

ICEP Legislative Update: Protecting Emergency Physicians and Patients



Willard W. Sharp, MD,
PhD, FACEP, FAAEM
2024-2025

“I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live by the light that I have. I must stand with anybody that stands right and stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong.” – Abraham Lincoln

These words have long been attributed to Abraham Lincoln, although actual documentation is somewhat suspect. Still, they are stirring to the soul of politics and were used by President Obama before the passage of the Affordable Care Act so please grant me some leeway in my using them here as we embark upon another very busy legislative season. This year ICEP is approaching the legislative calendar using a three-prong approach of *active legislation*, *defending* the principles of our specialty against old and new threats, and spirited *engagement* with Illinois regulatory bodies. Our key partners in this endeavor are the public strategy firm MERCURY LLC, and the Illinois State Medical Society.

Legislatively, we have worked with Illinois senator Laura Fine of the IL 104th and Illinois House of Representative Natalie Manley of the IL 104th district to introduce Senate bill 2294 and House Bill 3435 respectively. Both bills will strengthen existing laws to protect emergency physicians, nurses, and emergency department workers from violence or threats of violence. Specifically, the bills will require hospitals to meet threshold standards for preparing and preventing potential acts of violence including provisions for security and facility upgrades. More importantly, they will require hospitals to document and report violent incidents annually to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) detailing occurrences, injuries, and security plan updates. The importance of this legislation became abundantly clear with the stabbing of an emergency physician in the chest while on duty at Provident Hospital on February 17, 2025. See ICEP’s statement on the Provident incident on page 5 of this EPIC.

To date, hospitals do not report such incidents, so it is challenging to have discussions with legislators or the public because the scope of the problem has gone unreported for so long. H. James Harrington, a chief executive once wrote “If you can’t measure something, you can’t understand it. If you can’t un-

derstand it, you can’t control it. If you can’t control it, you can’t improve it. This maxim is taught in every health and safety quality course. The problem with violence against health care workers is that we have not even begun to measure it. These bills will change this while beginning the process of bringing real safety to not only ED workers but also to our patients.

Defensively, we will be looking for the reintroduction of prior sessions’ bills as well as the introduction of new ones that threaten our specialty. Two that re-emerged are SB 271 introduced by senator Javier Cervantes and HB 2468 by Representative Barbara Hernandez. Both bills will effectively remove the name Assistant from the word Physician Assistant by allowing such practitioners to obtain their own medical licenses and to practice independently of Physicians. This represents a grave threat to the citizens of Illinois because of its lowering health care standards. Increasing patient access to health care is to improve access to *physician led care, not by lowering standards*. This situation is analogous to the desire to lower prices for airfares by allowing pilots who can fly a Cessna to suddenly be allowed to fly commercial jumbo jets without additional training or licensure. Lowering safety standards always results in increased costs rather than

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lowering them. Lowering costs are always best addressed through improved quality and efficiency.

Engagement with our legislators and regulatory bodies has already begun. We are actively talking to IDPH regarding proposed changes to the Emergency, Medical, Treatment and Labor (EMTALA) law to make sure they remain fair to emergency physicians and always require the presence of a physician in comprehensive and basic emergency departments.

This legislative season we need you and your support! Our legislators always want to know how many members we represent so if you have friends, you are not ACEP members, please ask them to join now! Opposing forces have large numbers and if we do not join, our spe-

cialty, our colleagues, and our patients are at risk.

I encourage you to join us for ICEP's Advocacy Day April 10th, 2025, in Springfield, IL and ACEP's Leadership and Advocacy Day in Washington DC on April 27-April 29th. Both conferences are not only great personal investments in yourself but will bring you a sense of engagement and participation that physicians need more than ever. You can register for [ICEP Advocacy Day here](#).

Again, I thank you for your continued membership and for your unwavering dedication as you serve on the front lines of healthcare every day. Our colleagues and patients need you more than ever. If you are a member, please engage! I or a member of the ICEP Board

or staff are always willing to talk to you and hear your concerns and help you find community. If you are not a member, I ask that you strongly consider joining. Membership helps bring emergency medicine outside the walls of the hospital and into the community which can bring an impact to the specialty in ways unimagined if we choose to operate within the confines of our "shifts".

Continue the fight for all that is good and right in the world.

Sincerely,



Willard W. Sharp MD, PhD, FACEP
President, ICEP

Congratulations to ICEP's Own Yanina Purim-Shem-Tov, MD, MS, FACEP

Each fall, AQA medical students elect alumni based on their leadership and accomplishments to date; alumni only become eligible ten years after graduation. Faculty are elected based on their demonstrated commitment to scholarly excellence and medical education. Residents and fellows are elected for their continued achievement, promise, and mentorship qualities.

Once elected, AQA Students confer AQA membership onto selected alumni, faculty and residents. They select these members based on the following criteria:

- **Resident & Fellow Membership:** elected based on continued achievement, promise and leadership qualities;
- **Alumni:** eligible ten years or more following graduation and judged on the basis of their achievement to date;
- **Faculty:** elected based on their demonstrated commitment to scholarly excellence and medical education;
- AQA Inductees also bestow the annual **Volunteer Clinical Faculty Award** to recognize a community physician who contributes with distinction to the education and training of clinical students.



Yanina Purim-Shem-Tov was recognized as a University of Chicago Alumni AQA honoree this year!



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EMERGENCY MEDICINE PHYSICIAN OPPORTUNITY

Community:

Metropolitan city of **Honolulu** offers excellent private or public schools, while providing access to the outdoor beach activities for the whole family. No living restrictions on distance from the ER. Paradise lifestyle awaits in the Pacific islands.

Practice Overview:

Established private group is expanding and adding to its team by increasing coverage. Work-life balance has kept turnover low and morale high. The group has collegial relationships with hospital administrative leadership, benefiting all parties.

Work:

- Renovated *state-of-the-art facility* on Oahu
- 17,000 annual volume
- Double coverage
- 8-hour and 10-hour shifts (shift times 7 AM, 2 PM or 9 PM)
- Teaching facility with medical students and residents rotating through
- 12-13 shifts per month

Package:

- \$190 per hour days
- \$210 per hour nights
- Sign on bonus
- Benefits include Medical Insurance for family, retirement, CME and more!

Skills:

- ABEM/AOBEM certification required
- 2025 residents welcome to apply

Send your CV to:
jon@accoladesearch.com

For additional information please contact Jon Phifer at 630.664.1377

Looking for a job in emergency medicine?

Visit the ICEP Career Center for employment opportunities posted by local, regional, and national hospitals, groups, and organizations looking to fill open positions. Join the ICEP Career Center email list to get all the latest opportunities sent right to your inbox.

[Visit ICEP Career Center](#)

Want to advertise a job in emergency medicine?

ICEP offers two ways to get the word out about

open positions. Choose one or both strategies to best fit your needs:

Advertise in the Illinois EPIC newsletter:

The EPIC newsletter offers classified and displays advertising at very affordable rates to help you market your job opportunities. The newsletter is published bimonthly and reaches 1,275 ICEP members directly.

[More about EPIC advertising.](#)

Place a job ad at the ICEP Career Center online:

This job board is custom-tailored for the emergency medicine industry, which means we attract the most qualified professionals in Illinois. Create an Employer Account and post your emergency medicine jobs today!

[Visit ICEP Career Center](#) to get started or contact the ICEP Career Center staff at (866) 376-0949 ext. 6985 or by [email](#).

Ginny Kennedy Palys Annual Symposium Call For Research Abstract 2025

The deadline is March 21, 2025.

ICEP is seeking submissions for the annual Statewide Research Showcase held at the 2024 Ginny Kennedy Palys Annual Symposium on Thursday, May 29 at Northwestern Feinberg Pavilion. This is ICEP's only research presentation opportunity, so do not miss your chance to submit and present at a regional meeting!

The Statewide Research Showcase is open to both residents and attending physicians to present oral and poster presentations of emergency medicine research. All abstracts/case reports will be considered, even if previously presented at other meetings.

[Download 2025 Abstract Submission Rules](#)

[Download 2025 Abstract Submission Form](#)

The Research Committee will finalize and notify applicants in late April. Traditionally, approximately 4 submissions are selected for oral presentation and 10 submissions for poster presentation.

Guidelines and the scoring system have been reviewed for 2025. The maximum word count is 400 words.

All submissions are published in the Statewide Research Showcase eBook that is distributed with other meeting materials at the Symposium. Selected case reports this year may be eligible for publication in JACEP Open. More details to come after submissions are reviewed.

All submissions must be sent electronically to Mary Taylor at maryt@icep.org using the Abstract & Case Report Submission Form (must be returned in this document). Submissions must

conform to the rules and guidelines listed in the form in order to be considered. A blinded copy must be included for judging purposes.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Taylor at maryt@icep.org.

ICEP Seeks Nominations for Leadership Positions

The ICEP Awards & Nominating Committee is seeking members who would like to be considered for Board and Councilor positions.

Board of Directors:

Four members will be elected to a three-year term on the ICEP Board this year. All active members in good standing are eligible to serve on the Board.

One resident member will be elected to serve a one-year term.

Board members are elected by electronic ballot by active members. The resident member is elected by candidate members by electronic ballot.

Councilors:

Thirteen councilors will be elected to serve a one-year term representing ICEP at the ACEP Council meeting. The 2025 Council meeting will be held September 5-6 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Councilors are elected by the ICEP Board of Directors.

Nomination Submission Package:

- Position Sought
- Candidate's CV/Resume
- Cover letter explaining your nomination (2-pages max).
- Candidate Photo (optional)

The nomination deadline is February 24, 2025.

All nominations, including self-nominations and letters of support, should be submitted to Brittney Tambeau, brittneyt@icep.org by the nomination deadline.





Illinois College of Emergency Physicians

ADVANCING EMERGENCY CARE  ICEP.org

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February 18, 2025

[CHICAGO, IL] — A terrible episode of workplace violence took place yesterday in the Provident Hospital emergency department on the Southside of Chicago when a patient attacked two healthcare workers with a knife. One of these workers was an emergency physician who was stabbed in the chest and was transported to the University of Chicago trauma center a few miles away.

The Illinois College of Emergency Physicians (ICEP) wishes to extend its thoughts and prayers for the speedy recovery of these two workers.

This incident is yet another example of the continued rise in violence against healthcare workers in the emergency department. Healthcare providers put themselves in harm’s way every day to serve and protect the public, and deserve better facilities, equipment, and training to mitigate such threats.

ICEP has collaborated with Illinois State Senator Laura Fine of the IL 104th district and Illinois Representative Natalie Manley of the IL 104th district to introduce Senate bill 2294 and House Bill 3435 respectively. Both bills will strengthen existing laws to protect emergency physicians, nurses, and emergency department workers from violence or threats of violence while at work. Specifically, the bills will require hospitals to meet threshold standards for preparing and preventing potential acts of violence including provisions for security and facility upgrades. More importantly, they will require hospitals to document and report violent incidents annually to the Illinois Department of Health detailing occurrences, injuries, and security plan updates. Because hospitals are not currently required to report such incidents, it is challenging to have discussions with legislators or the public because the scope of the problem has gone unreported for so long.

We humbly ask the public to remember the dedication of these two healthcare workers to their profession and to keep them in their thoughts. We also ask the public to write or call their state legislators to support this important legislation.

Willard Sharp, MD, PhD, FACEP
President
Illinois College of Emergency Physicians

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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The Illinois Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians



Submit Your 2025 ICEP Award Nominations! Deadline is February 28.

ICEP recognizes and honors the dedication, service, and contributions of our outstanding members who are leaders in the field of emergency medicine.

Presented each year at the Ginny Kennedy Palys Annual Symposium and Annual Business Meeting, these awards honor individuals who have gone above and beyond in advancing ICEP's mission and elevating the practice of emergency medicine throughout Illinois.

ICEP Bill B. Smiley Award

ICEP's highest honor, recognizing a member for a lifetime of extraordinary service to both ICEP and the field of emergency medicine in Illinois. This award is reserved for those whose contributions have made a profound and lasting impact on the profession.

ICEP Downstate Member Service Award

This award recognizes the contributions of a member living and working outside the metropolitan Chicago area. It celebrates the unique challenges faced by those in Illinois' downstate regions and honors their invaluable contributions to the field and to ICEP.

ICEP Meritorious Service Award

This award is presented to a member who has demonstrated exceptional service, advocacy, education, or other notable contributions to ICEP. It acknowledges individuals whose dedication has significantly advanced the organization's mission and the practice of emergency medicine.

Why Nominate?

Nominating an individual for one of these prestigious awards is a powerful way to recognize their leadership, dedication, and lasting impact on our association, community, and the field of emergency medicine in Illinois.

Your nominations help strengthen ICEP's mission to support and amplify the voices of emergency physicians, advancing the quality of emergency care statewide. B

By celebrating these contributions, you inspire future leaders and reinforce the core values that drive ICEP forward.

To be considered for an award, candidates:

- Must be an ACEP and ICEP member in good standing.
- Must not be a previous recipient of

the award in which a nomination was submitted for consideration.

Recognition

Recipients will be acknowledged in person during the Annual Business Meeting at the Ginny Kennedy Palys Annual Symposium, May 2, 2025 in Chicago, Illinois with:

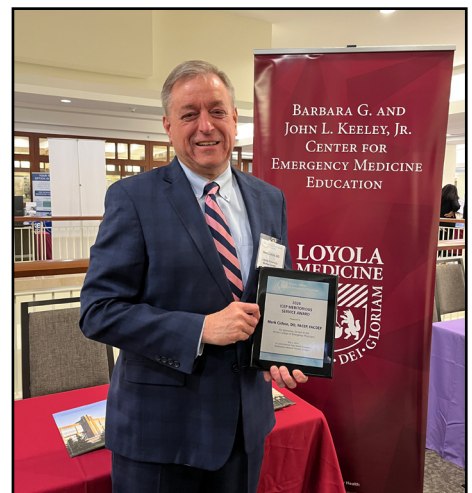
- Commemorative plaque
- Complimentary registration to attend the Ginny Kennedy Palys Annual Symposium and Annual Business Meeting

Nomination Submission Package

All nominations must include the following:

- Candidate's CV/Resume
- Photo/headshot of candidate
- Cover letter explaining the candidate's nomination. (2 pages max)
- If nominating a candidate for multiple awards, separate cover letters must be sent in support each award nomination must be submitted via the online form.

Nomination Deadline: February 28, 2025
[Submit Your Nomination Here](#)



ACEP RESEARCH

FORUM



RESEARCH FORUM 2025



IMPORTANT DATES:

JANUARY 6, 2025

Submission site opens

MARCH 26, 2025

Submission site closes

APRIL 2025

Email notifications

SEPTEMBER 7 - 10, 2025

Presentations in Salt Lake City



SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Original research that has not been published in peer-reviewed form. Adherence to Annals of Emergency Medicine format: study objectives, methods, results, and conclusion. Abstracts are limited to 3500 characters not including spaces. Tables or figures must be black and white with at least 300 dpi. Authors should not be identifiable via the title or body of the abstract.



REVIEW PROCESS

Abstracts will be peer-reviewed in a blinded manner. Review criteria focus on the validity, generalizability, and novelty of the findings, and the projected magnitude of impact on the quintuple aim.

CONTACT US

ACEP | 4950 W. Royal Lane, Irving, Texas 75036 | 972.440.0911 | researchforum@acep.org



ACEP Navigating Immigration Enforcement in the Emergency Department

NOTE: The information in this document is general guidance only and does not constitute legal advice. State laws and facility policies can vary greatly—consult your hospital’s administration or general counsel for more specific guidance.

Overview:

In 2021, the director of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) issued an [internal memo](#) directing ICE officers to generally avoid conducting enforcement activities (such as arrests, interviews, searches, and surveillance) at protected areas, including hospitals, churches, and schools. Housed under the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), ICE is the federal agency responsible for identifying and eliminating border, economic, transportation, and infrastructure security vulnerabilities. On January 20, 2025, this internal ICE policy was [re-scinded by DHS](#). Therefore, ICE officers are no longer discouraged from conducting enforcement activities in these areas, and the change could potentially lead to increased enforcement activities in these settings.

What Does This Mean for You?

Although ICE officers are no longer discouraged from conducting enforcement activities at protected areas including hospitals, how a hospital responds to ICE should be no different today than it was previously. Hospitals should ensure they have and follow policies and procedures for interacting with ICE officials.

ICE officials may enter a public area of a health-care facility without a warrant or the facility’s consent and may question any person present. Anyone questioned under these circumstances

has a right to remain silent. To enter a private area (an area not open to the public) of a health care facility or ED, enforcement officers must have either a warrant or consent from an authorized hospital staff person.

Health care providers have no affirmative legal obligation under federal law to inquire into or report to federal immigration authorities on a patient’s immigration status*. Federal health information privacy laws including HIPAA prohibit hospitals, physicians, and other health care providers from disclosing patient information to ICE officers unless:

- The patient signs a legally compliant “authorization for the release of information” form.
- The officer provides a valid subpoena, subpoena duces tecum, search warrant lawfully issued to ICE, or court order (for medical information requests).
- The officer provides a valid judicial warrant signed by a United States District Court judge or magistrate (for physical access requests).
- Another law (including state law) may require disclosure.

If ICE officers present themselves:

- Remain calm and composed. Call your hospital counsel or other designated authorized staff, with whom you have prepared for any such interactions.
- The appropriate, trained person should be the only interface with ICE. The hospital should have at least several people trained to do this as you cannot predict when they will show up and who will be on premises that day.
- Be polite, but be clear that you understand the law, the organization is compliant, and ask them if they have a warrant.

- If they do not have a warrant, keep them in the public space. While the officers have a right to question any person present, anyone questioned has a right to remain silent.
- Do not confirm nor deny the presence of a particular patient to the ICE officer.
- Be mindful of what is in “plain view”, as officers have the right to look at anything that is in “plain view” in a public area. This can include papers or files visible from the visitors’ side of the reception desk, for example. Any speech that officers can overhear unassisted while in a public area is also considered to be in “plain view”—even if it comes from a private area.

**Texas and Florida currently require hospitals to ask patients about their immigration status so they can report to the state the aggregate amount of uncompensated care provided to undocumented patients. In both states, hospitals must inform patients that no matter how they respond to immigration-related questions, they will receive care. Providers’ obligation to provide care under EMTALA is not affected by a patient’s decision not to provide their status.*

[Read the full article here.](#)



ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

Virtual Oral Board Review Courses

2025



ABEM Virtual Exam Simulation Live on Zoom:

April 7-8
September 15-16
November 20-21

This activity has been approved for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™*

WHY MAKE ICEP YOUR CHOICE FOR ORAL BOARD REVIEW?

- ICEP has 40+ years of experience helping Emergency Physicians pass their Oral Boards
- ICEP's Oral Board Review Courses provide a seamless simulation of ABEM's Virtual Oral Board Exam process
- Each course includes 5 single case encounters and 2 structured interviews administered by experienced ICEP faculty via Zoom
- **One-on-one case simulation** is followed by personalized feedback and tips for improving your exam score
- A video on tips and strategies for success is available on demand in advance of the course to help you prepare and maximize your course experience

Registration Fees:

\$695.00 ACEP/ICEP members
\$795.00 Non-Members

Courses are presented in a half-day format. The morning and afternoon cases are different, so Candidates can register for up to 2 sessions. Experienced ICEP faculty deliver cases **one-on-one** via Zoom and provide feedback to improve your exam performance.

For more information or to register, visit
icep.org/oral-board-review or contact Mary Taylor at
maryt@icep.org.

ICEP.org



ICEP Calendar *of* Events 2025

(Subject to change)

April 7-8, 2025
[Virtual Oral Board](#)
[Review Course](#)
Zoom

April 10, 2025
[Advocacy Day](#)
Springfield, IL

May 29, 2025
[The Ginny Kennedy Palys](#)
[Annual Symposium](#)
Chicago, IL

September 15-16, 2025
[Virtual Oral Board](#)
[Review Course](#)
Zoom

November 6, 2025
[Emergency Medicine LLSA](#)
[Article Review](#)
Zoom

November 20-21, 2025
[Virtual Oral Board](#)
[Review Course](#)
Zoom

Did you know? ICEP members have access to CME courses at no additional cost and an added benefit of your chapter membership.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

See the latest at [ICEP.org](https://www.icep.org) and follow on Facebook, Instagram and X/Twitter!



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