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**Wilkes-Barre General Hospital Dismisses Anesthesia Contractor,
Nurse Anesthetists Rescind Strike Notice**

Wilkes-Barre, PA - On Friday, nurse anesthetists at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital withdrew their notice to strike beginning Wednesday, February 2nd, after it was announced that Capital Anesthesia Solutions, their employer, has been dismissed by the Hospital as the third party anesthesia contractor.

The Wyoming Valley Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist Association was in contract negotiations with their employer, Capital Anesthesia Solutions, since April 2021 with recruitment and retention of staff at the forefront of their negotiations. Last week, they voted to authorize a one-day strike for February 2nd. "We are grateful for the support of our community, especially during National CRNA Week. We will keep the public informed of our situation with the new employer when we have more to share," said WV CRNAA President Anne Marie Micikas.

Nancy Dines, VP of Wyoming Valley Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists Association / PASNAP, said "We look forward to bargaining a fair union contract with our new employer, whomever that may be -- a contract that ensures full and safe staffing of our anesthesia department so that we can provide our community with the quality the care it deserves."

Capital Anesthesia Solutions is an Ohio-based anesthesia contractor that was retained in August 2020 by Wilkes-Barre General Hospital when the previous anesthesia contractor left due to a dispute regarding unpaid bills.

The Wyoming Valley Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists Association is an affiliate of the Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals, which represents more than 9,000 nurses and healthcare professionals across the Commonwealth and was founded on the belief that patients receive the best care when clinical-care staff have a strong voice to advocate for both patients and themselves.

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