

PRESIDENT-ELECT 2014
PRESIDENT / TNA DELEGATE 2015
PAST-PRESIDENT 2016
(Vote for One)

Robert Blake, RN, BSN, MS

Present Position:

Chief Operations Officer, Interim Chief Executive Officer, Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital

Past Positions:

Chief Clinical Operations Officer, System Executive/Chief Nursing Officer, Assistant Vice President of Nursing, Vice President of Clinical Operations, Director of Nursing, Assistant Director of Nursing

TNA Organization Activities:

Present:

ANA, TNA and D9 member

D9: Board member, Delegate

Other Professional Organization Related Activities:

Present:

Member, American College of Healthcare Executives

Member, Sigma Theta Tau, Beta Beta, Houston

Past:

President, Houston Association of Psychiatric Nurses

Member, Houston Organizational Development Association

Member, Society for Human Resource Management

Civic or Community Involvement:

Present:

Minister of Music, Cathedral of Hope-Houston

Member, Sharpstown Civic Association

Past:

President, Consistory, Bethel Church United Church of Christ

Personal Statement:

I have participated in the life of TNA District 9 for the last four years as a member of the Board of Directors. From this position, I have attended board meetings, membership meetings, participated in Nursing Celebration events, and been a speaker for a number of events where TNA District 9 has been able to share information about who we are. I have gained an appreciation for the work that goes on behind the scenes in an organization like TNA District 9. The district is engaged in the process determining its relevance to its members through a process of change associated with changes happening at the state and national level in TNA/ANA. Without a vibrant District 9, the prospect of helping the nearly 40,000 nurses in the greater Houston area to further their understanding of the professional nature of nursing could be hindered. The Board and its committees have done amazing things with very limited resources, constantly battling the image that TNA/ANA has in the healthcare community as being some kind of union.

I want to see the presence of TNA District 9 reflect the hard work of its Board and committees. As President-Elect, I would commit myself to getting in front of key constituents and broadcasting what TNA District 9 has done, and I would work to craft a response to state and national changes that allows District 9 to move forward as a viable force for nursing. There are those who need to know what we do and how well we do it (healthcare administrators, non-member nurses, nursing educators, community agencies, special interest groups like the AARP, and others who benefit from the work that nurses accomplish).

In order to do this, I bring a high degree of organizational skill, passion for speaking on behalf of nurses, and hard-earned connections to a variety of organizations in the greater Houston area. I believe that TNA District 9 can be a relevant, realistic, organized and energetic force for nurses who believe that they can effect change on behalf of those they serve in hospitals, at home, in schools, and clinics throughout the greater Houston area.

The vision that I have for TNA District 9 is a well-developed group of professionals connected to their individual specialty organizations for their clinical expertise AND connected to TNA District 9 for their professional development – development that leads them to be sought after by business and industry professionals who want to promote what nurses bring to the table in terms of their understanding of how healthcare works, patient advocacy, patient safety, and ongoing research in nursing that promotes the best healthcare outcomes achievable. This will come when members of TNA District 9 speak to influential members of the Houston community whose missions and visions coincide with those of TNA District 9.

Getting to this vision is not an overnight process and will take significant energy and commitment on the part of TNA District 9. When the leadership of the district is aligned with these kinds of goals, the membership can easily see the impact they can have on positive, constructive change within nursing and healthcare.

I am grateful for the opportunity to be considered for President-Elect.