

**MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
Midwifery Program**

Midwifery Advisory Council Member Application

The Midwifery Advisory Council (MAC) is an advisory council responsible for making recommendations on matters presented by the California Medical Board (Board) members, Board staff, or designees. The MAC represents the midwifery community and licensed midwives in the State of California. The MAC is comprised of three licensed midwives, one physician and surgeon, and two public members. Public member representatives have an interest in midwifery, but are not licensed midwives. The MAC members volunteer to serve and attend all MAC meetings for up to a three-year term. This application form has been developed to review volunteers interested in serving on the MAC. To be considered for appointment, please mail, email, or fax your MAC Member Application form no later than **March 1, 2023** to:

Medical Board of California
2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 1200
Sacramento, CA 95815
Attention: Midwifery Program
FAX: (916) 263-8936
tonya.morairty@mbc.ca.gov

Name:	Last Wilson-Tanev	First Mason	Middle Initial Marie	Suffix
Address:	Street	City	State	Zip Code
Phone:	Cell#	Home #	Work#	Fax#
Email:				

Are you a California Licensed Midwife?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	License Number: LM # <u>135</u>
Are you a California Licensed Physician?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	License Number: _____
	If yes, are you currently practicing as an obstetrician/gynecologist?	
	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
Are you, or have you ever been, a board member of a midwifery or physician related entity?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO If yes, please list the name of the board(s):	
	Name	Dates of Membership
	Name	Dates of Membership

Organization/Association: <i>(If volunteering as a non-licensee "public member" please insert the word "SELF - PUBLIC Interest")</i>	
Position within the Organization/Association: <i>(Board member, executive, or member)</i>	Board Member

Do you know anyone who might oppose your appointment to the MAC Advisory Council?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Is there anything in your background, if made known to the general public through service on the Advisory Council, would cause embarrassment to you and/or the Board?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Have you ever been formally disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct by an organization?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

**MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
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Please attach your resume or curriculum vitae.

Please attach a letter outlining your qualifications and interest in midwifery and home birth, including prior involvement with midwifery-related organizations.

Please attach three letters of recommendation from licensed midwives or clients in your area.
(If applying for midwife position at least 2 of the letters must be from practicing midwives in your area)

Mason Wilson-Tansu

(Signature)

02/20/2023

(Date)

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MASON MARIE WILSON-TANEV

EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Anthropology and Social Change Advisor: Andrej Grubacic	May 2025
MA	California Institute of Integrated Studies, San Francisco, CA Thesis: State Enclosure of Midwifery and The Freebirth Movement Advisor: Andrej Grubacic	May 2022
BS	California State University, East Bay Health Science	September, 2005

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

LM	Licensed Midwife (LM 135) Department of Consumer Affairs, Sacramento, CA	Nov. 2001
	Monash Certified IBS Counsellor	January, 2022
	International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC)	2014-2019
	Certified Massage Therapist	1994-present
	Neonatal Resuscitation Program Renewed January, 2022	1997-Present
	Basic Life Support CPR Renewed August, 2021	1997-present

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Field Obstetrics Theory and Practice CityCorp EMS, San Leandro CA	2021- present
Clinical Preceptor Bastyr University Midwives College of Utah National Midwifery Institute	2004-2013

Mason Marie Wilson-Tanev

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Event Coordinator Mission Control Community Organization	2009-2019
Board Member	2017-2019
Doula Contra Costa Regional Medical Center	1998-2000
Post-Partum Support International- Internship	2004-2005

EMPLOYMENT

Nova Midwifery Services- Owner and midwife	2001-present
Staff Midwife- San Francisco Birth Center	4/22-Present

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

California Association of Midwives	1998-2000 2003, 2005, 2007
American Public Health Association Annual Conference	2018
Midwives of North America Annual Conference	2018-2021

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

California Association of Midwives	2002-present
Midwives Alliance of North America	2006-present
Post-Partum Support International	2004-present
American Public Health Association	2018-present
United States Association of Body Psychotherapy	2020-present

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

California Association of Midwives Grievance Committee	2008-2010
Peer Review	1997-2002 2005-present

OTHER

Competitive Cyclist	2005-2009
Fusion Dancer	2016-present

REFERENCES

Dr. Andrej Grubacic
Department Chair- Anthropology and Social Change
California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco, CA

Dr. Michelle Gragg, DNP

Nancy Myrick, CNM

August 24, 2022



Sacred Body
Midwifery

Sue Baelen, LM, CPM

CA LM #195
CPM#06010005

To members of the Medical Board of California,

I'm writing to enthusiastically recommend Mason Wilson-Tanev as a member of the Midwifery Advisory Council.

Ms. Holzer is well qualified to serve on the MAC:

1. She is an outstanding and experienced California midwife who understands the needs of community-based licensed midwives
2. She is a valued member of both the homebirth and birth center communities, and is embraced by both providers and consumers
3. She is dedicated to finding ways to provide care to underserved populations who might especially benefit from individualized midwifery care

The California licensed midwifery community and the population at large, would be well served to have Ms. Wilson-Tanev serve on the MAC. Thank you for hearing my opinion.

Sincerely,

Sue Baelen
Licensed midwife

08/18/2022

To Whom it May Concern at the Medical Board of California,

My name is Molly Geisler, LM (644) and I am writing to recommend Mason Wilson-Tanev for the role of Midwife Chair on the Midwifery Advisory Council.

Mason has practiced midwifery in the Bay Area for over 20 years and currently she and I are colleagues at the San Francisco Birth Center. At SFBC, the team regularly engages in group decision making around clients or issues at hand and Mason is pivotal in these discussions. Mason brings considerable knowledge related to midwifery and health including well researched scientific topics, a deep holistic understanding of the perinatal cycle, a steady emotional intelligence, keen awareness of community resources, and insight into the many barriers faced by midwives and people seeking their care. As a teammate she brings both innovative thoughts as well as a true openness to the ideas of others. Alongside her visionary abilities Mason importantly has a robust and efficient work ethic. She is confident in what she knows while also seeking continual learning both formally and informally. Mason is often the first person to volunteer to fill a need at the Birth Center or offer to cover another midwife. She is a team player who really enjoys working with others. Truly, she is a passionate and experienced midwife and I know she would bring a unique drive to the MAC.

Mason's articulated goals while contributing to the MAC include ensuring affordable and culturally appropriate midwifery care for underserved and under-resourced populations, whether that be through optimizing existing programs or by innovating new approaches. Mason has also previously initiated research examining provider trauma and burnout that commonly occurs as midwives work to provide quality care. She hopes to further identify and confront barriers faced by midwives that can lead to these unsustainable outcomes. I believe Mason is a very strong candidate for this role and I look forward to seeing her in a position where she can leverage her extensive knowledge, experience, and innovative thinking for the betterment of midwifery practice in California.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should the need arise. Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,
Molly Geisler, LM, CPM



08/18/22

Ms. Morairty,

I am writing on behalf of Mason Willson-Tanev who is applying for a position on the Midwifery Advisory Council of the Medical Board of California.

I heartily endorse her for this position.

I have known Mason for 20 years through the midwifery community of the SF Bay Area. All of my interactions with her have been positive: professional, kind, and knowledgeable. She has a long history of advocating for pregnant people and for excellent midwifery care.

We recently were so lucky as to hire her at SF Birth Center as a staff midwife. Over the last six months I have seen her devotion to our clients and her smart, thorough and loving midwifery care. She is an incredible addition to our team.

The Midwifery Advisory Council would so benefit from her presence as it navigates the role of Licensed Midwives in the care of pregnant people. I can't imagine a better person to be a part of this body.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Most Sincerely,

Nancy Myrick, CNM (she/her)
Director
San Francisco Birth Center

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Medical Board of California
 2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 1200
 Sacramento, CA 95815
 Attention: Midwifery Program
 FAX: (916) 263-8936
 tonya.morairty@mbc.ca.gov

Name:	Last JAMES	First KENNETH	Middle Initial A	Suffix MD
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Address:	Street	City	State	Zip Code
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Phone:	Cell#	Home #	Work#	Fax#
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Email:	
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	If yes, are you currently practicing as an obstetrician/gynecologist?	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

Are you, or have you ever been, a board member of a midwifery or physician related entity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If yes, please list the name of the board(s):	
	Name BRN-CNAC	Dates of Membership Present	
	Name Laguna Beach OB/GYN + Midwifery Services	Dates of Membership see resume	
	OCuma + Midwife Services.		

Organization/Association:	
<i>(If volunteering as a non-licensee "public member" please insert the word "SELF - PUBLIC Interest")</i>	

Position within the Organization/Association:	Physician Advisor
<i>(Board member, executive, or member)</i>	

Do you know anyone who might oppose your appointment to the MAC Advisory Council?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
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(Signature)

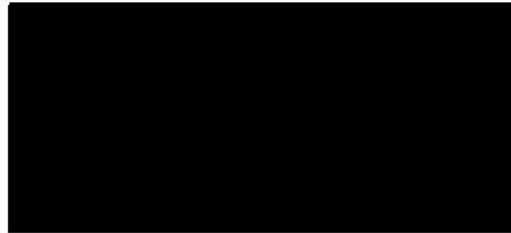
3-7-23

(Date)

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Kenneth A. James M.D. F.A.C.O.G.

Orange Coast Women's Medical Group



March 8, 2023

Dear Committee:

I have been practicing Obstetrics and Gynecology in a private practice setting since 1998. I have been the supervising physician and consulting physician for several community and hospital-based midwives since 2007. I started my own midwifery practice in 2010. I opened 2 in hospital birthing centers in Southern California.

My appreciation for physiologic birth started with my affiliation with a group of midwives when I moved to Laguna Beach in 2007. Coming from New York City where the medical model of obstetrics was heavily practiced, I slowly adopted a new approach to holistic obstetrics. I accepted more patient autonomy, associated myself with the natural birthing community and helped build our own natural birthing environment.

I was the founder and Director of Midwifery services at Providence Hospital in Mission Viejo. I am currently the Director of Midwifery services at Hoag Hospital in Orange County. I am presently responsible for 6 full time Certified Nurse Midwives where they do approximately 60 deliveries monthly. I lead their monthly meetings which include high risk consults, patient case reviews and lectures on current Obstetric and Gynecologic issues. I helped establish guidelines, procedures, and protocols for both an independent birthing center and two in-hospital birthing centers. I was completely and independently responsible for the Midwife practice and their patients for 10 years.

I believe I would be an excellent asset to this committee due to my tremendous passion for midwifery care. I subscribe to the Midwife model of care and have been trying to help Midwives gain a foothold in our community for over 10 years. My experience establishing several midwife practices and authoring the procedures and protocols makes me knowledgeable in running a practice, leading a practice, and troubleshooting issues and complications that may arise.

It would be my honor to serve on this committee.





Yours truly,

Kenneth A. James, M.D.

Kenneth A. James M.D. F.A.C.O.G.

Orange Coast Women's Medical Group



Profession:	Private practice Obstetrics and Gynecology 	March 2020-present
	Directory of Midwifery Services Hoag Hospital Irvine Irvine, CA	December 2020-present
	Private practice Obstetrics and Gynecology Laguna Beach OBGYN, Inc. and Midwifery Services 	2007-2020
	Director of Midwifery Services Mission Hospital Medical Center Mission Viejo, CA	2017-2020
	Midwife Consultant Beach Cities Midwifery 	2007-2021
	Private practice Obstetrics and Gynecology 	1998-2006

License: 

Appointments: Hoag Hospital Irvine and Newport Beach CA
Attending physician/Director of Midwifery Services
Saddleback Memorial Medical Center; Laguna Hills, CA
Attending physician

Education: Lenox Hill Hospital, New York, NY
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Residency in OBGYN 1998

FUHS/The Chicago Medical School, North Chicago, IL
Doctor of Medicine, 1994

University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Bachelor of Arts, Biology, 1989

Publications: Interventional Urology and Nephrology 34:545-550, 2002
Changes in Serum Sodium, Sodium Balance, Water Balance,
and Plasma Hormone Levels as the Result of Pelvic Surgery in Women

Research: Immunogenic Profiles in Women with Primary Recurrent
Spontaneous Abortions (RSA) and Secondary RSA
Department of Immunology and Microbiology
FUHS/CMS, 1990

Fetal Nucleated Red Blood Cells as a Marker for Antepartum Fetal Distress
Department of OBGYN, Lenox Hill Hospital, NY 1996

Societies: **American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology** Diplomat 2000
American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology Fellow 2001
American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine Member 2001
American Medical Association Member 1990
Orange County Medical Society Member 2007

Cambria Tuttle

MD, FNP, WNP



REFERENCE LETTER FOR DR. KENNETH JAMES

March 8, 2023

Address: Medical Board of California Midwifery Advisory Council

To Whom It May Concern,

I have had the privilege of getting to know and work alongside Dr. James for 2.5 years. I can confidently say that my midwifery career would not be successful without his continued collaboration, guidance and strong support of the midwifery model of care.

Dr. James is an advocate for his patients and by proxy, an advocate for midwives. He is a leader, promoter of evidence-based women's health care and most importantly believes in the options women have for their pregnancies, labors and births.

He is a supervising physician of one of the largest midwifery practices in Southern California and continues to create increased access to midwifery care for women in Orange County. He has and continues to influence beneficial changes within the medical system by re-incorporating traditional midwifery care in the hospital setting. It really is groundbreaking; the outcomes speak for themselves, and I am lucky to be a part of our shared practice.

With this said, I strongly urge you to consider Dr. James as an active physician member on your Midwifery Advisory Council. I cannot think of a more qualified and deserving physician to represent midwifery and believe in his capability to positively impact the health of our communities. I am happy to be called for any follow-up on behalf of this recommendation.

Sincerely,

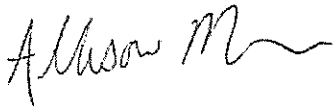
Cambria Tuttle, MD

March 9, 2023

To the California Medical Board Nurse Midwife Advisory Committee:

I am a Certified Nurse Midwife and have worked with Dr. Kenneth James for many years. He is well-respected among peers and the holistic birthing community, and an unwavering advocate for midwifery and birth choices. He is an exceptional Director with remarkable leadership capabilities. Dr. James brought me into his private practice years ago to start our community's first true collaborative physician/midwife practice. After creating a successful physician/midwife practice, he advocated for and advised on our community's first in-hospital birth center. He would be a tremendous asset for this committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Allison M.", with a decorative flourish at the end.

Allison Molinski, CNM

To the Medical Board of California,

If you are looking for a physician with passionate, unwavering, true support of the traditional model of midwifery care to join an elite group on the Midwifery Advisory Committee, look no further than Dr. Kenneth James. Dr. James is a pioneer in the world of hospital based midwifery care. He frequently shares with his partners, peers, and patients alike that working with midwives many years ago inspired and transformed his model of practice; he models this well. As a Certified Nurse Midwife that is partnered with him in practice, I can attest that he truly believes in, supports, and models the midwifery model of care.

While I could talk endlessly on Dr. James' obstetric practice, and the exceptional care he offers his patients, I want to focus on how he supports midwifery care. Dr. James currently oversees myself as well as our group of seven additional Certified Nurse Midwives. We practice hospital based midwifery care in the most traditional sense that we can within the hospital setting. We empower women to trust their bodies, seeing pregnancy and birth as a natural experience, and providing compassionate care where we truly form a relationship with women while we see them throughout their pregnancy and birth. We are able to practice this way because of the unwavering support we get from Dr. James. Dr. James is always our largest advocate; the hospital system is often "built" for MDs, and as midwives sometimes our voices can seem quiet. Fortunately for us, Dr. James does not diminish our voices, but instead stands alongside us to make them louder and to help us advocate for ourselves and our patients. Dr. James has worked tirelessly alongside us to get "midwife" rooms established within the hospital we provide care, including tub use, queen size beds, accessible showers, aromatherapy, and an outdoor walking garden for laboring, because he believes that these amenities strengthen our ability to provide holistic care, and promote good outcomes for our patients. He has succeeded alongside us in making midwifery suites a reality at two large hospitals in Orange County. He is patient and kind to the women we serve. He quietly oversees our care, providing support when needed, while honoring the space for these women and allowing us to do our best work without time constraints. He truly understands the scope of our license. When we need assistance, he comes readily, and uses his own midwifery-style techniques to promote best outcomes for our patients. He is always happy to co-manage patients with us when needed, ensuring the patient has the appropriate medical attention they require while not stripping them of the nurturing midwifery care we can still provide. When he needs to assume care for us (i.e. when a patient becomes extremely high risk or needs a cesarean birth), he does so with grace and maintains compassion for the patient. I feel very lucky every day I get to work with him. I cannot recommend him enough for this position.

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to email me at

Sincerely,

Breanna Davis, MSN, CNM, WHNP-BC
Orange Coast Women's Medical Group