

Sent: Friday, May 08, 2015 8:56 AM
To: Briel, Ron
Subject: scrub tech and first assistants

Hi Ron,

My name is Mat Hinze and I'm a board certified plastic surgeon in Lincoln having practiced here the past ten years since moving from Texas in 2005. During that time I've been impressed with the level of medical and surgical care our residents receive from the physicians and surgeons in this community. I'd also been impressed with the skill and dedication of the ancillary care providers and the extended care providers such as PAs, nurse practitioners and the like. They're hard working and empathetic to the plight of those whose experiencing illness. I would also include those very skilled individuals in our operating suites in all the hospitals in Lincoln and for that matter all the communities in the state blessed to have facilities where surgery is performed regularly. As you know, about a year ago through some archaic statute we lost a valuable asset in the OR when trained scrub techs who showed a keen interest in learning and maintaining skills in suturing and aiding surgeons in helping and in supervised setting being able to help in closure of basic wounds thereby shortening the time on the operating table and reducing the risk associated with prolonged anesthesia times. With longer times under anesthesia one can expect more post operative complications from blood clots forming in the legs and pelvis which may be dislodged and produce pulmonary thrombosis and even stroke should a blood clot travel to the brain. We also see more post operative atelectasis, a condition where the patient has a difficult time opening the alveolar sacs in the pulmonary tree of the lungs which in turn produces pneumonia like symptoms and prolongs hospitalization. I'm sure the intentions of those legislators in the late 1800s and early 1900s were dealing with a loose and unregulated situation on the frontier and could not have foreseen modern medicine and surgery as it has evolved today. Please please perform surgery and excise this archaic statute from the law books and help in restoring a very useful skill and necessary part of the OR by allowing once again those individuals whose profession is to provide the utmost in care along side we surgeons.

Thank you sincerely,

Mathieu L. Hinze, MD
Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon