Dear Charles P. Fasano, D.O.,

My name is Joanna Malcotti and I am a physician assistant who graduated from Saint Francis University in Loretto, PA. I now have a position in family practice in Manassas, VA that I enjoy tremendously. I work with several other practitioners, including another PA, three nurse practitioners, and several physicians, who include both medical doctors and doctors of osteopathy. In fact, my supervising physician is an outstanding DO, with whom I have a great working relationship.

I am aware that in the state of Pennsylvania, physician assistants do not have prescriptive authority if they are working under a DO. This is an extremely unfortunate fact, as it tremendously limits the ability for osteopathic physicians to work with PAs. As physician assistants are extremely well-utilized are found more commonly in the medical community, a DO would certainly expand his or her practice by working with a PA. It should be noted that physician assistants have been safely prescribing medication under the supervision of medical doctors for many years. It is my hope that the Osteopathic Board of Medicine chooses to grant PAs the same prescribing regulations that they receive under allopathic physicians. It will certainly benefit osteopathic physicians, physician assistants, and most importantly, the patients for whom they care.

Respectfully yours,

Joanna Malcotti, PA-C

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