Javaris D. Polk, BSN, RN, CCRN, EMTP
Critical Care Nurse
Member, Birmingham Black Nurses Association
Moderator

Javaris D. Polk is a critical care nurse and member of the Birmingham chapter. While continuing to work as a firefighter/paramedic he pursued a career in nursing. He plans to obtain an advanced practice degree and work on bringing young African American men into the profession.

Jose Perpignan, Jr., BSN, RN
Critical Care Registered Nurse
New York-Presbyterian/Columbia
Member, Greater New York City Black Nurses Association

Jose Perpignan is employed with New York-Presbyterian/Columbia Hospital in the Intensive Care Unit Float Pool. He received a BSN degree from the University of Rochester School of Nursing in 2016 and is enrolled in the Post-BS-DNP Family Nurse Practitioner program. He is a founding member of the Greater New York City Black Nurses Association. Mr. Perpignan was honored as the 2020 “Healthcare Hero” on the Live with Kelly Ripa and Ryan Seacrest Show, winning a $100,000 grant.

Carter Todd, MSN, RN
Assistant Nurse Manager
President, Capitol City Black Nurses Association (Sacramento)

Carter Todd is an Assistant Nurse Manager in Sacramento, CA and the President of the Capitol City Black Nurses Association. He is a recent graduate of the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing's Master of Science - Nursing Leadership at University of California, Davis. Mr. Todd is a recent recipient of the 40 Under 40 Award from the Sacramento Business Journal; the Emerging Nurse Leaders Award given by the Association of California Nurse Leaders; and the Under 40 Award given by the National Black Nurses Association in 2019 at the national conference held in New Orleans, LA

Columbus Batiste, MD
Interventional Cardiologist
Assistant Clinical Professor at
UC Riverside School of Medicine

Dr. Columbus Batiste is a board-certified Interventional Cardiologist and Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of California Riverside School of Medicine. A member of the Association of Black Cardiologists, Dr. Batiste's mission is to share information so that “each-one can teach-one” about the benefits of plant-based nutrition, daily exercise, and stress reduction.

Eric Walsh, MD, DrPH
Physician and Health Administrator
County of Orange, CA

Dr. Eric Walsh is a graduate of the University of Miami School of Medicine and the Loma Linda University School of Public Health where he received his masters and doctorate in public health. He has served as advisor on HIV/AIDS to Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama. He is a practicing physician and health care administrator. Dr. Walsh partners with Dr. Columbus Batiste in the Slave Food Project. This project links stress, discrimination and nutrition to health disparities and seeks to empower communities of color to live in wellness.