

CLEAR Board of Directors Candidate Nomination

My name is Micah Matthews and I am putting forward my nomination for membership on the CLEAR Board of Directors. This will be my final term. In the time that I have served, the Board of Directors has seen numerous changes in its composition and challenges faced. I believe my professional experience as well as my time of service on the board has more than prepared me to serve the membership in this position. I respectfully ask for your support once more.



In my day job, I am the Deputy Executive and Legislative Director for the Washington Medical Commission (WMC), the independent regulatory authority for physicians and physician assistants in Washington state. In this role I am responsible generally for the staff and operations of the organization and set the legislative agenda with input from the commission.

I also serve in volunteer capacities with the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB). I have served on numerous committees with FSMB to include the medical marijuana advisory group, the audit committee, the board executive advisory committee, and most recently I have been appointed to the digital credentialing and technology innovations committee. The technology committee was a direct result of a resolution I authored, put forward through the WMC, and was adopted by the House of Delegates.

I am proud to have been a part of the CLEAR Board of Directors cohort who had to face significant financial concerns due to the pandemic while simultaneously needing to confront our issues surrounding diversity, equity, and inclusion in the midst of the George Floyd inspired protests. We were able to navigate the financial concerns as any good board should do. We have taken on the challenge of DEI and understand it is an iterative process that requires constant progress to be meaningful. That is not to say that DEI principles were not important to the Board at that time, but the systemic structures that were in place did not have explicit awareness and intent behind DEI. Our goal of instituting DEI within our structures through explicit policy and procedure adoption is ongoing.

For me, DEI is personal. I am in a biracial relationship and I have two daughters who are growing up with different lived experiences than I was privileged to have. Every step forward towards inclusivity within systems is both a personal and professional victory.

My last candidate nomination, I expressed the intent of expanding the international footprint of CLEAR to help with sustainability and increase diverse representation. With the onset of the pandemic those efforts were necessarily delayed in favor of focus on retooling offerings to maintain fiscal viability. As we have navigated successfully out of the pandemic from a fiscal perspective, I again restate the need and my desire to drive those efforts on behalf of the organization. We must increase the footprint of CLEAR to achieve best practices from all areas of the globe. There are many considerations to account for these efforts, but I firmly believe they will be worth it in the long term for the health and meaningfulness of CLEAR.

I thank you again for your consideration and ask for your support.