



INTERNATIONAL
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Nurses**

ForensicNurses.org

p 410 626 7805
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For immediate release

February 7, 2025

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**Expert at the Intersection of Public Health, Nursing, and the Legal System
Named to Lead *Journal of Forensic Nursing***

Dr. Carolyn Porta takes the helm of peer-reviewed journal
that articulates nursing's response to violence

ELKRIDGE, Md. — The International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN) has named Carolyn Porta, PhD, MPH, RN, SANE-A, FAAN, FNAP as the new Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Forensic Nursing (JFN)*, IAFN's official peer-reviewed research publication.

JFN has been published since 2005 and is the original journal focused on the forensic nursing specialty. Dr. Porta is the journal's third editor-in-chief. *JFN* addresses health care issues that transcend health and legal systems by articulating nursing's response to violence. It features empirical studies, review and theoretical articles, methodological and concept papers, and case reports that address the provision of care to victims and perpetrators of violence, trauma, and abuse. Topics are broad and include but are not limited to forensic nursing evidence-based care for those who have experienced interpersonal violence (sexual assault, abuse, intimate partner violence); death investigation; legal and ethical issues; forensic mental health nursing; correctional nursing; and emergency and trauma nursing.

"Dr. Porta brings exceptional expertise as both a practicing forensic nurse and distinguished academic leader to this role at *JFN*," said IAFN CEO Jennifer Pierce-Weeks, BSN, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P. "Her research portfolio is particularly relevant to our field, focusing on trauma-informed practice, organizational leadership, and workforce well-being. Her extensive experience in securing and managing major research initiatives and impressive publication record demonstrate her capability to advance our journal's mission of disseminating cutting-edge forensic nursing scholarship."

Currently serving as Professor of Nursing and Associate Vice President for Clinical Affairs at the University of Minnesota, Dr. Porta has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to advancing forensic nursing practice and research throughout her career. Since becoming a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner in 1996, Dr. Porta has continued to provide direct forensic nursing care through the Regions Hospital program in the Twin Cities Metro Area, maintaining vital connections to clinical practice. As a first-generation college student in her family, Dr. Porta has earned five degrees, including a doctorate in nursing, from the University of Minnesota; she also completed a year of post-doctoral work there, building her skills as a mixed methods researcher. She is a prolific researcher and author, having published more than 120 articles in peer-reviewed journals, and has co-authored four editions of the award-winning *Population-Based Public Health Clinical Manual: The Henry Street Model for Nurses*.

"My vision for *JFN* in support of forensic nursing is simple: to build on our successful foundation as the premier platform for advancing forensic nursing science and practice," Dr. Porta said. "I am committed to bringing advances in science, practice, and policy that directly and positively impact our work and well-being to every forensic nurse. Ultimately, that information will inspire questions, ideas, and solutions for our tomorrows."

Dr. Porta has previously served IAFN on the board of directors, research committee, and as an Associate Editor for the *JFN*. ensures she understands our community's needs and aspirations. Dr. Porta's interdisciplinary background in nursing and public health, combined with her extensive experience in community-based research and global partnerships, positions her perfectly to lead our journal in addressing contemporary challenges in forensic nursing.

Dr. Porta succeeds Cindy Peternelj-Taylor, RN, MSc, DF-IAFN, who recently retired after serving as editor-in-chief for 14 years and five years as associate editor.

The International Association of Forensic Nurses is a professional organization of more than 6,000 nurses who provide specialized healthcare for patients impacted by violence. The Association establishes the standards of practice for forensic nursing; defines and advances the global research agenda to enhance forensic nursing's evidence-based response; develops, promotes, and disseminates information about forensic nursing science; and serves as a global network for forensic nurses to exchange ideas, serve as mentors, and enhance their practice. For more information, visit forensicnurses.org.

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