Commissioner Spotlight



Candace Vervair, Public Member

I am a retired paralegal from the Office of Attorney General (AG), and my time there was spent reviewing and helping with medical professional disciplinary cases. I learned so much from this experience, and understand the importance of determining whether a practitioner has the public well-being in mind with their actions. I decided to join the WMC to help keep the Washington public safer. Here is a little about me:

- I grew up in Spokane, Washington in the 50's and 60's, got married to a local guy and we lived there until 1990. We're hoping to move back there this year.
- In my day job at the AG's office, I started as a legal assistant and in time moved up to a paralegal. Our job was to help prepare cases that were being litigated regarding the licenses of health care professionals.
- I think the one thing PAs / MDs should do in their practice is be passionate about their work. You have really important jobs, and should enjoy them.
- My career has surprised me by how it has changed since graduating from college. I graduated with a Sociology
 degree from the UW in 1973. My first "career" was as a travel agent for about 20 years. Later, among other
 things, I worked as an assistant in the Nursing and Dental Hygiene departments at a community college. The
 last 18 years of my working life was in the legal profession.
- Technology has changed health care, from my perspective as a patient, by making it so much easier to record and access medical information.
- I see the future of medicine as changing rapidly, with technology getting more sophisticated.
- The profession could benefit from learning how to screen for colon cancer with some method other than a colonoscopy (from a patient's point of view). Once you turn 50, you'll understand.
- During my free time I love to walk, read, kayak and garden. I love being outside.
- The most memorable trip I ever took was back in the 8o's, when my husband and I toured New Zealand by car and stopped in Fiji on our return.
- I want to explore and hike as many National Parks as I can. I was able to hike Volcanoes National Park during our recent trip to Hawaii.
- I absolutely cannot live without peanut butter. And chocolate.
- My fitness routine includes jumping on my elliptical for 30-40 minutes each morning and walking my dog 1-2 miles almost every day.
- One day I would like to master painting and drawing once again. I was pretty good at it in my younger days.
- Nobody would ever suspect that I am irrationally afraid of heights.
- Friends would describe me as calm, friendly and easy to be around. My husband may have a different take.
- I give back to my community by serving dinner once a month to the homeless at Union Gospel Mission with a group from my church. Taco Monday. We serve about 150-200 people each month.
- This is on my bucket list: walk a 10K in each state capitol for a Volkswalk award (my walking group it's an international organization that hosts walks everywhere)
- An item I would never throw out my mom's china. Too many good memories.
- I would like to meet the author CS Lewis.
- My first car was a 1970 AMC Gremlin. Paid for with cash that I earned working at Expo 74 in Spokane.
- I wish mom jeans of the 8o's would come back into style
- My first concert was the Beatles in Seattle, on their second tour in America. I'm pretty sure my left ear never recovered from all the screaming during the concert.
- The one superpower I would like to have is to be able to fly.
- If I have learned one thing in life, it is that you always have a choice.

