (Best sense of humor): **Amir Ghiassi, MD**
- Best in Costume Design (Best Dressed): **Michael Yap, MD**
- Best in Automotive Show (Coolest car): **John Cross, MD**

The five doctors will receive a \$25 gift card to Starbucks or Amazon.



Celebrated guests, from top left: Ashraf Abdelkerim, MD; Vice Chief of Staff Melissa Rudolph, MD, and Brian Lee, MD; Thuyet Ho, MD, and Ji Yeon Park, DO; Eric Wellmeyer, MD, with Sr. Manager of Medical Staff Services Beth Miller; Eugene Cheng, DPM, and Jeffrey Sodl, MD.