
Organized Medical Staff Section (AMA-OMSS)

Member At-large

Name

John Luster

Credentials

MD, MPH

Pronouns

Rather not say



Statement of interest

I am excited to announce my candidacy for the AMA OMSS Governing Council in 2024. My journey with the OMSS started two decades ago in Orange, California, where I joined fellow physicians in a passionate fight to protect our local hospitals from a hostile corporate takeover. This successful battle propelled me into leadership roles, from OMSS delegate to the CMA and AMA, culminating in my appointment as Chair of the California OMSS.

Over the years, our hospitals have undergone momentous transformations, with the rise of hospitalists, the disappearance of primary care physicians within hospitals, and the shift to employed physician models. Yet, amidst these changes, a more concerning trend has emerged—the corporatization of healthcare and private equity takeovers, leading to hospital closures and a crisis in healthcare access across the country, especially for our rural and underserved communities. The need for strong physician voices and involvement in defense of our hospitals, medical staffs, and patients has never been more urgent.

I believe key efforts for the OMSS should be with membership, the re-engagement of the hospitalist and employed hospital physicians with the OMSS, reaching out to medical students and young physicians about the important work of the OMSS and their future place in it, fighting for a meaningful voice for primary care physicians in the care of their hospitalized patients, and, lastly, an outreach to the medical staffs across the country to join their fellow medical staffs at the OMSS for the great work we can only do together.