



THE AMERICAN BOARD OF ANESTHESIOLOGY, INC.

A Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties

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May 5, 2010

Neal H. Cohen, MD
Chair, Anesthesiology Resident Review Committee
c/o Department of Anesthesiology
University of California-San Francisco School of Medicine
513 Parnassus Ave., S-211, Box 0410
San Francisco, CA 94143-0410

RE: ASA Policy Research Rotation in Political Affairs

Dear Dr. Cohen:

At its meeting in August 2009, the Board of Directors for The American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA) reviewed a proposal from the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) for an elective course in Washington, DC. The rotation is for a period of four weeks to take place at the Office of Governmental and Legal Affairs of the ASA and is designed to allow resident physicians to experience the political, legislative and regulatory factors that affect the delivery of patient care.

The Board provided an overall "blanket" approval of the elective as presented as long as programs/trainees comply with the requirements previously utilized by the ABA and RRC for other "outsider" rotations (i.e., not to occur during the CA1 or final 3 months of the CA3 year and satisfactory CCC reports); however this will be reviewed annually to track its progress. There is no need for a program to obtain prospective approval from the ABA for individuals who meet these conditions. A copy of the notice sent to programs as well as the ASA Resolution is attached for your information and I apologize for not notifying you of this sooner.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Mark A. Rockoff, MD
ABA Secretary

MAR/mmg

Enclosures

cc: Patricia M. Surdyk, PhD, ACGME
Ronald Szabat, J.D., LL.M, ASA Executive Vice President and General Counsel

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