



Karla K. Murphy, MD

President South Dakota State Medical Association 2011-2012

Karla K. Murphy, MD, a board-certified pathologist at Physicians Laboratory, Ltd., in Sioux Falls, became the 130th president of the South Dakota State Medical Association (SDSMA) in June 2011. Dr. Murphy has been a member of the SDSMA since 1987.

A Brookings native, Dr. Murphy received her MD from the University of South Dakota School of Medicine (now the Sanford School of Medicine of The University of South Dakota).

She is board-certified in anatomical and clinical pathology, having worked in multiple locations since completing her pathology residency in Sioux Falls.

Licensed in South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa, Dr. Murphy practiced for four years in Aberdeen before joining Physicians Laboratory, Ltd., in Sioux Falls in 1990. She is a partner in the independent pathology practice that also provides pathology services in Brookings, Mitchell, Yankton and beyond.

Dr. Murphy has been involved in the leadership of organized medicine in South Dakota for decades. She is a member of the American Medical Association and the College of American Pathologists, serving in advocacy and policy roles. She has also previously served as President of the South Dakota State Pathology Society.

Dr. Murphy has held numerous offices within the SDSMA's Executive Committee, as well as serving as President and Councilor of the Seventh District Medical

Society. She has served on the SDSMA PAC Board, the SDSMA Committee on Legislation and the Medicaid Task Force. Dr. Murphy has also volunteered for the SDSMA's advocacy efforts during legislative sessions.

Access to health care for all, education and effective/efficient coordination of health care services are critical to Dr. Murphy, as well as ensuring the protection of personal health care information for patients.

Dr. Murphy has been a medical educator to students in a variety of realms within the scope of health care, including nursing, clinical laboratory science and the practice of medicine. She strongly encourages all students to choose health careers and speaks to community groups to emphasize the importance of health.

"I'm grateful to my mentors and want to pay it forward," Dr. Murphy says.

When she's not working in the lab, Dr. Murphy's hobbies include gardening, quilting, traveling, President Abraham Lincoln/Civil War-era American history and researching her family's lineage. Dr. Murphy enjoys spending time with her husband, three children and a "lightning-fast" Corgi named Dexter.