



Summer/Fall 2025

# FOMA *Journal*

FLORIDA OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



## FLORIDA DELEGATION AOA HOUSE OF DELEGATES CHICAGO 2025



Richard Thacker, DO, MACOI, Associate Dean of Clinical Sciences at Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine is elected AOA President-elect



## About FAIRx

Floridians for Attainable and Innovative Rx (FAIRx) is a physician-led and patient-focused coalition dedicated to helping insured Floridians access the life-sustaining, innovative therapies they need. We are working to raise awareness of discriminatory insurer benefit design that could keep Florida families from essential treatments.

## Why do we need FAIRx?

More than 13 million Floridians live with at least one chronic disease. If all Floridians had access to the treatment they need, an estimated 82,500 lives could be saved annually, according to the Partnership to End Chronic Disease. Unfortunately, health insurers in Florida are increasingly designing their plans in order to shift larger portions of health care costs onto those with chronic diseases by increasing out-of-pocket costs for critical therapies.

## How can FAIRx help?

While FAIRx hopes the state – with support from lawmakers – will continue down this promising path, we know this effort will require Florida’s patient and provider groups, as well as individual patients, to speak with one voice.

Together, we want to engage in an advocacy campaign to:

- + Support state policies that make insurance coverage, coinsurance and copays more transparent and equitable.
- + Urge regulators and state policymakers to take action to protect all insured Floridians from out-of-pocket costs that could jeopardize their health.
- + Share personal stories from patients whose out-of-pocket costs are causing hardship for them or their families.

## FAIRx Campaign Partners



## How can Florida physicians help?

- + Join FAIRx. Visit our website to gather the facts and share the physician’s perspective on the impact of high patient out-of-pocket costs.
- + Help get patients involved. Tell them about the organization and urge them to share their story on the Take Action page of our website.

## FOMA OFFICERS

### President

Bruce Rankin, DO, FACOFP, CPI, MRO  
Deland, Florida

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Sean McCann, DO

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Marie Florent-Carre, DO, MPH

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Stephen R. Winn

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Andrew B. Floyd, MBA, CAE,  
CMP-HC

### Director of Finance

Kaye Tait

### Director of Communications

Kaylee Peters

### Executive Coordinator

LeTissa Harris

### Legal Counsel

Jason D. Winn, Esquire

## FOMA EDITORIAL

### Graphic Designer & Editor

Kaylee Peters

### Editorial Consultants

Stephen R. Winn

Michelle Winn Larson, CAE, CMP

## SUMMER/FALL 2025

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# FOMAJournal

## FLORIDA OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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Bruce Rankin, DO, CPI, FACOFP

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been a busy second quarter of my presidency and I have traveled throughout the state and to Chicago for the AOA House of Delegates in July.

On June 11th I was at District 6 for the Broward County Osteopathic Medical Associations meeting in Ft. Lauderdale. Thank you District 6 and President Dr. Florent-Carre, DO for the warm welcome and South Florida hospitality.

June 23rd, was the FOMA Public Health Task Force Committee Virtual Meeting.

July 17-20 the AOA House of Delegates met in Chicago. Florida was well represented as the second largest delegation with 44 delegates and 5 student delegates. Florida surpassed our OPAC planned contribution.

Please help me recognize and celebrate the elections of the AOA President-elect Dr. Richard Thacker, DO and Joshua Lenchus, DO as 1st Vice President for the AOA Board of Trustees. Dr. Thacker was presented with a red FOMA polo shirt to wear proudly over the next several years! Thank you to our #1 Delegate Dr. Giaimo for leading our Florida delegation. Thank you, Dr. Kaprow, for your efforts in organizing the HOD resolutions discussions for our Florida caucus. At our last FOMA BOT meeting, we approved wearing the #blue square pin for our Associations resolve to “Stand up against all Hate”. The Florida delegation presented this on the floor during the opening portions of the HOD. It had an overwhelming response and our FOMA delegation and staff personally handed out many #blue square pins individually to delegates and AOA staff over the next several days.

On July 25th I attended the Council of Florida Medical Deans dinner in Orlando. It was a great opportunity to share FOMA’s current activities around our state.

August 14th I attended District 2 meeting in Jacksonville. FOMA sponsored the Meet and Greet and we had a great turn out of local DO’s. It was also attended by our FOMA staff COO, Michelle Winn-Larson and Membership staff, Andrew Floyd.

September 5th-7th was the 2025 FOMA Virtual Seminar.

September 5th was the NSU-KPCOM Clearwater 2025 White Coat Ceremony. I attended as the Keynote Speaker.

September 8th I attended the Orlando College of Osteopathic Medicine 2025 White Coat Ceremony and gave remarks about FOMA.

September 12th I attended the NSU-KPCOM Davie 2025 White Coat Ceremony as the Keynote Speaker.



**Our Osteopathic future looks bright with their energy and quest for information about FOMA.**





Stephen R. Winn

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER MESSAGE

The Florida Osteopathic Medical Association continues to champion issues and activities most important to our members while staying heavily involved and sponsoring Community Events. During Executive Committee and Board of Trustee meetings, we discuss topics of interest to the osteopathic profession, and take action through legislative advocacy and through directing our policies to actionable and measurable items. FOMA Delegates convened in Chicago for the 2025 AOA House of Delegates meeting, July 17 - 20, and once again, Florida was well represented, under the direction of Joseph Giaimo, DO, MACOI, Chair & Anthony Ottaviani, DO, MPH, FACOI, FCCP, Vice Chair. Florida's Richard Thacker, DO, MACOI, was elected AOA President-elect and Joshua D. Lenchus, DO, RPh, FACP, SFHM, was elected First Vice President. Thank you to our Florida Delegates & Alternates, and those who served on AOA Reference Committees. Robert G.G. Piccinini, DO, D. FACN, was elected the 129th AOA President. Florida continues to be well represented on the 2025 AOA Committees, Bureaus & Councils.

The legislative team and I are meeting with candidates and closely tracking a wave of special elections sparked by appointments, resignations, and the death of two legislators. Since January 2025, Florida politics has resembled a relentless game of musical chairs, reshuffling congressional and state legislative seats. Blaise Ingoglia (former State Senator District 11) was appointed State CFO, and just last week, State Senator Jay Collins resigned his District 14 seat to become Florida's Lieutenant Governor. A total of six special elections have been

slated or will be announced soon, including House Districts 40, 87, and 90 and Senate Districts 11, 14, and 15, with dates set for some and others pending. I am pleased to report that I have met and offered our support to Dr. Ralph Massullo for the Senate District 11 seat. Dr. Massullo, a former state representative, announced his candidacy early and has secured Governor DeSantis' endorsement.

Recently, my wife Judy and I were honored by Blessed Hope Church for our generous contribution to the memorial dedicated to the victims of the tragic Lake Talquin boating accident of August 18, 1962. This memorial stands as a tribute to the seventeen children and their Sunday School teacher who lost their lives that day, and to the lone survivor, eleven-year-old Jerome Maples. It also recognizes the resilience of the Gadsden County community, which, in the wake of the tragedy, rallied around the grieving families and helped advance life-saving boating safety legislation that continues to protect lives today. Judy and I are truly touched to be part of preserving this memory and honoring their legacy.

On August 23rd, FOMA staff & families participated and sponsored the 5th Annual Community Outreach event "Hunger Fight." Hunger Fight was able to pack over 160,500 meals and provide 5,900 books for Pre-K students here in the Tallahassee/Big Bend area.

The FOMA Legislative Team under the direction of Paul Seltzer, DO, FOMA Legislative Chair, is preparing for Committee Meetings and the 2026 Legislative Session. Jason Winn, Esq., Chris Lyon, Esq., and Alex Golden continue to meet with Legislative candidates who are running for election or re-election in the 2025 & 2026 elections. THANK YOU, for your continued membership and support of the FOMA.



## CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER MESSAGE

**CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, MICHELLE W. LARSON, CAE, CMP**, reports that Ronald Burns, DO & William Silverman, DO Program Co-Chairs along with the Medical Education committee are pleased with the 2025 FOMA Virtual Seminar, September 5 - 7, 2025, which offered up to 27 (AOA) 1-A credits. We have 800+ pre-registered physicians & students attending! The Seminar offered the mandatory hours for Florida re-licensure. Attendees have 30 days to watch the lectures and claim their credits. We are working on a 2026 Live Convention, Feb. 6 - 8 at the Marriott Harbor Beach Resort in Ft. Lauderdale and the 2026 Virtual Convention, March 6 - 8. Look for registration & hotel information/details on our website!. As president of the Association of Osteopathic State Executive Directors (AOSED), she attended their meeting in Chicago, prior to the AOA House of Delegates. There was excellent education & networking with state & specialty executives. The AOSED Board thanked her for her 2 years of service as President of AOSED.

**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS, KAYLEE PETERS**, shares that FOMA's 2025 Legislative Report, 2025 Know the Issues, was mailed to members in August with an online version available on the FOMA website. Additionally, the FOMA Summer/Fall Journal is in production and will be available on the FOMA website in October/November. FOMA's website continues to offer enhanced features for member services, including the blogging of FOMA's current events, integration with social media accounts on the FOMA homepage, detailed member profiles, and automatic syncing with the association's email services. FOMA continues to work with AOSED to share select social media posts. The FOMA Newswire is delivered weekly to your inbox, and if you have a story or any recognized achievements you would like to share with members, please let us know at [fomapr@foma.org](mailto:fomapr@foma.org).

**DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP & EDUCATION, ANDREW FLOYD, CAE, CMP-HC**, reports that as of 9/9, the FOMA has over 4,000 members, which includes students. Membership growth continues to be a vital strength of our association. If you know of anyone that would like to receive a membership invitation, please contact me at the FOMA Executive Office at [andrew@foma.org](mailto:andrew@foma.org). FOMA Members who have not paid their 2025-2026 membership dues by September 30, 2025 will be dropped from membership.

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, KAYE TAIT**, reports that the 2025-2026 Annual FOMA Membership Dues Notices have been both emailed and mailed to all members. Dues may be paid online, with optional contributions to the FOMA-PAC and the FOMA Foundation. In addition, FOMA members and non-members may register online for all FOMA Educational Events. We sincerely thank you for your prompt online payments and greatly appreciate your continued involvement and support!



# FOMA 2025 Legislative Update

LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN  
Paul D. Seltzer, DO

As of October 29, 2025, the legislature has completed two weeks of interim committee meetings in preparation for the 2026 Legislative Session. Legislators will return for four weeks of meetings, slated for November 3-7, November 17-21, December 1-5, and December 8-12. The 2026 Legislative Session convenes on Tuesday, January 13, 2026.

The 2026 legislative session will pose significant challenges, as legislators reintroduce many measures the FOMA successfully opposed in 2025. APRN autonomous practice has resurfaced, led in the Senate by Senator Truenow. SB 138 authorizes psychiatric mental health APRNs to provide mental health services independently, subject to Board of Nursing regulations. Additionally, Representative Smith recently filed HB 223, legislation establishing a reconstituted Board of Naturopathic Medicine and new licensing provisions under Chapter 462.

On October 15, 2025, the House Civil Justice & Claims Subcommittee passed HB 6003, which addresses the recovery of damages in medical negligence claims. The bill has one more committee remaining, the House Judiciary Committee. A priority of Speaker Perez, we anticipate the committee will take up the measure in November. The bill would allow the decedent’s children who are 25 years of age or older, as well as the parents of a deceased child who was 25 years or older at the time of death, to recover noneconomic damages.

Although the legislature will continue to add more agenda items, some committees have already included several health care items on their docket for the week of November 3. Children, Families & Elder Affairs convenes a panel on Children’s Medical Services, spotlighting Child Protection Teams and their coordination with state systems. The House Health & Human Services Committee will hear an AHCA briefing on the federal Rural Health Transformation Program, and the House Health Professions & Programs Subcommittee will review the Department of Health briefings on the Florida Rare Disease Council, the Pediatric Rare Disease Grant Program, and the Sunshine Genetics Act pilot. In addition, the House Health Care Budget Subcommittee will hear presentations on Medicaid managed care plan performance with AHCA, and the House Human Services Subcommittee will detail DCF’s implementation of HB 7021 on mental health and substance abuse.

A few special elections remain to fill vacated positions resulting from appointments and legislators running for higher office. In Senate District 11, created by the appointment of Blaise Ingoglia as state CFO, former Rep. Ralph Massullo Jr. advanced from the Republican primary and now faces Democrat Ash Marwah in the general. In House District 90, the race to replace the late Rep. Joe Casello features Republican Maria Zack, Democrat Rob Long, and independent Karen Yeh. These special elections are scheduled for Tuesday, December 9, 2025.

Governor DeSantis scheduled special elections to fill vacancies created by his appointment of Jay Collins as Lieutenant Governor and by Representative Mike Caruso’s departure from the House to become Palm Beach County Clerk and Comptroller. Primaries for Senate District 14 (Hillsborough) and House District 87 (Palm Beach) will take place on January 13, 2026, followed by the general election on March 24, 2026. Because these dates fall after the 2026 Legislative Session, both districts will go without representation for most of the regular session.

Senate President Albrittion and FOMA OMD attendees.



(L to R): Steve Winn, FOMA CEO, FL Lt. Gov. Jay Collins, and Jason Winn, Esquire, FOMA General Council



**Osteopathic physicians are trusted by their patients to provide important health information. Patients look to their physician for guidance on health and potential threats to their overall well-being. One rapidly growing threat is the proliferation of counterfeit medicines and unregulated “Canadian” pharmacies.**

[Interpol’s Operation Pangea XVI](#) 2025 underscored the magnitude of this issue:

- 50.4 million doses of counterfeit and unapproved medicines were seized worldwide,
- 769 suspects were arrested for selling counterfeit or unapproved medicines, and
- 123 criminal groups dismantled for selling counterfeit products.

Counterfeit versions of medicines have even been identified in developed countries like Canada, Australia, and here in the United States. Because these illegitimate substances are not produced under regulated conditions, patients can unknowingly ingest harmful or even lethal substances.

The risks for patients are real. Counterfeit antibiotics may lack the active ingredient, delaying treatment and leading to worsening illness. In more life-threatening cases, unregulated and untested pills can be unknowingly laced with lethal substances, such as fentanyl. In 2024, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) seized more than 60 million fentanyl-laced counterfeit pills and nearly 8,000 pounds of fentanyl powder. In 2025, the DEA fentanyl seizures have represented over 232 million deadly doses. And according to Interpol, “some fake medicines have been found to contain mercury, arsenic, rat poison, or cement.”

Educating patients and staff about these could be lifesaving.

Unfortunately, many patients are lured by online offers promising “Canadian” or “cheaper” medications without realizing that more than 95% of online pharmacies operate illegally. These operations often bypass U.S. pharmaceutical standards and safeguards that protect consumers, including prescriptions verified by a licensed physician, clear labeling, and transparent sourcing.

In addition to unsafe drugs, patients face the risks of identity theft and financial fraud when purchasing from unverified networks.

What can we, as physicians, do to help protect our patients? We must educate our patients to:

- **Buy only from reputable pharmacies** — ideally brick-and-mortar or verified online pharmacies approved through the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) “Buy-Safely” program.
- **Avoid websites or social media sellers** that do not require a prescription.
- **Contact your pharmacist or doctor** if you have any questions, concerns, or experience unusual effects.

Counterfeit medicine remains a global public health threat. As osteopathic physicians, we can remain vigilant, help raise awareness, and guide patients to trusted sources. Safe medicine is effective medicine.





# 2025 FOMA-PAC

## Roll of Honor

The FOMA-PAC wishes to express its appreciation to the following contributors. Your financial contributions and your participation in the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association Political Action Committee (FOMA-PAC) demonstrate your commitment to osteopathic medicine and your concern for the future of quality healthcare for all Floridians.

### 11 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$40,000)

Jeffrey Grove, DO

### 10 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$30,000)

Jamie Goodman, DO

### 9 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$25,000)

Joanne Bujnoski, DO

### 8 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$20,000)

James St. Louis, DO

James Milne, DO

Joel B. Rose, DO

William Stager, DO, MPH

Stephen R. Winn

### 7 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$15,000)

Ronald Burns, DO

Joseph Giaimo, DO

Donald Howard, DO

Gregory James, DO, MPH

Largo Medical Center

Staff of Memorial Hospital,

Jacksonville, Florida

Staff of Orange Park Medical

Center, Jacksonville, Florida

Anthony Ottaviani, DO, MPH

Hal S. Pineless, DO

Paul D. Seltzer, DO

William Silverman, DO

Joel D. Stein, DO

Richard R. Thacker, DO

Andrew Guidry, DO

### 6 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$12,500)

Nicole Bixler, DO

Anna Hayden, DO

### 5 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$10,000)

Allan Escher, DO

Florida Society of the ACOFP

Mark A. Foppe, DO

William Hightower

Marc Kaprow, DO

Michelle Mendez, DO

Ronald Renuart, DO

### 4 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$7,500)

Advocates to the FOMA

Lee Ann Brown, DO

Charles Chase, DO

Linda Delo, DO

Walter B. Flesner, III, DO

Larry L. Mattingly, DO

Philip L. Shettle, DO

Col. Jose Thomas-Richards, DO, Ret.

James Towry, DO

### 3 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$5,000)

Anthony Aboud, DO

Bridget Bellinger, DO

Joseph Gaetano, DO

William Finan, Jr., DO

Michelle Fiorillo, DO

Robert J. George, DO

Christopher Guzik, DO

Ronald L. Knaus, DO

Michelle W. Larson, CAE, CMP

Joshua Lenchus, DO, RPN

Jorge Luna, DO

Douglas G. Maclear, DO

John Potomski, DO

Sandy Seltzer

Anthony J. Silvagni, DO

### 2 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$2,500)

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Majdi Ashchi, DO

John T. Bailey, DO

James H. Barker, DO

James D. Bernard, DO

Broward Health Medical Center

Robert S. Cutler, DO

Gene DiBetta, DO

Perry Dworkin, DO

Eric Goldsmith, DO

Samuel Gubernick, DO

Jon. G. Hebblewhite, DO

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Glenn Moran, DO

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Jay Olsson, DO

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Frederic Porcase, Jr., DO

Bruce Rankin, DO

George Schmieder, DO

Mary Schmieder, DO

Brett Scotch, DO

Lee Shettle, DO

Dottie Silverman

Ron Surowitz, DO

Sherry Thacker

Amelia Tunanidas Pantelis, DO

Claudia Peterson, DO

Ty Tvedten, DO

Kenneth Webster, EdD

West Palm Hospital Medical Staff, Inc.

Gregory Williams, DO

Sanford Zelnick, DO



### 1 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$1,000)

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Michael E. Belotti, DO

Kenneth Blaze, DO

John Choies, DO

James Clary, DO

Joseph Corcoran, DO

Gordon Crozier, DO

George R. Davis, DO

Gregory David, DO

John B. DeCosmo, III, DO

Mark Dobbertein, DO

Lisa Dynan-Dobbertien, DO

E. Trevor Elmquist, DO

John Eloian, DO

Robert Fedor, DO

James Fetchero, DO

Adam Frent, DO

David J. Gomeringer, DO

Gerald Goss, DO

Diana Graves, DO

Robert Greer, IV, DO

Andrew Gross, DO

Donald Hall, DO

Scott R. Hannum, DO

Jennifer Hayes, DO

Leonard Hock, DO

Joe Hodge, III, DO

Ron Hudanich, DO

William Kirsh, DO

Steven Klein, DO

Charlene LePane, DO

Michael LoGuidice, DO

Victor Loria, DO

Michael Markou, DO

Michael Margolis, DO

Sean McCann, DO

Robert K. McCann, DO, JD

James McCormick, Jr., DO

Archie McLean, DO

Joseph McNerney, DO

Gregory L. Miller, DO

David Mosch, DO

Joseph Namey, Jr., DO

Dennis Penzell, DO

Natalie Ralph, DO

Gerald Reynolds, DO

Ralph Rusco, DO

Sandra Schwemmer, DO

Robert Shultz, DO

Craig Silver, DO

Ava Stegall, DO

Din-on Sun, DO

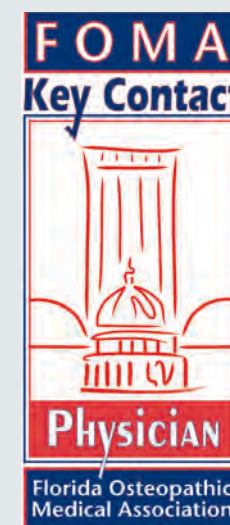
Glenn Syperda, DO

Vincent J. Tripi, DO

Jason Winn, Esquire

Judy Winn

## KEY CONTACT PHYSICIAN ADVOCACY MEMBERS



Gino Alberto, DO

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James St. Louis, DO

William Stager, DO

Joel D. Stein, DO

Ronald Surowitz, DO

Richard R. Thacker, DO

James Towry, DO

Tai Vo, DO

# Attention FOMA Members!



## FOMA is Accepting Nominations for 2026

### FOMA Distinguished Service Award

This award is given to an Individual in recognition of outstanding accomplishments in science, professionalism, osteopathic education, or service to the osteopathic profession or citizens of Florida at state or national level. This is the highest honor that FOMA can bestow upon an individual. The award is not limited to osteopathic physicians.

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

### FOMA Lifetime Achievement Award

This award is given to an osteopathic physician who has made a significant contribution to the osteopathic community over the span of his or her lifetime. The candidate must be either a Florida-licensed osteopathic physician in good standing or a retired osteopathic physician.

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

### FOMA Physician of the Year Award

This award is given to an osteopathic physician who has made a significant contribution to the osteopathic community in the past year. The candidate must be a Florida-licensed osteopathic physician in good standing.

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

### FOMA Stephen R. Winn Friend of the Osteopathic Medicine Award

This award is given to an individual in recognition and appreciation for their continuing commitment in promoting the tenets and philosophy of osteopathic medicine in the state of Florida.

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

### FOMA OMT Award

This award is given to an osteopathic physician who serves as an advocate and champion for Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment on a national, state, and or local level. This physician continues to promote OMT through teaching, writing, and with their patients.

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail nomination form, recommendation letter, and CV of doctor nominated to **FOMA, 2544 Blairstone Pines Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32301**. Questions? Please call Michelle W. Larson at FOMA (800)226-3662

Your Name: (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

All nominations must be received by December 20, 2025

# FOMA Student Awards Criteria



The FOMA will award up to **2** students from each Florida COM campus:

**LECOM Bradenton, NSU KPCOM and NSU KPCOM Tampa Bay, OCOM, Burrell COM - FL  
(M1 - \$300 & M2 - \$500)**

based on the following criteria:

1. Student shall be a member in good standing of the FOMA Student District Society at NSU – Kiran Patel COM or LECOM Bradenton.
2. Student shall be politically active, possess leadership qualities and support the FOMA Student District Society initiatives.
3. Student shall be a Florida resident or plan to practice osteopathic medicine in Florida.

The Student shall submit the following:

**A letter, curriculum vitae and 2 faculty recommendations.**

**All information** is due to the FOMA Awards Committee by **December 22nd, 2025**.

The awards and checks will be presented during the 2026 FOMA LIVE Convention.

Please Email/ Mail the above information to:

*FOMA Awards Committee  
2544 Blairstone Pines Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
email: [admin@foma.org](mailto:admin@foma.org)*

***The winners are selected by the FOMA Awards Committee.***

# FLORIDA'S DELEGATION AT THE AOA HOUSE OF DELEGATES



2025 Florida Delegation: Chair, Joseph A. Giaimo, DO, MACOI, FCCP; Vice Chair, Anthony N. Ottaviani, DO, MPH, FACOI, FCC; Matt Brill, DO; Lee Ann Brown, DO, FAAPMR; Ronald R. Burns, DO, FACOFP; Cesar De Leon, DO; Linda Delo, DO, FACOFP; Eugene DiBetta, DO Farah Ferreiro, DO Walter B. Flesner, III, DO Marie Florent-Carre, DO; Jeffrey S. Grove, DO, FACOFP; Anna Hayden, DO; Gregory J. James, DO, MPH, FACOFP; Marc G. Kaprow, DO, MHA, FACOI; Mark Kauffman, DO, MSMEd, FACOFP; Joshua Lenchus, DO, RPh, FACP, SFHM; Jorge D. Luna, DO, FACOFP; Sean McCann, DO; Joseph P. McNerney, DO, FACOFP; Michelle Mendez, DO; Frank Paiano, DO, FACOI; Hal S. Pineless, DO, FACN, FAAN; Donald Pyle, DO; Shailesh Rajguru, DO, FACN; Bruce G. Rankin, DO, CPI, MRO, FACOFP; Ronald Renuart, DO, FACP; Joel Rose, DO; Joseph A. Sassano, DO; Paul Seltzer, DO; Lee Shettle, DO; William Silverman, DO, FACOFP; William Stager, DO, MS, FAAFP, FAAO, FACOFP; Richard R. Thacker, DO, MACOI; Ronald Torrance, II, DO, FAOASM; James Towry, DO, FAOCD, FAAD; Students - Olivia Pisarski, NSU KPCOM, SGA VP; Philip Ordonez, NSU KPCOM TBR, SGA Pres.; Priya Patel, LECOM Bradenton, SGA Pres.; Matin Babaev, Burrell COM FL, SGA VP; Carlie Groeshen, NSU KPCOM, SGA VP; Yama Xu, Pres.-elect, NSU KPCOM TBR, SGA VP; Jesu Rex Valencia, LECOM Bradenton, SGA VP; Tajrian Haque, OCOM, SGA VP

**J**uly 17–20, 2025, forty-eight physician and student delegates, along with their alternates, represented Florida at the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) House of Delegates (HOD) Annual Business Meeting in Chicago. Osteopathic physicians and student leaders convened to engage in policymaking, review and discuss resolutions, and conduct elections. Florida was well represented across the AOA reference committees.

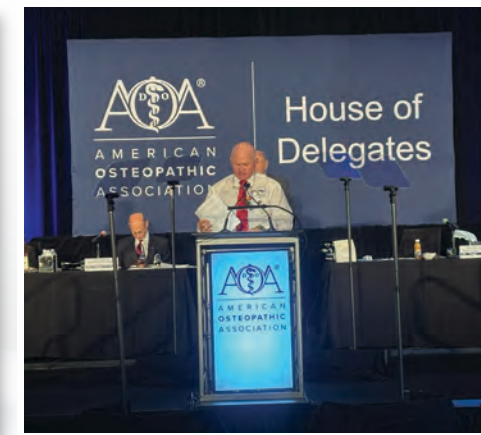
On **July 19**, **Robert G. G. Piccinini, DO, FACN**, of Macomb, Michigan, was inaugurated as the new president of the AOA. He is the first psychiatrist in the Association's history to hold this position and the first graduate of the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine (MSUCOM) to do so. Dr. Piccinini is an AOA board-certified osteopathic psychiatrist in private practice. Beyond his medical career, he has cultivated a passion for cooking and barbecue through his personal venture, "Dr. Bob's BBQ."

During the House of Delegates, **Richard Thacker, DO, MACOI**, associate dean of clinical sciences and associate professor of internal medicine at the Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine (ACOM) in Dothan, Alabama, was elected president-elect. **Joshua Lenchus, DO**,



(L to R): AOA President, Robert G. G. Piccinini, DO, FACN & FOMA President, Bruce Rankin, DO, CPI, FACOFP

**RPh, FACP, SFHM**, past president of both the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association (FOMA) and the Florida Medical Association (FMA), of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, was elected first vice president of the AOA.



*The following FOMA members served on  
Reference Committees during the July AOA House of Delegates:*

**Ad Hoc Committee:**  
Michelle Mendez, DO

**Educational Affairs Committee:**  
Sean McCann, DO

**Constitution and Bylaws Committee:**  
Linda Delo, DO, Chair

**Rules and Order of Business:**  
Bruce Rankin, DO, Vice Chair;  
Joseph Sassano, DO

**Professional Affairs Committee:**  
Cesar DeLeon, DO

**Joint Budget Committee:**  
Shailesh Rajguru, DO

**Public Affairs Committee:**  
Marc Kaprow, DO





# HOUSE OF DELEGATES HIGHLIGHTS

"We are here because our patients need our care. Osteopathic medicine champions the whole-person perspective of body, mind and spirit. We put our patients first by fostering a culture of compassion, understanding and evidence-based modern medicine that ensures every patient receives care tailored to their unique circumstances. We fight for every patient's active role in their health journey."

- Dr. Piccinini

FROM AROUND THE STATE....

# DISTRICT REPORTS

## DISTRICT SOCIETY 2



FOMA District Society 2 held a District Society meet & greet meeting on August 14th at Maggiano's in the St. John's Town Center. District 2 members gathered in Jacksonville for a meet & greet, filled with fellowship & networking. The evening was made even more special with a guest appearance by FOMA President, Bruce Rankin, DO, CPI, MRO, FACOFP, who connected with attendees in a warm and welcoming meet & greet. The event highlighted the strength of our osteopathic community and the excitement building across the district. FOMA District Society 2 also held a District Society meeting on October 14th at Noura's Café in Jacksonville. Dr. Amir Azarbal gave a lecture to physicians in attendance.

## DISTRICT SOCIETY 3

FOMA District Society 3 held a District Society dinner meeting on August 28th at Del Frisco's Double Eagle Steakhouse in Orlando.

A lecture entitled "ACL Injury Care" was presented by Sean Keyes, DO, Professor & Director of Research, at OCOM.



OCOM Students with Sean McCann, DO.

## DISTRICT SOCIETY 4



District 4 President Chet Anthony, DO & Camilo A. Ruiz, DO

FOMA District 4 held a meeting on August 14th at Hyde Park Steakhouse in Daytona Beach, FL.

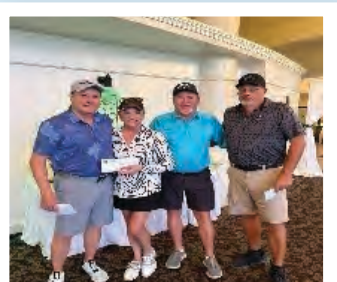
Camilo A. Ruiz, DO, FACOI, FAASM, presented a lecture on "New Treatments for Weight Loss" to those in attendance.

## DISTRICT SOCIETY 5

The 36th Annual Plato E. Varidin Scholarship Golf Tournament at Bardmoor Golf and Tennis Club in Seminole, Florida, was a great success, featuring 14 teams and 60 banquet guests. Students from the Tampa Bay Campus of the K.C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine and Nova Southeastern University volunteered helping register attendees as well as participated in the tournament as golf teams. The event raised important scholarship funds for medical, nursing, and allied health students, to be awarded at the December Annual Meeting and Holiday Party. We extend our appreciation to all our supporters, hole sponsors, and advertisers who helped make this event a success.



Dr. Bridget Bellinger, Chair of the Golf Scholarship Committee with the First Place Team. L-R: Scott Ray, DO, Blake Brown, Jake Ezell, Casey Steed.



Second Place Team L-R: Graham McIntyre, Bridget Bellinger, Bradley Richards, Mark Borkowski.



Robert Wyko, DO was recognized for his "Hole in One" with Bridget Bellinger, DO Chair.

## DISTRICT SOCIETY 6

BCOMA District 6 held a Board of Governors and educational dinner meeting on June 11, 2025. Dr. Bruce Rankin, our FOMA President attended our meeting and made introductory remarks and welcomed the members present.

The meeting was well attended by our local Osteopathic Physicians, medical students and our Board members. Dr. Noah Lee presented on the topic "HIV Prevention as Primary Care."



BCOMA Board members present included Dr. Kayvan Amini, BCOMA immediate Past President & BCMA President, Dr. Calamese, Treasurer, Dr. Anna Hayden, Dr. Sheela Anasseri and Dr. Tye Barber. Both group photos were taken with Dr. Bruce Rankin, FOMA President.



## DISTRICT SOCIETY 7

FOMA District Society 7 held their 16th Annual CME Day November 8th, 2025 at LECOM-Bradenton. The course offered 8 hours of AOA Category 1A CME credit including the FL Mandatory hours for licensure to those in attendance.



## DISTRICT SOCIETY 12

FOMA District Society 12 held a District Society meet & greet meeting on October 30th at The Salted Brick in Ocala, FL.

The meeting welcomed attendees to gather socially with their colleagues in the area. Physician and students were able to network and speak with FOMA President Bruce Rankin, DO, CPI, MRO, FACOFP and hear a lecture from Craig Lenz, DO.



## DISTRICT SOCIETY 17

FOMA District 17 held a District Society meet & greet at Uncle Julio's in Naples, FL on October 9th.

District 17 members gathered in Naples for a meet & greet, filled with fellowship & networking.

FOMA President, Bruce Rankin, DO, CPI, MRO, FACOFP, also attended the meeting and gave attendees and update on the state-wide efforts of the FOMA.

## DISTRICT SOCIETY 10

The Hillsborough County Osteopathic Medical Society (FOMA District 10) successfully hosted its third Sam Scolaro, DO, Virtual CME Symposium on Aug. 23rd, providing attendees with five hours of Florida re-licensure credit and featuring distinguished speakers. The upcoming General Membership Meeting will be held on Dec. 11th at Mise en Place in Ybor City, Tampa, and will include a holiday dinner, the presentation of a student scholarship, and the installation of new officers.

## DISTRICT SOCIETY 13

FOMA District 13 would like to congratulate Nicole Bixler, DO, MBA, FACOFP, dist., Past President of ACOFP, FSACOFP, & FOMA on being awarded the 2025 Educator of the Year Award during the OMED & AOF Honors Gala event in Nashville, TN. Congratulations Dr. Bixler!



FOMA President Bruce Rankin, DO, CPI, MRO, FACOFP and District Society 17 President Cesar DeLeon, DO with attendees

# STUDENT NEWS

## BCOM-FL

Congratulations to the Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine – Florida Branch on the successful Ribbon Cutting and White Coat Ceremony marking the official opening of its new campus. The event brought together students, faculty, community leaders, and healthcare partners to commemorate this exciting new chapter in medical education.



## LECOM-Bradenton

Students, faculty, and distinguished guests of LECOM-Bradenton gathered in celebration for the class of 2029's White Coat Ceremony, an event marking a significant milestone in the journey of future osteopathic physicians. The occasion was filled with pride and enthusiasm as participants reflected on the values and responsibilities that accompany the white coat. Dr. Rankin, President of the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association, was in attendance and delivered remarks.

Congratulations to the LECOM-Bradenton class of 2029!



## NSU-KPCOM

FOMA President Dr. Bruce Rankin had the honor of addressing the incoming class at NSU-KPCOM White Coat Ceremony. His presence underscored FOMA's dedication to supporting the next generation of physicians as they embark on their journey into medicine and join the osteopathic family.



## OCOM

Congratulations to the OCOM class of 2029!

On September 9, FOMA President Dr. Bruce Rankin attended the White Coat Ceremony for Orlando COM.

We salute all osteopathic medical students who graduate this season!



# WELCOME NEW FOMA MEMBERS

## FINAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT - JUNE 2025

### ACTIVE - 27

District 1	Susan Moore-Riesbeck, DO Caroline Wolverton, DO	Panama City Beach Gulf Breeze
District 2	Alex Arce, DO Patrick Rader, DO	Jacksonville St. Johns
District 3	Peter Correnti, DO Mary Jones, DO Amanda Nadeau, DO Gabriel Nuriel, DO	St. Cloud Apopka Orlando Orlando
District 4	Joey Wilder, DO	New Smyrna Beach
District 5	Johnny Nguyen, DO	Clearwater
District 6	Susan Manella, DO Matthew Moretti, DO	Pembroke Pines Davie
District 7	William Corse, DO Nicole Markovich, DO Melissa Rohrbacher, DO	Sarasota Bradenton Bradenton
District 8	Tricia Prince, DO	Miami
District 9	Lauren Feingold, DO Gregory Francis, DO Anthony Oliva, DO Catherine Polera, DO Amanda Pruett, DO	Boca Raton Port St. Lucie Delray Beach West Palm Beach West Palm Beach
District 10	Anthony Furiato, DO	Lithia
District 13	Melissa Bradshaw, DO Tiffany Burca, DO David Riehn, DO	Brooksville Tarpon Springs Beverly Hills
District 16	Jayde George, DO	Melbourne
District 17	Daniel Ostler, DO	Naples

### 1ST YEAR PRACTICE - 9

District 1	Nicholas Manuel, DO	Pensacola
District 4	Carlos Cambo Cortes, DO	New Smyrna Beach
District 5	Valerie Greve, DO	Clearwater
District 6	Joseph McKeown, DO	Hollywood
District 9	Danny Gersowsky, DO Steven Shapiro, DO	Boca Raton Boca Raton
District 10	Megan Cahn, DO Israel Ugalde, DO	Tampa Tampa
District 11	Rachel Figaro, DO	Coral Springs

### 2ND YEAR PRACTICE - 3

District 3	Jennifer Forbes, DO	Kissimmee
District 12	Randy Leung, DO	Gainesville
District 17	Vidur Ghantiwala, DO	Naples

### PUBLIC HEALTH/MILITARY - 5

District 8	Dorothea Martinez, DO	Miami
District 9	Robert Ringering, DO	West Palm Beach
District 13	Gilbert Smith, DO	Riverview
Out of State	Kenneth Luna, DO Matt McCall, DO	Bristow, VA Webster Grove, MO

### RESIDENT - 6

District 2	Alissa Hendricks-Wenger, DO Mitchell Thomas, DO	Jacksonville Fleming Island
District 3	Eli Johnson, DO	Orlando
District 5	Philip Mendez, DO	St. Petersburg
District 6	Alfredo Lam, DO	Ft. Lauderdale
District 10	Katherine Bui, DO	Tampa

### INACTIVE / RETIRED - 4

District 4	Suzanne Kelley, DO	Ponce Inlet
District 6	Joseph Tordella, DO	Ft. Lauderdale
District 11	Eldon Vance, DO	Cape Coral
District 12	Peter Munson, DO	Gainesville

### FACULTY - 1

District 6	Yoav Ritter, DO	Southwest Ranches
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### LIFE MEMBERSHIP

District 3	Hal Pineless, DO	Winter Park
District 7	Richard Yonker, DO	Sarasota
District 9	Dennis Penzell, DO	Boca Raton

### OUT OF STATE - 7

Joseph Bax, DO	New York, NY
Stephen Friedman, DO	West Bloomfield, MI
Hunter Hansen, DO	Charlotte, NC
Gerald Maxwell, DO	Poland, OH
Michael Mitchell, DO	Fayetteville, AR
Harris Ross, DO	Wyncote, PA
Edward Shadiack, DO	Seaside Park, NJ

### IN MEMORIAM

District 5	Larry Bunnell, DO (KCOM-1962)	Lakewood Ranch
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# WELCOME NEW FOMA MEMBERS

## FINAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2025

### ACTIVE - 48

District 1	Kelli Gahagan, DO Zachary Taylor, DO	Navarre Pensacola
District 2	Kent Braeutigam, DO Meredith Brazell, DO David Carlson, DO Joseph Costa, DO Miciah Jones, DO Daniel Kessler, DO Anthony Richa, DO	Middleburg St. Augustine Jacksonville Atlantic Beach St. Augustine Fernandina Beach Jacksonville
District 3	Mark Damon, DO Perry Funk, DO Brian Reeves, DO	Winter Park Kissimmee Windermere
District 4	Krystin Granger, DO Patrick Harris, DO	Flagler Beach Satsuma
District 5	Kevin Ache, DO Tanya DeGroot, DO Desmond Fonji, DO	Belleair Beach Clearwater Palm Bay
District 6	Evan Musman, DO Ruddy Valdes, DO Candice Webb, DO	Hollywood Weston Coral Springs
District 7	Frederick Barnum, DO Jonathan DeLucia, DO Cristina Dickson, DO Luke Johnson, DO Christopher Vaughn, DO	Sarasota Bradenton Sarasota Palmetto Lake Placid
District 8	Kevin Fox, DO Rafail Shnyder, DO	Miami Aventura
District 9	Aiysha Balbosa, DO Jennifer Coby, DO Gary Cooperstein, DO Samuel Ganz, DO Melissa Mora, DO Anthony Orsini, DO Matteo Rosselli, DO	Wellington Palm Beach Delray Beach Boynton Beach Boynton Beach Jupiter Jupiter
District 10	Maryam Abid, DO Richard Bravo, DO Wendell Bulmer, DO Richard Nelson, DO Andrew Serdiuk, DO Leah Tehranchi, DO Andrea Toufexis Esch, DO Paul Vazquez, DO	Plant City Valrico West Chase Lithia Tampa Seffner Tampa Palmetto Bay

### ACTIVE CONT.

District 11	John Adesia, DO David Eichten, DO Estela Thano, DO	Ft. Myers Ft. Myers Cape Coral
District 13	Jacob Choi, DO	Odessa
District 16	Poonam Mishram, DO Alejandro Perez, DO	Melbourne Vero Beach

### 1ST YEAR PRACTICE - 5

District 2	Stephanie Carlin, DO Kelty Shellhorn, DO	Ponte Vedra St. Augustine
District 6	Taylor Smith, DO	Weston
District 9	Ilana Gersowsky, DO	Boca Raton
District 12	Juan Gonzalez, DO	Gainesville

### 2ND YEAR PRACTICE - 3

District 2	Michael Epps, DO	St. Augustine
District 3	Bruce Dixon, DO	Orlando
District 9	Darcie Linder, DO	Stuart

### PUBLIC HEALTH/MILITARY - 9

District 1	Laura Lauer, DO	Panama City Beach
District 5	Barry Hennessey, DO, FAOASM	Indian Rocks Beach
District 7	Engy Abdel Mageed, DO	Palmetto
District 9	Bella Isanova, DO Julia Shipman, DO	Boca Raton Stuart
District 11	Ashley Chatigny, DO	Naples
District 13	Thomas Castellenti, DO	Dade City
Out of State	Samantha Choudhury, DO	Kaneohe, HI
Out of State	Daniel Freberg, DO	Hindsville, AR

### RESIDENT - 6

District 3	Derek Murphy, DO	Orlando
District 5	Elaine Bruno, DO	Clearwater
District 10	Jennifer Dutmers, DO Matthew Thornburg, DO	Tampa Citrus Park
District 12	Carson Creamer, DO	Newberry
District 13	Michelle McGeachy, DO	Brooksville

# WELCOME NEW FOMA MEMBERS

## FINAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2025 CONT.

### INACTIVE/RETIRED - 4

District 10	Mark Lamielle, DO	Waimauma
District 11	James Butler, DO Jorge Toledo, DO	Ft. Myers Estero
District 14	Christopher Reeder, DO	Key Largo

### FACULTY - 2

District 7	Amy Dean, DO	Sarasota
District 10	David Van, DO	Tampa

### LIFE MEMBERSHIP

District 2	Gary Cater, DO, MBA	Jacksonville
District 11	Beverly Anarumo, DO, PA	Port Charlotte

### OUT OF STATE - 15

Mana Baskovic, DO	Manhattan Beach, CA
Aaron Blom, DO	Chester Springs, PA
Monica Drummond, DO	Moultrie, GA
Larry Hahn, DO	Feasterville-Trevoze, PA
Drew Huffman, DO	Norman, OK
Richard Istrico, DO	Howard Beach, NY
Katarina Lindley, DO	Weatherford, TX
Brian Marshall, DO	Brecksville, OH
Sara Medunick, DO	Scottsdale, AZ
Heath Parker, DO	Auburn, AL
Ryan Johnson, DO	Nashville, TN
Dennis Rhoades, DO	Murrells Inlet, SC
Phat Trinh, DO	Stockton, CA
Gary Waterman, DO	Brooklyn, NY
Amy Yeatman, DO	Green Bay, WI

For further information regarding your membership, contact:

**Andrew Floyd, CMP-HC, Director of Membership & Meetings**  
**2544 Blairstone Pines Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32301**  
**850.878.7364 Email:Andrew@foma.org**





February 6 - 8, 2026

Earn up to 27 (AOA) 1-A Credits

## 2026 FOMA LIVE CONVENTION



### Location: Marriott Ft. Lauderdale Harbor Beach Resort & Spa

#### The 27 Live Credits include:

- Florida mandatory credits for FL relicensure & 6 On-Demand
  - REGISTRATION includes 3 Continental Breakfasts, Lunch, and Reception
  - \* **REGISTRATION IS LIMITED! Register Early to Reserve Your Spot**
- Dates: Friday 2/6, 8am-5:30pm; Saturday 2/7, 8am-5:30pm; Sunday 2/8, 7:30am-12:30pm

### REGISTRATION FORM

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

FOMA Member    Y / N    AOA # \_\_\_\_\_ FL License # \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Specialty \_\_\_\_\_ Certification \_\_\_\_\_

Osteopathic College \_\_\_\_\_ Graduate Year \_\_\_\_\_

### Please Choose Category Below

Registration Type	Member Rate Early Bird Before 1/6/26	Member Rate After 1/6/26	Non-Member Rate
<input type="checkbox"/> Practicing DO	\$700	\$750	\$1150
<input type="checkbox"/> FOMA Life, Military, or Retired DO	\$500	\$550	\$650
<input type="checkbox"/> Osteopathic Resident/Fellow	\$150	\$175	\$225
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Only - 5 Mandatory Hours	\$375	\$400	\$600
<input type="checkbox"/> Exhibitor - \$2,500			
Registration Total:	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

\*Payment (Circle) Check/VISA/Mastercard/American Express/ Discover    Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ VCode \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Billing Address, Same as Mailing Address ☐ or Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the  
FOMA and mail to:  
FOMA  
2544 Blairstone Pines Drive, Tall., FL 32301  
of fax form to the FOMA:850-942-7538

Questions?  
FOMA  
1-800-226-3662  
www.foma.org



For Hotel Reservations:  
contact the hotel by Jan 14, 2026  
(or until block is full)  
Marriott Ft. Lauderdale Harbor Beach Resort & Spa  
3030 Holiday Dr, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316  
\$399 - Single/Double / 1-954-525-4000



March 6 - 8, 2026

Earn up to 30 (AOA) 1-A Credits

## 2026 FOMA VIRTUAL CONVENTION



### The 30 Credits Include:

- 5 Florida Mandatory hours: 2 hours of each of Prevention of medical Errors and Prescribing Controlled Substances, and 1 hour of Florida Laws, Rules, and Professional Medical Ethics.
- 2 hours of Domestic Violence and 1 hour of HIV/ AID's
- Attendees will have 30 days to complete the courses online at your convenience, that best suits your schedule.

Dates: Friday 3/6, 8am-4:30pm; Saturday 3/7, 8am-4:30pm; Sunday 3/8, 8am-1pm;  
On Demand : 6 Hours

### REGISTRATION FORM

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

FOMA Member    Y / N    AOA # \_\_\_\_\_ FL License # \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Specialty \_\_\_\_\_ Certification \_\_\_\_\_

Osteopathic College \_\_\_\_\_ Graduate Year \_\_\_\_\_

### Please Choose Category Below

Registration Type	Member Rate Early Bird before 2/6/26	Member Rate After 2/6/26	Non-Member Rate
<input type="checkbox"/> Practicing DO	\$625	\$675	\$1000
<input type="checkbox"/> FOMA Life, Military, or Retired DO	\$375	\$425	\$550
<input type="checkbox"/> Osteopathic Resident/Fellow	\$150	\$175	\$225
<input type="checkbox"/> Osteopathic Student	No Fee	No Fee	No Fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Only - 5 Mandatory Hours	\$375	\$400	\$600
Registration Total:	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

\*Payment (Circle) Check/VISA/Mastercard/American Express/ Discover    Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ VCode \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Billing Address, Same as Mailing Address ☐ or Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the  
FOMA and mail to:  
FOMA  
2544 Blairstone Pines Drive, Tall., FL 32301  
of fax form to the FOMA:850-942-7538

Questions?  
FOMA  
1-800-226-3662  
www.foma.org



# Florida HEALTH | Project READY

## Healthy Aging, Healthy Brain

### IMPORTANCE OF EARLY DIAGNOSIS AND COGNITIVE ASSESSMENT

Over the past year, the Florida Department of Health (DOH) has been working closely with several partners, including the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association (FOMA), to develop and distribute resources related to Alzheimer's Disease and other related Dementias (ADRD).

As ADRDs are some of the most difficult conditions to diagnose and treat, osteopathic physicians play an important role in ADRD management.

Osteopathic physicians are well-suited to practice early detection and provide a timely diagnosis because of their experience in looking beyond symptoms to explore how lifestyle and environmental factors impact a patient's current and future quality of life. Moreover, a whole-person approach to treatment is ideal because these diseases take a toll on a patient's mind, body, and support system.

Early diagnosis and identification of modifiable risk factors is crucial to improving health care outcomes for patients and their families. However, because cognitive decline can be difficult to diagnose in a primary care setting, it is important to use validated cognitive assessment tools to screen patients 65 and older during yearly Medicare visits.

In collaboration with the Alzheimer's Association, DOH has made a variety of resources available through the Project READY webpage and the featured QR Code, including cognitive assessment tools, CPT code information, and professional development opportunities.

## FOMA would like to thank everyone who has donated to the FOMA FAMILY TREE

### FAMILY TREE LEAVES:

Andrew Jackson, LLC (3)  
James Andriole, DO  
Dr. & Mrs. George Arcos  
John Bailey, DO  
Barker, Hebblewhite & Lynch  
Greg Barker  
The Bellingar Family  
Dr. Nicole Bixler & Family (2)  
Wayne Bizer, DO  
Dr. Lee Ann Brown & Family  
Patricio Bruno, DO  
Joanne L. Bujnoski, DO  
Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Burns & Family  
Winn, Larson, Hightower  
CE Broker  
Dr.'s Charles & Elena Chase  
Community Realty of Killlearn  
Dr.'s Hilda & Joe De Gaetano  
Linda Delo, DO  
Duggar Bush PA  
Dr. & Mrs. Perry Dworkin  
The Dybas Family  
Dr. & Mrs. Allan Escher  
Robert Fedor, DO  
Dr. Michelle Fiorillo & Family  
Dr. & Mrs. Walter Flesner  
Florida Pharmacy Solutions  
Florida Society of the ACOFP  
FOMA District 2 (2)  
FOMA District 5  
FOMA District 9  
Mark Foppe, DO  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert George  
Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Giaimo & Family  
Dr. & Mrs. Eric Goldsmith & Family  
The Robert Greer, DO Families  
Dr. Jeffrey Grove & Family  
Dr. Andrew Guidry & Family  
The Guzik Families  
Anna Hayden, DO  
William Hightower  
Donald Howard, DO (2)  
James T. Howell, MD  
Ron Hudanich, DO  
Dr. & Mrs. Gregory James (2)  
Dr.'s Kenneth & Michelle Johnson & Family  
Dr. & Mrs. Marc Kaprow & Family  
Alice M. King, DO  
William Kirsh, DO

Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Knaus  
Larkin Community Hospital  
Michelle Winn Larson & Family  
Dr. Susan Ledbetter & Family  
Dr. & Mrs. Joshua Lenchus & Family  
Dr. Charlene LePane & Suzy  
Eli Lilly & Company  
Dr. & Mrs. Jorge Luna & Family  
Chris Lyon, Esquire  
Dr. & Mrs. Michael Markou  
Sam Martino, DO  
Joseph McNerney, DO  
Dr. Michelle Mendez and Family  
Dr. & Mrs. Alan Menkes & Family  
James Milne, DO  
Marie G. Morris (2)  
Dr. & Mrs. Howard Neer & Family  
NSU-KPCOM  
Novartis  
Dr. & Mrs. Jeremy Olloqui & Family  
Optum Care  
Dr. & Mrs. Anthony Ottaviani  
Pappachristou / Perrigan Family  
Dr. & Mrs. Todd Patterson & Family  
Dr. & Mrs. John Pellosie, Sr. & Family  
Pharmaceutical Manufacturers of America  
Dr. & Mrs. Hal Pineless & Family  
John H. Potomski, Jr., DO  
Representative & Mrs. Ron Renuart & Family  
Joel Rose, DO  
Bill & Amy Russell  
The Schmieder Family  
Sandy Schwemmer, DO  
Dr. & Mrs. Brett Scotch & Family  
Dr. & Mrs. Paul Seltzer  
Dr. & Mrs. Philip Shettle  
Dr. & Mrs. Anthony Silvagni  
Dr. & Mrs. William Silverman (2)  
The Sokol Family  
The Stager Family  
Wynne A. Steinsnyder, DO  
James Swartz, DO  
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Thacker & Family  
Dr. & Mrs. Brett Thomas  
David Thomas, MD  
James Voirin, DO  
Dr. Greg Williams & Family  
Jason Winn, Esq. & Family  
Stephen & Judy Winn (2)

### IN MEMORY & HONORING LEAVES

Andrew Jackson, LLC-In Memory of Morton Terry, DO  
Andrew Jackson, LLC - Honoring the Memory of Robert S. Hand, DO, FOMA President 1987-88  
Nicole Bixler, DO - In Memory of Rob Heath, Father of Nicole Bixler, DO, FOMA President 2016-17  
Robin Dybas - In Honor of & with much Love to Our Parents, Grandparents & Best Friends: Minnette & Alan Kaye  
FOMA District 2 - In Honor & Memory of Lionel Gatien, DO, Physician, Leader, Mentor  
FOMA District 10 - Honoring Kenneth E. Webster, EdD: Over 30 years of Leadership & Dedication to the osteopathic profession & Hillsborough County Osteopathic Medical Society  
FOMA Physicians & Friends - In Memory of Kelsey Brooke Tatum, DO, Honorary LECOM Bradenton, 2021  
FOMA Physicians & Friends - In Memory of David Levine, DO (6/16/44 - 7/21/2007) FOMA President 1997-98  
FOMA Physicians & Friends - In Honor & Memory of Howard L. Neer, DO, FOMA President 1976 - 77 & AOA President 1988 - 89: A Pioneer, Educator, Mentor and Friend  
FOMA Physicians & Friends - In Honor & Memory of Marcelino Oliva, DO, Legislative Chairman, FOMA President 1974 - 75 & AOA President 1988 - 89  
FOMA Family - In Honor of Marcelino Oliva, DO, FOMA President 1974 - 75, Lora Lee Oliva & Family  
Don Jablonski, DO - To My FOMA Family, in Honor of Catherine Jablonski and Don Jablonski, DO, FOMA President 1995-96  
Dr. & Mrs. Gregory James - In Honor of David Kudelko, DO, graduate of KCOM  
Dr.'s Kenneth & Michelle Johnson & Family: Thank you FOMA for all that you DO - Simply the Very Best!  
James McCormick, DO - In Loving Memory of Patricia McCormick  
In Loving Memory of Morton Morris, DO, JD, FOMA President 1978 - 79, and Marie G. Morris  
Fred Porcase, DO - In Honor of our Brother, Friend, Father & Husband: John Anthony Fetchero, DO (6/4/51 - 1/19/2015)  
Melvyn Rech, DO - In Memory of Hamilton & Eric Rech & Morton Morris, DO, JD, FACOS, FAOAO  
Dr. & Mrs. William Silverman: In Honor of our Children - 2022  
Dr. Mrs. Joel Stein - In Honor and Loving Memory of Dr. Leon & Shirley Stein  
Dr. & Mrs. Brett Thomas: Keep Osteopathic Medicine Pure  
James Towry, DO & Family - In Honor of Paul E. Wilson, DO, FOMA President 1954- 55 & AOA President 1974 - 75  
Doug, Nancy and Zach Treadway - In Loving Memory of Tanner Douglas Treadway (1994 - 2014)  
West Palm Hospital Medical Staff - In Memory of Martin J. Frisosky, DO, for his Service, Leadership, Wisdom and Friendship  
Stephen & Judy Winn and Family - In Loving Honor of Senator Sherman & Roslyn Winn  
Winn Families & William Hightower - In Loving Memory of Christopher Marc Burns (5/16/90 - 3/19/2016)



Project READY and the Healthy Aging, Healthy Brain Initiative is brought to you by the Biomedical Research Program under the Public Health Research Section within the Division of Community Health Promotion.



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# EVENTS CALENDAR

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## 2026 FOMA LIVE Convention

February 6-8, 2026

Fort Lauderdale, Florida

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## 2026 FOMA VIRTUAL Convention

March 6-8, 2026

Registration on page 25

