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NEWS RELEASE



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DEJANOVICH NAMED CHIEF STAFF OFFICER FOR ARKANSAS NURSES ASSOCIATION

LITTLE ROCK, AR – Joanne J. DeJanovich, MSN, RN, has been named chief staff Officer (CSO) of the Arkansas Nurses Association (ARNA). ARNA is the largest professional organization for registered nurses (RNs) in the state, a federation of 13 district nurses associations representing the interests of the state's 29,000 registered nurses.

As CSO, DeJanovich will be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the association, and the management of the office and staff. She will play a key role in facilitating achievement of the *ARNA'S 2007-2009 Strategic Plan*, that includes increasing membership, and expanding program services and continuing education activities for the nurses of Arkansas.

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DeJanovich retired as ARNA CSO in 1999, having served in that role for nine years. During her first tenure, she helped establish the Arkansas Nurses Foundation and the Center for Arkansas Nursing, Incorporated. She was instrumental in gaining accreditation status for ARNA from the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation as both a provider and approver of continuing nursing education programs. DeJanovich fostered the development of healthcare legislation that strengthened and promoted advanced practice nursing in Arkansas. After her retirement, she continued to serve in a volunteer capacity on a district and state level.

“Joanne DeJanovich is a seasoned association executive who has demonstrated strong leadership abilities. She has always been committed to the advancement of the nursing profession and to the nurses of Arkansas,” said ARNA President Sue McLarry, Ph.D, RN. “We are excited and pleased that Joanne will return to continue to mentor and guide the ARNA elected and appointed leaders, as she has done so often and so well over the years, even in “retirement”. She is a great asset to ARNA and to the nursing profession.”

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The Arkansas Nurses Association (ARNA) is the organization for professional nurses in Arkansas. ARNA represents and facilitates the advancement of the state's 29,000 registered nurses by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting professional development, and advocating for the profession of nursing.

