



## Press Release

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### **WOCNCB, Nurse Practitioner Mark Milestone** Trailblazer Teresa Russell Renews Commitment to Excellence

### For Immediate Release

**Milwaukee, WI April 21, 2011** The Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing Certification Board ([WOCNCB](http://www.WOCNCB.org)) announces an important milestone. Teresa Russell, MSN RNP-CNS, CWON-AP, who in 2006 became the first WOCNCB certified nurse to earn a WOCNCB Advanced Practice credential, has continued her commitment WOCNCB certification by recertifying her Advance Practice credentials.

“We congratulate Teresa as a trailblazer who set a high standard for herself five years ago and continues to hold that high standard today,” says Diana Gallagher, RN, MS, CWOCN, CFCN, CHT, president of WOCNCB.

“I made the decision to go for the AP certification because I was a Nurse Practitioner, and I worked in a credential-minded facility,” adds Ms. Russell. “I wanted to be top of the heap, and I didn’t want anyone to question my abilities. I wanted the strongest credential I could have.”

Ms. Russell, a San Diego resident, has been a nurse for 20 years, specializing in wound, ostomy, and continence nursing. A Nurse Practitioner for eight years, she has been employed at the VA La Jolla Medical Center for four years and also teaches Pharmacology and perioperative nursing at Southwestern College.

The WOCNCB established the AP certification program at the request of Advanced Practice nurses specializing in wound, ostomy and continence areas. Certification is granted to nurses who already have WOCNCB certification and who complete a professional portfolio. The portfolio criteria allow the nurse to document professional activities that go beyond routine, entry-level wound, ostomy or continence practice. The WOCNCB AP credentials are intended to indicate advanced abilities in the wound, ostomy or continence specialties and do not necessarily meet state licensure requirements.

### About WOCNCB

The Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing Certification Board is a professional organization dedicated to providing consumer safety and protection by offering credentialing in the areas of wound, ostomy, continence and foot care nursing to registered nurses who meet WOCNCB’s stringent qualifications and pass its certification examination. WOCNCB certified nurses provide quality care to patients in a variety of settings, including hospitals, long-term care facilities, and home healthcare.

Today, more than 6,100 WOCNCB certified RNs are practicing in the United States, Canada, South Korea, Japan, Malaysia, the United Kingdom and Saudi Arabia. The WOCNCB is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies and the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification. For more information, contact the WOCNCB at (888) 496-2622, e-mail [marketingmanager@wocncb.org](mailto:marketingmanager@wocncb.org), or visit [www.wocncb.org](http://www.wocncb.org).

**The wound, ostomy and continence certifications of the WOCNCB are accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABNSC), formerly the accreditation committee of the American Board of Specialty Nursing (ABNS).**

