



## ED WORKPLACE VIOLENCE

Spring 2014

By Karina Huffaker, RN, CEN

In 2010, the Emergency Department (ED) nursing staff at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital (FMH) began to explore the volume of workplace violence directed at nurses by patients. We used the Workplace Violence Toolkit, developed by ENA as our foundation to evaluate documentation, survey staff, and compare our facility to sister facilities in our corporation's network. Based on our survey of bedside nurses, including CNA's, RN's, full/ part time and as needed employees, 97% have been verbally assaulted, 62% have been physically assaulted, and 50% have experienced some form of sexual misconduct while working at the bedside at FMH. The results we recorded were consistent with national standards based on twenty-six articles addressing subjects on Workplace violence; ENA standards of practice, and ANA's Expert Panel on Violence and JCAHO regulations. We also referenced OSHA and the ENA's guidelines for preventing workplace violence.

Confronting this culture of violence to bring awareness to the gravity of this professional issue has been enlightening. "According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, among health care practitioners, 46% of all nonfatal assaults and violent acts requiring days away from work were committed against registered nurses." (ENA 2012) Prevent, respond, report is the comprehensive approach coined by the ENA Workplace Violence Toolkit to "better understand the strategies necessary to effectively address this problem and facilitate a safer workplace for emergency nurses." (ENA 2012)

We are currently working with the Judiciary Committee to revise our state laws and change the misdemeanor punishment to a felony assault for patients who choose to cause physical harm to health care professionals or first responders.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

- Please send a letter of support to each member of the Judiciary Committee, indicating your support for amending the current laws to bring harsher penalties to patients who assault health care professional or first responders.

Please subject **SB 212: Assault on Emergency Responders**

- Please share this message on your public forums, with family and friends and have them write letters of support to change our states laws.

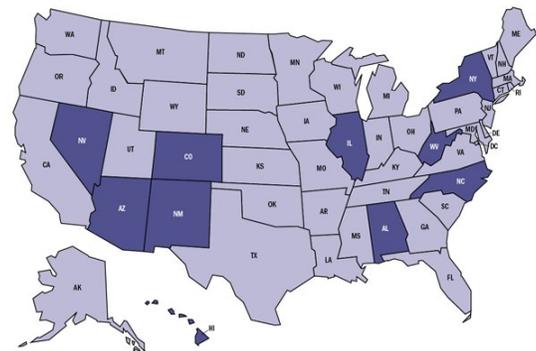
Senator John Coghill Chairman	(907) 465-3719	<a href="mailto:Sen.John.Coghill@akleg.gov">Sen.John.Coghill@akleg.gov</a>
Senator Lesil McGuire (R-K), Vice Chairman	(907) 465-2995	<a href="mailto:Sen.Lesil.McGuire@akleg.gov">Sen.Lesil.McGuire@akleg.gov</a>
Senator Fred Dyson (R-F)	(907) 465-2199	<a href="mailto:Sen.Fred.Dyson@akleg.gov">Sen.Fred.Dyson@akleg.gov</a>
Senator Donald Olson (D-T)	(907) 465-3707	<a href="mailto:Sen.Donald.Olson@akleg.gov">Sen.Donald.Olson@akleg.gov</a>
Senator Bill Wielechowski	(907) 465-2435	<a href="mailto:Sen.Bill.Wielechowski@akleg.gov">Sen.Bill.Wielechowski@akleg.gov</a>

If you would like assistance on addressing our senators or if you would like any other information on the EBP project completed at FMH please email Karina Huffaker for support. [khuffaker@rocketmail.com](mailto:khuffaker@rocketmail.com)

The constructs of workplace violence is surrounded by a vast well of excuses, few hold the patients accountable for their actions. It is time for our profession to stand united together and demand to be treated with professionalism and respect. For far too long we have accepted levels of violence that would never be tolerated in any other form in any other service in our society. I look forward to working with you in advancing our practice legally and culturally and to prevent, respond, and report the reality of our violence at the bedside for Alaskan nurses.

Emergency Nurse Association (2012). ENA Workplace Violence Management Toolkit. ENA. Retrieved from <http://www.ena.org/IENR/Pages/WorkplaceViolence.aspx>

### States with workplace violence laws



■ States that have enacted legislation to strengthen or increase penalties for acts of workplace violence affecting nurses.

<http://www.theamericannurse.org/?p=181>

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# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

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AK ENA has 5 positions coming open January 1, 2015. These are all 2-year terms. Rural nurses are strongly encouraged to be a part of AK ENA; the rural areas need your representation! Election is in September.

**President**- Serves as Chief Executive Officer of AK State Council. Coordinates all Council administrative activities. Appoints committee members and chairpersons. Fills vacancies on boards and committees.

**Secretary**- Produce AK ENA meeting minutes. Editor of the AK ENA newsletter.

**Treasurer**- Maintains the financial records of AK ENA. Develops a budget with the AK ENA State Council. Files appropriate tax forms annually to the IRS and ENA.

**Representatives** - 2 positions are open. There are 4 total. Be a part of the AK ENA State Council, participate in meetings and perform other duties and serve on committees.

**Nominating**- You can nominate yourself or someone else. PLEASE don't anonymously nominate someone without their knowledge. Step up to the plate! Become a part of your organization. If you have questions, please contact Jeanne at 907-632-8800 or [jrjeanne@gci.net](mailto:jrjeanne@gci.net). To nominate, send an email with the person you are nominating and the position to Jeanne (see above). Deadline for nominations are Aug. 30th. Ballots will come out in September.

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## MEMBERS NEEDED FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ENA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

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AK ENA budgeted for the president and two members to go to the General Assembly this year in Indianapolis. The General Assembly runs Oct. 7 & 8. Each is allotted \$1200 for the whole assembly time. You can stay for the scientific assembly which follows and have part of your way paid! The General Assembly is where the by-laws and business of ENA take place. You are expected to attend all sessions and participate in the voting process. There is usually a teleconference you should try to attend before the meeting to understand the process. To apply for a delegate position, contact Jeanne

Molitor at [jrjeanne@gci.net](mailto:jrjeanne@gci.net). Our delegates will be announced by June 30th.



### ALASKA ENA

At Alaska Emergency Nurses Association (AK ENA), we strive to serve as a resource for emergency nursing education and research, to work towards improvement in emergency nursing and to provide professional networking for the specialty of emergency nursing in Alaska. In addition, AK ENA strives to identify and address emergency nursing issues, to affirm the philosophy of the American Nurses Association Ethical Principles, to work collaboratively with other health organizations, and to disseminate standards of excellence along

# NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

## CPEN REVIEW - 2-day SEPTEMBER 29 & 30, 2014

September 29 (Day 1)- Held at the BP Energy Center

September 30 (Day 2)- Held at Medical Park Plaza, Alaska Regional Hospital

Bill Light, BS, RN, CEN, CPEN of Solheim Enterprises will be holding this two day conference.

Non-ENA Members	ENA Mem- bers	Students
\$225	\$200	\$100

This course is a review of pediatric emergency nursing designed to assist the participant to be successful in obtaining a CPEN (Certified Pediatric Emergency Nurse) certification. Approximately 14 contact hours have been applied for and are awaiting approval. Brochures are in the making. We will send out via email when they are ready and they will be available at [www.alaskaena.org](http://www.alaskaena.org)



## AK ENA 2014 INTERACTIVE TRAUMA CONFERENCE: OCTOBER 1, 2014

October 1, 2014 - Held at the BP energy Center

Bill Light, BS, RN, CEN, CPEN of Solheim Enterprises will be presenting this offering

Non-ENA Members	ENA Mem- bers	Students
\$100	\$80	\$50

This conference starts out with a scene scenario and participants guide the patient from his initial resuscitation in the ED and follows through the first 24 hours of his care in the operative suite and ICU. The treatment decisions are made by the participants who vote via their smart phones. Even those participants without smart phones will feel equally involved. The results of the vote are immediately displayed on the screen and the scenario proceeds with the majority vote. Try something new in this new interactive conference!

Topics to be discussed:

- Primary and secondary trauma surveys
- Fluid resuscitation
- Lab and radiology test interpretation
- Shock states
- End points to fluid resuscitation
- Ventilator management in the trauma patient
- Abdominal compartment syndrome



BROCHURES ARE IN THE MAKING AND WILL BE EMAILED TO ENA MEMBERS \*ANY NON-MEMBERS\* CONTACT Jeanne Molitor at 632-8800 and she will send you a brochure once they are printed. Brochures will be available at [www.alaskaena.org](http://www.alaskaena.org).

# NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

## CPEN testing

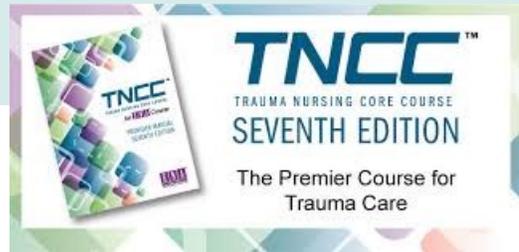
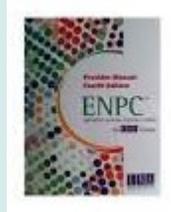
BCEN certifications does **not** hold off-site testing like they did for the CEN. You can still go to: [online.goamp.com](http://online.goamp.com) to register. The location for the CPEN exam is



H & R Block, 3120 Denali Street, Suite 6 & 7, 99503. If you are from out of town, schedule your exam early if you plan to take it while in town. They might not have many opportunities for testing each day.

## ENPC and TNCC grants

If your facility wants to put on a course and needs a little financial help to make it happen, apply for a grant for up to \$500 by going to the [alaskaena.org](http://alaskaena.org) website and submitting the grant from the "Grant applications" page. Instructor courses can get up to \$250 per instructor course.



## FACEBOOK AK ENA

We would like to get a Facebook page and need some techy nurse to figure it out and make it happen. Jeanne has the connections to call at ENA to get started. We need to get into the social media world. Please contact Jeanne if you are interested. [jrjeanne@gci.net](mailto:jrjeanne@gci.net). 907-632-8800.

## Scientific Assembly Indianapolis, Indiana Raffle

We are raffling off one admission fee (Approximately \$400-\$500 value) for the Scientific Assembly in Indianapolis (Oct. 7-11). Submitted names of members will be put in a hat and drawn. Winners will be announced June 1. Send submissions to [jrjeanne@gci.net](mailto:jrjeanne@gci.net). Specific dates and agenda are not out from ENA yet.

## CPEN Book Raffle

Heather McKean in Seward won the ENA CPEN review book raffle. Congratulations Heather!



You have received this email because you are a member of the Alaska Emergency Nurses Association, a Nurse Manager, Director of Nursing, or ER nurse manager in one of the Alaska Hospitals. Unsubscribe to future mailings by clicking on [Unsubscribe](#) or email Jeanne Molitor at [jrjeanne@gci.net](mailto:jrjeanne@gci.net). If this email is returned for unknown reasons, we will mail this newsletter once with a note stating to go to the ENA website at [ena.org](http://ena.org), then go to membership and then to "update profile" and update your email address. Contact Jeanne if you would like to receive this newsletter by mail.