



Community Updates

Forensic Nursing Certification Board

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on behalf of FNCB

Leading the Future of Forensic Nursing: FNCB Unveils New Executive Committee 2025

FNCB <https://goforensicncb.org/>

Las Vegas, Nevada. – [September, 2025] – As the Forensic Nursing Certification Board (FNCB) celebrates 2025, we are pleased to announce the incoming Executive Committee members. This distinguished group of leaders and the board will guide the organization's strategic direction with a shared commitment to advancing forensic nursing specialty certification.

President: Deborah St. Germain, DNP, RN, AFN-C, IVSE-C, SANE-A, SANE-P



Deborah St. Germain, DNP, RN, brings an exceptional breadth of clinical expertise and visionary leadership to her role as President of the Forensic Nursing Certification Board (FNCB). With a distinguished 40-year nursing career spanning critical care, emergency, trauma, pediatrics, and forensic nursing, she holds a Doctor of Nursing Practice in Forensic Nursing and a Master's degree in Parent-Child Nursing as a Clinical Nurse Specialist.

For the past 25 years, Dr. St. Germain has dedicated her work to advancing the field of forensic nursing. Her extensive contributions include roles in death investigation, disaster response, legal nurse consulting, child maltreatment, interpersonal violence, human trafficking, strangulation, sexual assault care, and academic instruction. For a quarter-century, she taught a dynamic BSN elective in forensic nursing, shaping the next generation of practitioners.

Driven by an unwavering commitment to improving access to rigorous, evidence-based, and accredited specialty certifications, Dr. St. Germain is a steadfast advocate for professional excellence in forensic nursing. She believes that both Generalist and Advanced Forensic Nurse certifications reflect not only clinical expertise, but also a profound dedication to delivering high-quality, trauma-informed, and compassionate care to individuals and families navigating the intersection of health care and the legal system.

Treasurer: Heather J. Head, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, AFN-C, IVSE-C



As a board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner and Advanced Forensic Nurse, Heather describes that her career has been guided by a deep commitment to child advocacy and the protection of vulnerable populations. For more than twenty-five years, she has worked at the intersection of healthcare and justice, serving as Executive Director of the Edmondson Telford Center for Children (ETCAC), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit child advocacy center serving Hall and Dawson Counties in Northeast Georgia. Their mission is to ensure that vulnerable children receive the care, protection, and voice they deserve — an endeavor that Heather states has been one of the greatest honors of her life.

Heather's work in forensic nursing focuses on providing specialized pediatric forensic medical care, performing detailed examinations in cases of suspected abuse, training fellow nurses in forensic practice, and offering expert testimony in legal proceedings. Through this work, she has seen firsthand how critical forensic nursing is to both the immediate and long-term well-being of children who have experienced trauma. This discipline requires not only advanced clinical skill, but also compassion, precision, and an unwavering dedication to healing.

She describes serving on the Forensic Nursing Certification Board (FNCB) Board of Directors as a privilege. Heather believes that education is the cornerstone of preparing

practitioners to serve on the frontlines of trauma care. As the field evolves, ongoing learning and board certification ensures that we remain aligned with best practices, trauma-informed approaches, and effective interdisciplinary collaboration. This demonstrated knowledge empowers nurses not only to care for victims, but also to influence the systems that serve them—through policy work, expert testimony, and community engagement.

The advancement of forensic nursing as a specialized discipline is essential to improving our collective ability to respond to abuse, prevent further harm, and foster a more informed and compassionate healthcare system. Whether through training, mentorship, or contributing to research, Heather remains committed to supporting the growth of this field. Every step forward in forensic nursing education is a step toward justice and healing for those who need it most.