

**Joseph Avila, MBA, BHA, CRCST**

Administrator, Sterile Processing & High-Level Disinfection  
University of Virginia Health System – Charlottesville, VA



Joseph Avila is a healthcare operations leader with more than 25 years of experience strengthening sterile processing, surgical services, and supply chain performance across military, academic, and large health system environments. He currently serves as Administrator for Sterile Processing and High-Level Disinfection at University of Virginia (UVA) Health System, where he directs operational strategy, regulatory compliance, and patient-safety focused quality initiatives.

Mr. Avila serves on the Board of Directors for the Healthcare Sterile Processing Association (HSPA) and has served on the board with Houston Community College (HCC), where he has helped shape national standards, workforce development pathways, and long-term organizational growth. At HSPA, he contributes to the national 5-year strategic plan, exam review committees, and advocacy efforts supporting certification consistency and patient safety nationwide. At HCC, he played a pivotal role in expanding sterile processing program capacity by 125%, securing major grants and equipment donations, and strengthening workforce pipelines for critical healthcare roles.

Before joining UVA Health, Mr. Avila spent over a decade as Regional Director of Sterile Processing and OR Materials for one of the largest hospital systems in Texas. He reduced expenditures across multiple categories, streamlined supply chain operations, and led major systemwide initiatives—including supply standardization, staffing redesign, and cross-disciplinary quality programs that realized multi-million-dollar savings and score improvements.

Mr. Avila began his career in the United States Navy, serving 10 years in Surgical Services and earning numerous honors, including Sailor of the Year, multiple Sailor of the Quarter awards, and Top Technician of the Pacific Fleet. In this role, he supported more than 10,000 surgical procedures, ensured regulatory compliance with DoD and Joint Commission standards, and served as a Navy's Subject Matter Expert for Surgery.

He holds an MBA from Texas A&M University and a BHA from Belhaven University, and he remains an active national speaker and contributor to advancing sterile processing standards, education, and frontline workforce advocacy.