

**American Gem Trade Association  
Announces  
Board of Directors' Election Results**

*DALLAS, TEXAS (September 13, 2017)* - The American Gem Trade Association (AGTA) announced today the results of its annual AGTA Board of Directors' Election. The following candidates were elected as Directors:

Bruce Bridges, Bridges Tsavorite

Charles Carmona, Guild Laboratories, Inc.

Kimberly Collins, Kimberly Collins Gemstones

Hemant Phophaliya, A.G. Color, Inc.

The Directors'-elect will take office February 2018, and will serve three-year terms. The following Members will continue with their positions on the Board:

Jeffrey Bilgore, President

Kusam Malhotra, Director

Pramod Agrawal, Vice President

Jeff Mason, Director

Avi Raz, Treasurer

David Nassi, Director

Jonathan Gad, Director

Shekhar Shah, Director

Bill Heher, Director

Simon Watt, Director

Gina Latendresse, Director

AGTA would like to extend special thanks to Robert Van Wagoner for his years of service to the Board of Directors, and to AGTA.

The Nominating Committee was chaired by Past President Ruben Bindra. The Committee Members were John Bachman, Benjamin Hackman 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 in Tucson, Arizona, February 2018; the meeting is open to all AGTA Members. For more information, please contact [info@agta.org](mailto: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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