



## Media Contact

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## For Immediate Release

### Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing Certification Board Selects Winner of 2009 Employer Recognition Award

James A. Haley V.A. Medical Center of Tampa, Florida to Receive Award

**MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin, June 7, 2009** | The Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing Certification Board (WOCNCB) announced that the James A. Haley V.A. Medical Center of Tampa, Florida, is the recipient of the 2009 WOCNCB Employer Recognition Award. The announcement was made by Carol Calianno, Chair of the WOCNCB Awards Committee and WOCNCB Financial Officer.

Since its founding in 1978, WOCNCB has been promoting the highest standard of consumer care and safety by providing credentialing in the areas of wound, ostomy, continence and foot care nursing. The WOCNCB Employer Recognition Award is a means to publicly recognize organizations, facilities, or departments that advocate for or promote specialty nursing certification in the wound, ostomy, continence and foot care specialty.

WOCNCB President, Patti Gable Burke, RN, BSN, CWOCN, presented the award to Candice C. Watkins of the James A. Haley V.A. Medical Center on June 7 at the 2009 Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing Society annual conference. The winning Employer Recognition Award application will be posted on the WOCNCB Web site, [www.WOCNCB.org](http://www.WOCNCB.org).

“The programs in place at the James A. Haley V.A. Medical Center that support nurses seeking certification and recognize those that have succeeded, truly advance the value of nursing certification,” noted Carol Calianno, RN, MSN, CWOCN, Awards Chair of WOCNCB.

“As the Awards Committee evaluated the nomination materials submitted for this award, several actions stood out. In particular, the medical center encourages nurses to seek national

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and the American Board of Nursing Specialties.





certification by reimbursing exam expenses, recertification fees, educational program costs, and by rewarding completion with salary adjustments. Other outstanding actions that demonstrate the commitment of the facility is internal recognition of certified staff via approval of time away from the job while attending education programs and newsletter articles recognizing and emphasizing board certification. The requirement of Wound, Ostomy and Continence Board Certification will ensure that their nurses will be rewarded in an appropriate manner.”

Calianno adds, “Through efforts such as those demonstrated in the nomination application submitted, the WOCNCB vision – *public recognition of certification by the WOCNCB as The Gold Standard for Certification<sup>sm</sup> and quality nursing care in the wound, ostomy or continence specialty* – will be achieved!”

Among the criteria necessary to win this award, the organization must document the financial support for certification, publish or otherwise communicate organization-wide recognition of achievement of the WOCNCB credentials, provide salary recognition awards to certified nurses, and mention WOCNCB when recruiting for nurse positions.

Other criteria include how the organization supports nurses seeking certification, such as providing reimbursement of certification examination and review course fees or providing paid time off to take certification examinations or review courses.

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### **About the WOCNCB**

The Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing Certification Board is a professional organization dedicated to providing consumer safety and protection by offering credentialing in the areas of wound, ostomy, continence and foot care nursing to registered nurses who meet WOCNCB’s stringent qualifications and pass its certification examination. WOCNCB certified nurses provide quality care to patients in a variety of settings, including hospitals, long-term care facilities, and home healthcare. The WOCNCB has certified more than 5,600 nurses worldwide. The WOCNCB is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies and the American Board of Nursing Specialties.

For more information, contact the WOCNCB at (888) 496-2622, e-mail [marketingmanager@wocncb.org](mailto:marketingmanager@wocncb.org), or visit [www.wocncb.org](http://www.wocncb.org).



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