



## Michigan Society of Anesthesiologists Committee on Governmental Affairs Code of Conduct

### I. Purpose

1. The Michigan Society of Anesthesiologists (MSA) Committee on Governmental Affairs (CGA) is committed to advancing policies that support patient safety and the professional integrity of anesthesiologists across Michigan.

This Code of Conduct establishes ethical standards for behavior and professional integrity for all CGA members and elective rotation participants. It serves as a guiding document for committee members prior to interacting with legislators, regulators, executive officials, staff members, coalition partners, and the public.

### II. Core Principles

1. Members of the CGA shall uphold the following principles:
  - a. Professionalism – Conduct all advocacy efforts with civility, respect, and decorum.
  - b. Integrity – Represent MSA positions honestly and accurately.
  - c. Patient-Centered Advocacy – Prioritize patient safety and high-quality care in all policy discussions.
  - d. Nonpartisanship – Engage policymakers across political parties in a professional and issue-focused manner.
  - e. Accountability – Recognize that members represent the MSA and the broader physician community when acting in an official CGA capacity.

### III. Ethical Standards of Conduct

1. Representation of MSA Positions
  - a. Members shall communicate only positions formally adopted or approved by MSA leadership.
  - b. Personal opinions must not be presented as official MSA policy.
  - c. Members should seek clarification from CGA leadership when uncertain about messaging.
2. Conflicts of Interest
  - a. Members must disclose any financial, professional, or personal interests that could reasonably be perceived as influencing their advocacy.
  - b. Members shall not use their role on the CGA to advance personal business interests, financial gain, employment opportunities, or political ambitions.
3. Prohibited Conduct
  - a. Members shall not:
    - i. Advocate for policies primarily motivated by personal gain.
    - ii. Promote disruptive or extremist political ideologies unrelated to MSA's mission.
    - iii. Engage in inflammatory, discriminatory, or disrespectful language.

- iv. Undermine established MSA policy in official meetings or communications.
- v. Publicly contradict agreed-upon messaging while representing the CGA.

#### IV. Interactions with Public Officials

1. When engaging with public officials or their staff, members shall:
  - a. Maintain a respectful, solutions-oriented tone.
  - b. Clearly identify when speaking on behalf of MSA versus in a personal capacity.
  - c. Avoid partisan rhetoric and focus on patient safety, clinical outcomes, and data-driven policy.
  - d. Refrain from discussing internal MSA deliberations unless authorized.
  - e. Follow all applicable lobbying, ethics, and reporting requirements.

#### V. Communications and Public Statements

1. Social media, email, and public statements referencing MSA or CGA work must align with approved MSA messaging.
2. Members should avoid posting or distributing content that could reasonably be interpreted as hostile, partisan, or inconsistent with MSA's professional mission.
3. Media inquiries should be directed to designated MSA leadership or staff unless prior authorization has been granted.

#### VI. Collegiality and Internal Conduct

1. Members shall treat fellow committee members with respect and professionalism.
2. Disagreements should be expressed constructively and within appropriate forums.
3. Members are expected to support final committee decisions, even when personal views differ.

#### VII. Accountability and Enforcement

1. Failure to adhere to this Code of Conduct may result in review by MSA leadership and may include corrective action, up to and including removal from the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

All members are expected to review this Code prior to participating in official advocacy activities and to reaffirm their commitment annually.

#### Acknowledgment

1. I acknowledge that I have read and understand the Michigan Society of Anesthesiologists Committee on Governmental Affairs Code of Conduct. I agree to abide by its principles and standards when representing the MSA.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_