

2018 Slate of Board Nominations – Region D:

Region D Representative - Requirement: Current TAASA Individual or Authorized Delegate of an Organizational Membership for a minimum of 2 years

NOMINEE

Khara Breeden, Owner/Assistant Clinical Professor
KB Education and Consulting/Houston Baptist University
Individual Member of Region D

1. List your current and/or past service in the movement against sexual assault or the experience you bring that is relevant to TAASA board membership.

I started working at Harris Health as a Forensic Nurse Examiner in 2011 and immersed myself in the field. In 2015, I became the Program Manager of Forensic Nursing Services, and was responsible for the day to day management of the department. After achieving my doctorate, I decided to pursue my goal of teaching, and is currently an Assistant Professor at Houston Baptist University.

I currently serve as the International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN) Board as Secretary, and have served as the Board liaison of the Strangulation Task Force, Title IX Task Force and the Suspect Exam Task Force. I am also currently the IAFN Texas Chapter's President and serve on the Chapter's Education Committee.

I am currently working on a collaborative project in Harris County addressing the standardization of care for patients who have been strangled. This project is multidisciplinary and includes advocates, law enforcement, the district attorney, as well as other crucial stakeholders.

2. List the strengths/special skills/background you bring to TAASA board service and/or to this particular board position.

I have many strengths that qualify me for this position. I am a natural leader and I take great pride and responsibility in all that I do. I am eager to learn and have excellent organizational and problem-solving skills. I work well within a team and strive to help others grow, both personally and professionally. I currently serve as the Secretary for the IAFN Board of Directors, as well as President for the Texas Chapter of IAFN. I also sit on the Advisory Counsel for a company by the name of Bio Test which solicits my expertise in the management of sexually transmitted infections post sexual assault.

I am also a nurse planner and am work with the IAFN to obtain CNE for nursing education. I currently have IAFN "approved" SANE-A and SANE-P courses that can be offered nationally.

3. List what goals, expertise and skill set you would bring to the TAASA board if elected.

Being an IAFN board member the past 2 years has allowed me the opportunity to be a part of the various task forces and work groups and has allowed me to work on projects such as the Strangulation Toolkit and currently with the Title IX and Suspect Exam Task forces. TAASA is a driving force in Texas as it relates to the care of victims of violence and I feel that it is crucial to continue multi-disciplinary efforts to improve the care offered within the state, from law enforcement, advocacy and the medical practitioners.

NOMINEE

Jessica Prince, Board President
Child Abuse Forensic Services, Inc.
Individual Member of Region D

1. List your current and/or past service in the movement against sexual assault or the experience you bring that is relevant to TAASA board membership.

I currently serve as President of the Board of Directors for Child Abuse Forensic Services, Inc. I have held a position on the board for several years. My past volunteer work related to the movement against sexual assault includes working with victims at shelters and transitional housing, assisting in benefits enrollment, advocacy on the Family Services Task Force as community advisor, grant writing, and foster parent to victims of sexual assault.

2. List the strengths/special skills/background you bring to TAASA board service and/or to this particular board position.

I have 11 years of non profit board experience encompassing multiple genres of service. I am a business owner and bring fiscal knowledge. I am passionate about eliminating rape culture and want to ensure future federal funding. I have grant writing success (VAWA and VOCA). I also enjoy organizing civic action and impacting change at local levels.

3. List what goals, expertise and skill set you would bring to the TAASA board if elected.

Communication skills, public speaking, fundraising and budget preparation are a few of my strengths. My goals if elected would be to strengthen relationships within the region and to assist in furthering the mission of the organization. I would also aspire to impact legislation pertaining to the movement against sexual assault.

NOMINEE

Q Olivia Rivers, Deputy Director
The Bridge Over Troubled Waters, Inc.
Individual Member of Region D

1. List your current and/or past service in the movement against sexual assault or the experience you bring that is relevant to TAASA board membership.

I have been involved in the movement against sexual assault since 2005, my sophomore year in college. I have worked as both a volunteer and employee for local and national organizations. Areas of experience include hotline advocate, sexual assault response team member, researcher and as Director of Advocacy and Education, which included overseeing and organizing the sexual assault program and providing professional training across the country. I currently serve my agency as the Deputy Director, which grants me the opportunity to support my Executive Director in fulfilling the mission and strategic plan of our agency and the staff as they provide continued services to victims of sexual assault in our community; this is a perfect role of what it means to be a liaison and I would be honored to serve in that same capacity for those across the state within the TAASA organization.

2. List the strengths/special skills/background you bring to TAASA board service and/or to this particular board position.

I am mission-focused, dependable and visionary. Being a Millennial in the movement, I have discovered that continued progress requires creativity and uniqueness. Another skill I bring to the table is

accountability, not just of others, but personal, which is a crucial trait of any true advocate and board member. In order for change to happen, the state coalition needs to have leaders that are passionate, humble and focused. These are all skills that I will bring to the table and continue to develop while on the TAASA Board.

3. List what goals, expertise and skill set you would bring to the TAASA board if elected.

I am currently going through the Kellogg Center for Nonprofit Management program at Northwestern University, which has given me access to some of the top instructors in the country in the areas of board governance, leadership, negotiations, and mentorship. One of the best skill sets that will enhance this position is being an effective communicator. As a liaison between members-at-large and the agency, it is imperative that the person in the role can provide an accurate depiction of TAASA's expectations and goals while simultaneously being a voice for the members, and ensuring the unity and fostering of relationships across the state.