



## BVNPT elects new President, PT Samantha James-Perez



At its February 4 meeting, The Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians elected its Vice-President, PT Samantha James-Perez, to the office of Board President. Her post will succeed that of PT Todd D’Braunstein, whose term on the Board is set to expire this June. D’Braunstein did not run for reelection. Andrew Moreno, a public member of the Board, was elected Vice-President on the same day.

“I am very honored to have been elected to the position of BVNPT President,” James-Perez wrote in an email to CAPT. “I am fully dedicated to our profession, especially during this time of change. As readers are well aware, the settings in which Licensed Psychiatric Technicians practice and are employed are changing and expanding, due in large part to the closing of State Developmental Centers. Make no mistake, new opportunities abound for PTs, but we must proactively pursue them!”

After Todd D’Braunstein, James-Perez is the second Psych Tech to direct the operations of the BVNPT, the regulatory board charged with enforcing our educational requirements, standards and scope of practice.

“I encourage all licensees to spread the word, provide education, and correct misinformation, when necessary, about our unique scope of practice, especially to employers, potential employers, co-workers, and community leaders,” wrote James-Perez. “Licensed Psychiatric Technicians are skilled and valuable members of the healthcare team – California needs us!”

James-Perez was first appointed to the Board by Gov. Brown in September 2013. She was elected Vice-President in February 2015 and re-appointed to a four-year term in June of that same year.

James-Perez currently works as a PT/LVN Education Coordinator and Medication Services Supervisor at Pacific Clinics, a Community Behavioral Health agency in Southern California. She completed the PT program at Mt. San Antonio College in 1997 and was licensed the same year.

James-Perez can be reached by contacting the BVNPT Administrative Department at **916-263-7845**.

For more information on the BVNPT, board members, regulations, history, meetings and more, visit [www.bvnpt.ca.gov](http://www.bvnpt.ca.gov).