



## SOCIETY OF VASCULAR AND INTERVENTIONAL NEUROLOGY

### Board Member Roles and Responsibilities

SVIN seeks board members with strong **integrity**, a demonstrated commitment to the field of interventional neurology, and a desire to improve clinical care for patients with stroke and cerebrovascular diseases. Candidates should act as a nexus for industry-wide interaction and uphold service excellence.

#### Key Attributes:

- **Leadership and Strategic Acumen:** Proven leadership, strategic thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making skills are crucial. Board members should be logical, analytical, and visionary, capable of identifying and articulating opportunities.
  - **Character and Ethics:** Strong ethics, integrity, open-mindedness, and a team-player attitude are essential. A successful board member is honest, enthusiastic, and takes an orderly approach to decision-making.
  - **Engagement and Commitment:** Board members must be proactive, results-oriented, and willing to dedicate time and resources. They should have an interest in advancing SVIN's mission, the ability to support its programs, and a recognition of their fiduciary responsibilities.
  - **Perspective and Experience:** A global perspective and prior non-profit board experience are highly valued. Candidates should be connected to resources, have a historical understanding of the industry, and possess prestige within their community.
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### Core Responsibilities

Board responsibilities can be broken down into three main categories: setting direction, ensuring resources, and providing oversight.

#### 1. Set Organization Direction

- **Strategic Planning:** Engage in strategic thinking and planning to determine the organization's mission, purpose, and values.
- **Goal Implementation:** Assist in implementing and monitoring the organization's strategic plan and its goals.
- **Communication:** Communicate effectively with management, staff, and the community about any changes in the organization's direction.

#### 2. Ensure Necessary Resources

- **Financial Health:** Ensure the organization has adequate financial resources. This includes actively participating in fundraising, developing new revenue streams, and overseeing the annual budget and audit processes.
- **Leadership and Staff:** Hire capable executive leadership and support them in their role.

- **Brand and Image:** Enhance and promote the organization's public image to foster a positive reputation and garner community support.
- **Board Development:** Ensure the presence of a capable and responsible board by recruiting, orienting, and providing ongoing training to new and current members.

### 3. Provide Oversight

- **Governance vs. Management:** Focus on governance, leaving day-to-day management to the chief executive and staff. Maintain clear roles and responsibilities.
  - **Risk Management:** Minimize exposure to risk by creating necessary policies and ensuring legal and ethical standards are upheld. This includes a conflict-of-interest policy.
  - **Performance Assessment:** Regularly measure progress against the strategic plan, assess the performance of the chief executive, and evaluate the board's own performance.
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## Legal Duties of Board Members

All board members have specific legal duties to the organization, which are critical for its operation and integrity.

- **Duty of Care:** This requires **active participation** and due diligence. Board members must attend meetings, stay informed, and act with the same level of care that a "prudent person" would in their own affairs. This includes ensuring accurate minutes are kept and financial records are reviewed.
- **Duty of Loyalty:** The organization's interests must always take precedence over a board member's personal interests. This involves avoiding conflicts of interest, refraining from self-dealing, and not diverting business opportunities for personal gain. A written conflict of interest policy is essential.
- **Duty of Obedience:** Board members must comply with the organization's governing documents (articles of incorporation, bylaws and policies) as well as all applicable state and federal laws. Board members serve as guardians of the organization's mission.

## Key Suggestions for Success

- **Active Participation:** Attend all meetings and actively engage in discussions.
- **Informed Decision-Making:** Review all materials, understand the organization's mission and policies, and ask questions.
- **Financial Literacy:** Insist on understanding financial statements.
- **Ethical Conduct:** Uphold the highest ethical standards and follow all conflict of interest and confidentiality policies.