

American Gem Trade Association Announces Board of Directors' Election Results

Dallas, Texas, September 11, 2015 - The American Gem Trade Association (AGTA) announced today the results of its annual AGTA Board of Directors' Election. Mr. Jeffrey Bilgore, of Jeffrey Bilgore, LLC, was elected President. Ms. Cynthia Renée (Marcusson), of Cynthia Renee, Inc., and Mr. Avi Raz, of A & Z Pearls, Inc., were likewise re-elected as Directors to the Board. Ms. Kusam Malhotra, of K & K, Int'l, and Mr. Jeff Mason, of Mason-Kay, Inc. were newly-elected. The Directors'-elect will take office February 2016, and will serve three-year terms.

The following Members will continue with their positions on the Board:

Gerry Manning, Vice President	Gina Latendresse, Director
Pramod Agrawal, Treasurer	Niveet Nagpal, Director
Bruce Bridges, Director	Robert Van Wagoner, Director
Charles Carmona, Director	Simon Watt, Director
William Heher, Director	Larry Woods, Director

AGTA would like to recognize Mr. Ruben Bindra, of B & B Fine Gems, for his tireless and exemplary leadership as President. Mr. Sushil Goyal likewise served as Director. Both Mr. Bindra and Mr. Goyal, of Liberty Gems, Inc. will complete their Board terms in February, 2016. AGTA would like to express appreciation for their years of service and dedication to AGTA and the Board of Directors.

The Nominating Committee was chaired by Past President Benjamin Hackman. The Committee Members were Jeffrey Bilgore, Neal Litman, Douglas Parker, Avi Raz and Ray Zajicek. The AGTA Board of Directors holds elections on a rotating cycle in order to guarantee coherence of the Board's long-term plans. The new Board Members will be introduced at the AGTA Membership Meeting, which is open to all AGTA Members and will be held Friday, February 5, 2016, at AGTA GemFair™ Tucson. For more information, please contact info@agta.org or 800-972-1162.

The American Gem Trade Association (AGTA) is an association of United States and Canadian trade professionals dedicated to promoting the long term stability and integrity of the natural colored gemstone and Cultured Pearl industries. The

Association pursues its goals through the combined use of educational programs, publicity, industry events, government and industry relations, and printed materials for both the trade and consumer. The AGTA is well-known in the gemstone and jewelry industries for maintaining the highest ethical standards.

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