



SPRING 2025

# FOMA *Journal*

FLORIDA OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



**BRUCE RANKIN, DO, CPI, MRO, FACOFP**  
**INSTALLED AS THE 2025-2026 FOMA PRESIDENT**





## 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, CPI, MRO, FACOFP  
DeLand

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AOA President-Elect Robert Piccinini, DO, D.FACN, Installed newly elected FOMA President Bruce Rankin, DO, CPI, MRO, FACOFP, into Office.



Congratulations to our 2025 Student Award Recipients



FOMA 30th Annual Osteopathic Medicine Day

Published by the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*"As your next president, I am committed to engaging fully in this role... Know that I am available to serve you."*

BRUCE RANKIN,  
DO, CPI, MRO, FACOPF  
President

I will draw on  
my leadership  
experience  
to continue  
strengthening  
FOMA. As our  
membership  
grows, so does  
our collective  
voice in  
healthcare.

I am honored to stand before you tonight as we celebrate this special FOMA Florida Tropical Night. Everyone looks fantastic, and I deeply appreciate you being here.

A heartfelt thank you to my wife, Jeannette, and my family for their unwavering support and for creating the beautiful decorations for this evening.

I want to recognize our incredible FOMA President, Dr. Michael Markou, for his outstanding leadership over the past year. You have led with excellence and left big shoes to fill. It has been a pleasure learning from you. My gratitude also goes to our exceptional FOMA staff and physician leadership. Under the guidance of Steve Winn and Michelle Winn Larson, our organization remains financially strong. Congratulations, Steve, on 50 years of dedicated leadership! Thanks to Andrew Floyd and our membership committee, FOMA is growing at a record pace. With Jason Winn's legal expertise and our legislative team, chaired by Dr. Paul Seltzer, we continue to protect and secure osteopathic medicine's future in Florida.

This year, we celebrate 150 years of osteopathic medicine, and Florida proudly has the third-largest osteopathic medical society in the country. With over 11,000 licensed DOs and students, our profession is rapidly expanding, with 28% of U.S. medical students now in DO training programs. Florida currently has five osteopathic training campuses, with two more in development.

For four decades, osteopathic medicine has been my life's work. I've seen our profession overcome challenges, like the difficulty my partner once faced in getting credentialed as a DO at our local hospital. When I joined him, I was accepted without question, and together, we changed the hospital's bylaws to ensure DO inclusion. Years later, we both served as Chiefs of Staff.

FOMA's legacy is our continual advocacy for osteopathic physicians in Florida's healthcare system. We will promote our osteopathic distinction statewide and beyond. I love hearing stories from my colleagues about the barriers they've overcome to serve their communities. As your next president, I am committed to engaging fully in this role. One of my mentors once told me, "You could be the best doctor ever, but if you're not available, you cannot help anyone." Know that I am available to serve you.

FOMA represents everything I stand for. I am Florida through and through—a native Floridian who has studied, trained, and worked here my entire life. I was part of Florida's first class of osteopathic students and helped organize its first SOMA student government chapter. This year marks 40 years since I graduated from the Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine, now Nova Southeastern University Kiran Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine.

As president, I will draw on my leadership experience to continue strengthening FOMA. As our membership grows, so does our collective voice in healthcare. One of my key goals is expanding FOMA's physician membership, starting at the grassroots level. Florida's population is growing, and so must our osteopathic presence. We have a unique opportunity to connect with newly arrived DOs and welcome them into FOMA. Practicing medicine is increasingly challenging, and we are here to support all our members.

Our state and national legislators must continually be reminded of what makes osteopathic medicine distinct. We will continue pressing for DO inclusion while preserving our unique philosophy of care. Some of my top goals for this year include:

- Strengthening FOMA's grassroots district societies
- Developing leadership among our physicians, residents, and students
- Revitalizing educational and fellowship gatherings across Florida

We will reinvest in our districts by organizing meet-and-greet events, leadership training, and educational programs. Leadership development will be a focus, with training opportunities scheduled for early June. We understand that everyone is busy, so we will offer both in-person and virtual options to ensure accessibility. However, I encourage as many in-person interactions as possible to build stronger relationships.

Now, I want to introduce my loving and supportive family, especially my wife, Jeannette. You are my greatest supporter, and your creativity is evident in tonight's beautiful event. I love you.

Life has a way of coming full circle. As physicians, we spend our careers helping others, but one day, we or our loved ones may need that same care. My grandson was born last October with a rare congenital heart anomaly and required surgery at just a few weeks old. His surgeon was a DO, part of the Arnold Palmer Hospital cardiovascular team. Thank you, Dr. Kevin Beers, DO, for your skill and compassion. This experience reminded me that osteopathic physicians are making a difference in all specialties of medicine, and it's something we must continue to celebrate and promote.

FOMA must continue reaching out to all Florida DOs, acknowledging their exceptional work, and inviting them to join our mission. Inclusion strengthens our profession. We are part of an incredible legacy of osteopathic medicine in Florida, one that leaders like Dr. Morton Terry, DO, helped shape.

I'll never forget what Dr. Terry told my medical school class: "You, like osteopathic medicine, are the cream—and cream always rises to the top." FOMA is that cream, keeping our profession strong and rising above challenges. Florida's osteopathic training programs continue producing top-tier physicians, many of whom remain in our state to care for our communities. That's why it's crucial for all osteopathic students and residents in Florida to be part of FOMA. The cream stays with the cream—at the top!

The osteopathic profession thrives not only through our medical treatments but also through our words, actions, and the connections we foster. A statement that has always resonated with me is: "Service to humanity is the best work of life." As DOs, we embody this every day. Osteopathic medicine is the best work of life.

Thank you, osteopathic physicians, for your dedication, compassion, and service to Florida. Thank you to our FOMA staff for your hard work, and to our families for their unwavering support. It is my privilege to serve as your next FOMA president.

God bless America, our national osteopathic leadership, FOMA members, Florida physicians, and their families. Now, please enjoy this wonderful evening, and if you're up for a challenge—come try your hand at the Florida ring game!

*Bruce Rankin DO FACOPF*



Dr. Rankin Surrounded by his Family



**The February  
5th FOMA  
Osteopathic  
Medicine  
& Health  
Awareness Day  
at the Capitol,  
attended by  
students and  
physicians, was  
our best one  
yet!**



STEPHEN R. WINN

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

The FOMA and staff are working diligently to ensure organizational goals and objectives on behalf of the membership are achieved. We want to thank our Bureau of CME members for their hard work in planning our FOMA Continuing Medical Education events. Additionally, the FOMA staff and committee members have been preparing for the installation of the 2025 – 26 FOMA President, Bruce Rankin, DO, CPI, MRO, FACOFP, and the new Executive Committee. Thank you to Michelle Larson & her team for coordinating these important events.

The 2025 Legislative Session begins, Tuesday, March 4th. The FOMA's Legislative team, led by Chair, Paul Seltzer, DO, along with Jason Winn, Esq., Chris Lyon, Esq., William Hightower, Alex Golden, and I are monitoring the 2025 Legislative Session and are meeting regularly at the Capitol and during Committee meetings, to discuss legislative priorities and issues impacting physicians and their patients. Many issues, that did not pass last year are returning, especially Scope of Practice.

The Feb. 5th FOMA Osteopathic Medicine & Health Awareness Day at the Capitol, attended by students and physicians, was our best one yet! It was very educational and informative to all who attended. Our meetings with Senate President Albritton, Senator Harrell, Senator Burton and President Pro Tempore Jason Broeudor's staff and others was extremely helpful in understanding today's political atmosphere. Our weekly Legislative Updates are sent out in the FOMA Newswire and can be found on the FOMA website, along with the bills we are tracking.

I truly enjoyed my trip to Washington DC for the Florida Gala & Inauguration in January, having the opportunity to speak with Florida Speaker Perez and Congressman Aaron Bean and others was helpful in discussing healthcare issues on both the state and federal levels.

## ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT



MICHELLE W. LARSON

ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MICHELLE W. LARSON, CAE, CMP, reports that the FOMA Medical Education Committee, Chaired by Ronald Burns, DO & William Silverman, DO, continue to work on the 2025 FOMA CME Programs. These include the 2025 FOMA Live Convention, Feb. 21 – 23, at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress in Orlando with over 250+ physicians and students registered. We recorded those lectures for the 2025 FOMA Virtual Convention, March 28 – 30, which had over 1400 physicians registered. The 2025 Virtual Seminar is scheduled for September 5 - 7. Each program offers the 5 mandatory hours for Florida re-licensure. As a thank you to our FOMA members, we offered 3 free AOA 1-A credits in January! For additional CME credits, please visit the FOMA website and The CME Center. Stay tuned for details on the 2025 FOMA Poster Competition, Sponsored by Osteopathic Foundation East Orlando.

DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP & EDUCATION, ANDREW FLOYD, MBA, CAE, CMP-HC, reports that the FOMA added 550 members over the past year! The new members include: 249 – Active, 37 - 1st Year, 24 – 2nd Year, 40 – Public Health/Military, 30 - Inactive, 111 - Out of State, and 59 - Resident. If you know a DO in your area who is not a FOMA member, invite them to one of your District Society meetings or tell them how they can get involved in the FOMA. This is a great chance to interact with your peers and keep up to date on the latest changes in osteopathic medicine and to showcase what the FOMA has to offer! If you would like our office to send someone a membership packet, please contact me at the FOMA Executive Office.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, KAYE TAIT, reports that registrations for both the 2025 Live & Virtual FOMA Conventions have been coming in steadily! Employer tax forms for the 4th quarter of 2024 have been completed and sent to the IRS. 2024 W2's, have been filed with the IRS and given to all FOMA employees. All FOMA 1099 forms have also been filed with the IRS and mailed to all of our vendors for 2024. Dues for the 2025-2026 billing cycle, were generated in April and sent to all FOMA members for the May 1st, renewal period.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS, JASMINE SMITH, reports that FOMA successfully hosted its 30th Annual Osteopathic Medicine & Health Awareness Day, with over 33 students and 13 physicians in attendance. We are currently preparing the Spring issue of the FOMA Journal, which will feature highlights from the 2025 Convention and the installation of the 2025–26 FOMA Officers. Additionally, FOMA continues its collaboration with the AOA on the “Cardiometabolic Risk in Underserved Populations” campaign alongside several states. We encourage you to make visiting [www.foma.org](http://www.foma.org) part of your daily routine!



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN  
Paul D. Seltzer, DO

*“The FOMA 2025 Know the Issues is forthcoming and will be published soon after the Governor makes his final determination on transmitted legislation.”*

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE as of May 4, 2025



Michael Markou, DO, Senator Colleen Burton,  
& Paul D. Seltzer, DO

Although the 60th day of the session passed, with legislators working late into the night to resolve substantive policy legislation, the Sini Die Ceremony remains on hold as legislative leaders extend the session to reconcile the budget. Unlike most years, the two chambers failed to agree on budget allocations to begin the conference process in time to close a \$4.4 billion gap between the two. Negotiating into the night on May 2, 2025, leadership announced they had agreed upon topline allocations. They decided to return the week of May 12 to begin the budget conference and resolve budget-related policy issues. The budget negotiations include Senate President Albritton’s session priority focusing on rural communities, which is titled the Rural Renaissance initiative. Among other rural development policies, the initiative could provide significant grant funding for rural health care. Non-budget policy bills are no longer eligible for consideration.

According to Senate President Ben Albritton, the agreement on allocations includes substantial debt reduction, reduced per capita spending, and cuts in bureaucracy. Central to the agreement is a historic \$2.8 billion broad-based tax relief package designed to alleviate financial burdens on Florida families and businesses. The agreement also includes targeted funding through the “Rural Renaissance” initiative.

On the policy front, legislators continued working through the night on the 60th day of the session, amending legislation and forming trains to get their priorities over the goal line. With the added weight, the process moved at a snail’s pace as bills bounced from one chamber to another, a battle of wills, as the two chambers battled it out at the baseline in hopes of striking a winner.

**The FOMA 2025 Know the Issues is forthcoming and will be published soon after the Governor makes his final determination on transmitted legislation.** This comprehensive document will offer a complete analysis of legislation passed during this session, detailing its impact on the osteopathic profession and patients and outlining any actionable items for our members.

### Rural Renaissance (Health Care Provisions):

Citing the importance of ensuring rural communities have access to health care services, Senate President Ben Albritton prioritizes investments in rural health care through the “Rural Renaissance” initiative. If the legislature adopts the Senate plan in the conference process, the initiative could fund programs to widen access to primary care, improve patient outcomes, and coordinate emergency medical care in rural communities. According to studies cited in the staff analysis, disparities relating to rural access to care directly impact mortality rates. Barriers to care that make access difficult in rural communities include healthcare workforce shortages, higher poverty rates, lower insurance coverage rates, and longer distances to healthcare facilities than urban residents.

Laser-focused and committed to reversing the trend, the Senate President has prioritized the following as actions:

- Establish the Stroke, Cardiac, and Obstetric Response and Education (SCORE) Grant Program to implement training, purchase equipment, establish telehealth capabilities, and develop quality improvement programs to improve patient outcomes and increase access to high-quality stroke, cardiac, and obstetric care in rural communities;
- Establish the Rural Access to Primary and Preventative Care Grant Program (RAPP-C) program to provide incentives to open new practice locations in rural and underserved areas of the state; and
- Expand the existing Rural Hospital Capital Improvement Grant Program (RHCI), allowing rural hospitals to use grant funds to establish mobile care units to provide primary care services, behavioral health services, or obstetric and gynecological services in rural health professional shortage areas (HPSA) or to establish telehealth kiosks to provide urgent care services in rural HPSAs.



Steve Winn & Speaker Daniel Perez

### Department of Health:

The legislature passed HB 1299 concerning the Department of Health. The bill partly expands the medical faculty certificate gateway for physicians by adding to the eligible teaching-site roster the Orlando College of Osteopathic Medicine and Lincoln Memorial University-DeBusk COM–Orange Park. The bill also keeps Florida’s definition of “messenger ribonucleic acid vaccine” on the books until 2027 and preserves the state’s prohibitions on vaccine mandates and discrimination; tightens oversight of medical-marijuana businesses through new background screening and loss-reporting rules; modernizes pain-management, MOBILE-Act endorsement, and temporary-certificate statutes.



Steve Winn, Senator Jay Collins,  
& Jason D. Winn Esq.

### Stem Cell Legislation:

The legislature passed SB 1768, a bill authorizing physicians (medical doctors and doctors of osteopathic medicine) to perform stem cell therapies that have not been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration when used for orthopedic conditions, wound care, or pain management. SB 1768 is on its way to the Governor for his review.

### Scope of Practice:

**The FOMA and its partners successfully voiced opposition to measures that would have expanded the scope of practice.** Despite opposition, the legislature passed HB 647, authorizing advanced practice registered nurses providing hospice care to file certificates of death or fetal death and certify the cause of death.

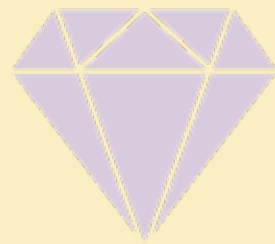
### Medical Malpractice:

Notwithstanding strong opposition by the FOMA, FMA, and other legislative partners, the legislature passed HB 6017 concerning the recovery of damages for wrongful death. The bill expands the scope of damages available under Florida’s Wrongful Death Act, removing the prohibition on recovery of noneconomic wrongful death damages in medical negligence cases by the decedent’s children who are 25 years of age or older and parents of a deceased child who was 25 years of age or older at the time of death. A floor amendment filed by the bill sponsor, Senator Yarborough, to include caps for wrongful death cases of \$1 million failed to gain traction and was defeated on a second reading.

### Governor Review:

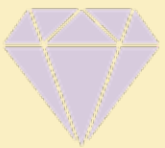
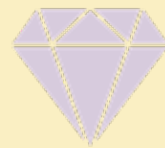
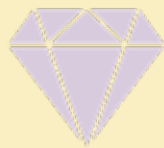
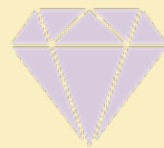
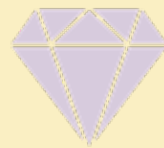
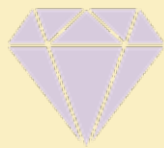
The 2025 Legislative Session is not over. Of the 1,982 bills that were filed, only 254 passed both chambers. However, the budget, which is the only constitutionally required action item, was not passed. The legislative Session has been extended until 11:59 p.m. on Friday, June 6, 2025. Additional updates forthcoming.





# 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.

### 10 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$30,000)

Jeffrey Grove, DO  
Jamie Goodman, DO

### 9 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$25,000)

Joanne Bujnoski, DO

### 8 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$20,000)

Joseph Giaimo, DO  
James Milne, DO  
James St. Louis, DO  
Joel B. Rose, DO  
William Stager, DO, MPH  
Stephen R. Winn

### 7 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$15,000)

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Andrew Guidry, 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

### 6 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$12,500)

Nicole Bixler, DO  
Anna Hayden, DO  
Michelle Mendez, 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  
Ronald Renuart, DO

### 4 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$7,500)

Advocates to the FOMA  
Lee Ann Brown, DO  
Charles Chase, DO  
Linda Delo, DO  
Michelle Fiorillo, DO  
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Larry L. Mattingly, DO  
Philip L. Shettle, DO  
Col. Jose Thomas-Richards, DO, Ret.  
James Towry, DO

### 3 Diamond Presidential

(AT LEAST \$5,000)

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Ronald L Knaus, DO  
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Joshua Lenchus, DO, RPh  
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John Potomski, DO  
Brett Scotch, DO  
Sandy Seltzer  
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(AT LEAST \$2,500)

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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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Kenneth Blaze, DO  
John Choies, DO  
James Clary, DO  
Joseph Corcoran, DO  
Gordon Crozier, DO  
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Din-on Sun, DO  
Glenn Syperda, DO  
Jason Winn, Esquire  
Judy Winn



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John Bailey, DO  
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Ronald Burns, DO  
Charles Chase, DO  
Gene DiBetta, DO  
Mark A. Dobbertien, DO  
Donald Erb, DO  
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Walter B. Flesner, III, DO  
Mark Foppe, DO  
Joseph A. Giaimo, DO  
Eric Goldsmith, DO  
Jamie Goodman, DO  
Jeffrey S. Grove, DO  
Andrew Guidry, DO  
Chris Guzik, DO  
Anna Hayden, DO

Leonard Hock, DO  
Ron Hudanich, DO  
Gregory J. James, DO  
Marc Kaprow, DO  
Joshua Lenchus, DO  
Charlene LePane, DO  
Victor Loria, DO  
Michael Markou, DO  
Julian Marian, MD  
Sean McCann, DO  
Joseph P. McNerney, DO  
Michelle Mendez, DO  
James Milne, DO  
Glenn Moran, DO  
David Oliver, DO  
Jeremy Olloqui, DO  
Jay Olsson, DO  
Anthony N. Ottaviani, DO  
Stephen Petteruti, DO

Rachel Pevsner Crum, DO  
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Brett M. Scotch, DO  
Paul D. Seltzer, DO  
Anthony J. Silvagni, DO  
William M. Silverman, DO  
William Stager, DO  
Joel D. Stein, DO  
Ronald Surowitz, DO  
Richard R. Thacker, DO  
James Towry, DO



# THE FOMA 2025 Annual Conventions

FEBRUARY 21-23, 2025 (LIVE) AND MARCH 28-30 (VIRTUAL)



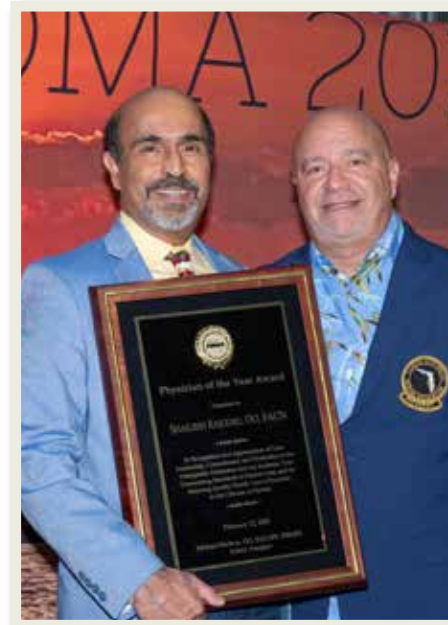
AOA President-Elect Robert Piccinini, DO, D.FACN, Installed newly elected FOMA President Bruce Rankin, DO, CPI, MRO, FACOF, into Office.

The 2025 FOMA Live Convention, February 21-23 (offered up to 27 AOA 1A credits) at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress, in Orlando & 2025 Virtual Convention (offered up to 30 AOA 1A credits), held March 28-30, were both a success. This year, the Live Convention had 250+ osteopathic physicians, students, and exhibitors attend. The Virtual Convention had over 1400+ osteopathic physicians and students participating from all regions of the country! Physicians could interact with speakers and fellow attendees in the “live chat” section, and they could watch the lectures for 30 days after event. Topics for both Conventions included: Gastroenterology Update, Dementia update, Lipids: New technology, new Treatments, and several OMT workshops. Both Conventions included the Florida mandatory hours for re-licensure. FOMA Live Convention was a success!



The new 2025-26 FOMA officers are: (L-R) AOA President-Elect, Robert Piccinini, DO, D.FACN; FOMA President Bruce Rankin, DO, CPI, MRO, FACOF; Directors-at-Large: Michelle Mendez, DO; Kayvan Amini, DO, FACC; Sean McCann, DO; Cesar DeLeon, DO; Vice-President James Towry, DO, FAOCD, FAAD; Second Vice-President Joseph Sassano, DO; Director-at-Large Marie Florent-Carre, DO, MPH; First Vice-President Jeffrey Nelson, DO, FACOF; FOMA Past President Michael Markou, DO, FISHRS, FACOF (Not Pictured)

## DR. MICHAEL MARKOU PRESENTED THE 2025 FOMA AWARDS



**Physician of the Year Award**  
presented to Shailesh Rajguru,  
DO, FACN



**Lifetime Achievement Award**  
presented to Jeffrey Groves,  
DO, FACOF, dist.



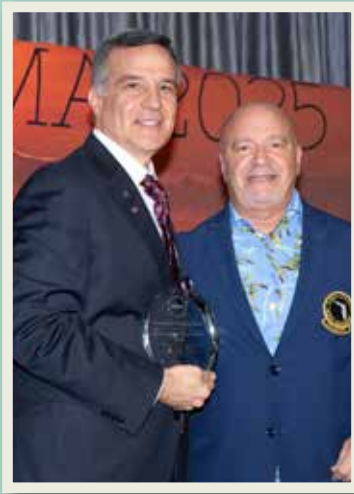
**Distinguished Service Award**  
presented to Joshua Lenchus,  
DO, RPh, FACP, SFHM

On Saturday, February 22, AOA President Elect Robert Piccinini, DO, D.FACN, Installed the new 2025-26 FOMA Officers during the FOMA Board of Trustees meeting, he then installed newly elected FOMA President, Bruce Rankin, DO, CPI, MRO, FACOF, into office Saturday night during the evening reception.

*Thank you to the Osteopathic Foundation of East Orlando for their continued sponsorship of this event and the Poster Competition!*







### FOMA Presidential Recognition Award

presented to Joseph Giaimo, DO, MACOI, FCCP, AOA Past President  
Not Pictured: Anthony Ottaviani DO, MPH, FACOI, FCCP



### FOMA OMT Award

presented to Joel Stein, DO, FAAO, FAOASM, FACOFP; William Stager, DO, MS, MPH, FAAO, FAAFP, FAAMA, FACOFP dist.  
Not Pictured: David Boesler, DO, MS, FAAO



### Stephen R. Winn Friend of Osteopathic Profession Award

presented to Lisa Belliveau, Administrator FOMA Districts 5 & 10

Saturday night, Dr. Markou bestowed a FOMA Special Presidential Recognition Award, FOMA OMT Award, and Stephen R. Winn Friend of Osteopathic Profession Award to the following: **Joseph Giaimo, DO, MACOI, FCCP, AOA President**, for his outstanding leadership, dedication to advancing osteopathic medicine (Not Pictured: Anthony Ottaviani DO, MPH, FACOI, FCCP); **Joel Stein, DO, FAAO, FAOASM, FACOFP**; and **William Stager, DO, MS, MPH, FAAO, FAAFP, FAAMA, FACOFP dist.** for their ongoing efforts to advocate for and promote Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment at the national, state, and local levels (Not Pictured: David Boesler, DO, MS, FAAO); **Lisa Belliveau, Administrator FOMA Districts 5 & 10**, for her continuing commitment in promoting the tenets and philosophy of osteopathic medicine in the state of Florida.



## Congratulations to our 2025 Student Award Recipients

FOMA gives a round of applause to all the 2025 award winners.

Thank you for your commitment and leadership.

Pictured L-R: Victoria Estevez, OMS-II, LECOM-Bradenton; Idamys Saez-Acosta, OMS-II, LECOM-Bradenton; Gianni Acampora, OMS-II, LECOM-Bradenton; Kenny Quezada, OMS-I, Orlando COM; Sahar Shafique, OMS-I, Orlando COM; Salvatore Corallo, OMS-I, Burrell COM-Florida; Michael G Yingst, OMS-I, Burrell COM-Florida

Not Pictured: Young Tran, OMS-I, Orlando COM  
Shannon Smith, OMS-II, NSU KPCOM - Florida Tampa Bay



# Thank You TO OUR 2025 EXHIBITORS & SPONSORS

- Osteopathic Foundation East Orlando
- Andrew Jackson Insurance
- Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine (ACOM)
- Conviva Care Centers & CenterWell
- Evolutionary Healthcare
- Florida Department of Health Bureau of Vital Statistics
- Florida Department of Health Office of Medical Marijuana Use
- Florida PDMP Foundation
- IBSA Pharma
- LMU - Lincoln Memorial University
- Merck & Co, Inc.
- Millennium Physician Group
- NSU KPCOM
- NSU KPCOM - Area Health Education Center Program (AHEC)
- Professionals Resource Network





# CONVENTION SPOTLIGHT





# FOMA

STUDENT/RESIDENT/FELLOW  
RESEARCH POSTER COMPETITION  
DECEMBER 2025!



## DETAILS COMING SOON!

- ✓ SHOWCASE YOUR RESEARCH
- ✓ PRACTICE PRESENTATION SKILLS
- ✓ EXPAND YOUR CV



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September 5th - 7th, 2025  
Earn up to 27 hours (AOA) I-A Credits

## 2025 FOMA VIRTUAL SEMINAR

### The 27 Credits Include:

- 5 Florida Mandatory Hours: 2 Hours 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 / AIDS
- Attendees will have 30 days to complete the courses Online



Dates: Friday 9/5, 8am-4:30pm; Saturday 9/6, 8am-4:30pm;  
Sunday 9/7, 8am-1pm  
On Demand : 6 Hours

### REGISTRATION FORM

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_  
FOMA Member Y / N AOA # \_\_\_\_\_ FI License # \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Specialty \_\_\_\_\_ Certification \_\_\_\_\_  
Osteopathic College \_\_\_\_\_ Graduate Year \_\_\_\_\_

### Please Choose Category Below

Registration Type	Member Rate Early Bird Until 8/15/2025	Member Rate Starts 8/16/2025	Non-Member Rate
<input type="checkbox"/> Practicing DO	\$550	\$575	\$825
<input type="checkbox"/> FOMA Life, Military, or Retired DO	\$375	\$400	\$475
<input type="checkbox"/> Osteopathic Resident/Fellow	\$125	\$150	\$200
<input type="checkbox"/> Osteopathic Student	No Fee	No Fee	No Fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Only - 5 Mandatory Hours	\$300	\$325	\$550
Registration Total:	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

\*Payment (Circle) Check / VISA / MasterCard / American Express / Discover Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ V Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card Billing Address and Mailing are the same ☐ or Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the FOMA and mail to:  
FOMA  
2544 Blainstone Pines Drive, Tallahassee FL 32301  
Or fax form to the FOMA: 850-942-7538

Questions?  
1-800-226-3662  
[www.foma.org](http://www.foma.org)

\*FOMA must be notified of any cancellation in writing 14 days prior to the meeting in order to receive a refund.  
Cancellations Received after this date will be charged a \$50 administrative fee.



# FOMA Host Osteopathic Medicine & Healthcare Awareness Day in Tallahassee, Florida Capitol

FOMA hosted its 30th Annual Osteopathic Medicine & Healthcare Awareness Day on February 4-5 in Tallahassee. Physicians & Students had an incredible time exploring the history of the Capitol, including visits to the House and Senate Chambers followed by a visit from Senate President, Ben Albritton. Additionally, we had the opportunity to meet with several legislators, including Senator Gayle Harrell, Representative Allison Tant, and Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis.



## BIG DEVELOPMENTS IN HEALTHCARE EDUCATION: LECOM Breaks Ground at Jacksonville University



LECOM Founders, John Ferretti, DO, President & CEO and Silvia Ferretti, DO, Senior Vice President

Northeast Florida is marking a major milestone in healthcare and education. Today, the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM) at Jacksonville University officially broke ground on what will be the region's first medical school.

This state-of-the-art facility represents a transformative step for medical education in the area, offering new opportunities to train the next generation of physicians close to home. With its cutting-edge resources and commitment to academic excellence, LECOM at Jacksonville University is poised to become a cornerstone for healthcare innovation and professional development in Northeast Florida.

The inaugural class of medical students is set to begin in 2026, ushering in a new era of medical training and expanding access to quality healthcare education for the region.





# FOMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES & BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2025-2026

## MEDICAL EDUCATION:

**Chair: Ronald Burns, DO**

**Vice Chair: William Silverman, DO**

Members: Bridgette Bellinger, DO, Natalie Caplinger, DO, Cesar De Leon, DO, Linda Delo, DO, Marie Florent-Carre, DO, Supriya Dhaurali, DO, Janae Fry, DO, Jody Greenfield, DO, Robert Hasty, DO, Jacinda Hays, DO, Thomas Hoffman, DO, Brie Howerton, DO, Marc Kaprow, DO, Mark Kauffman, DO, Marc Kesselman, DO, Sara Lohbauer, DO, Dipak Nadkarni, DO, Mitchell Peabody, DO, Hal Pineless, DO, Donald Pyle, II, DO, Shailesh Rajguru, DO, Joe Semkiu, DO, James Toldi, DO, Martin Torrents, DO, James Towry, DO, Danielle Broussard, OMS, Alena Khalil, OMS, Matthew David Labrovski, OMS, Nikita Sood, OMS

## CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS:

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**Vice Chair: James Towry, DO**

Members: Walter Flesner, DO, Eric Goldsmith, DO, Diana Graves, DO, Sara Lohbauer, DO, Michelle Mendez, DO, Jeffrey Nelson, DO, Donald Pyle, DO, Alex Sher, DO, Lee Shettle, DO

## FINANCE:

**Chair: James Towry, DO**

**Vice Chair: Jeffrey Nelson, DO**

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## MEMBERSHIP:

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**Vice Chair: Sean McCann, DO**

Members: Matthew Brill, DO, Vicki Calamese, DO, Mark DeSantis, DO, Marie Florent-Carre, DO, Sean McCann, DO, Jeffrey Nelson, DO, Donald Pyle, II, DO, Joseph Sassano, DO, Ronald Torrance, II, DO James Towry, DO, Kristina Fritz, DO, Brie Howerton, DO, Sara Lohbauer, DO Sneha Polam, OMS IV

## NOMINATING:

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**Vice Chair: Michael Markou, DO**

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## LONG RANGE STRATEGIC PLANNING (LRSP):

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**Vice Chair: Joshua Lenchus, DO**

Members: James Andriole, DO, Nicole Bixler, DO, Lee Ann Brown, DO, Ronald Burns, DO, Diana Graves, DO, Donald Pyle, II, DO, James Towry, DO, Thomas Forks, DO, Joe Semkiu, DO, Sneha Polam, OMS IV

## LRSP SUBCOMMITTEE:

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**Vice Chair: Donald Pyle, II, DO**

Members: Matthew Brill, DO, Michelle Mendez, DO, Junaid Saleh-Esa, DO, Alex Sher, DO

## AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS:

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**Vice Chair: Cesar DeLeon, DO**

Members: Gregory James, DO, Joshua Lenchus, DO, RPh, Michelle Mendez, DO, Jeffrey Nelson, DO, Hal Pineless, DO, Donald Pyle, II, DO, Brett Scotch, DO, Alexander Scumpia DO, Francesca Swartz DO

## LEGISLATIVE:

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**Vice Chair: Charles Chase, DO**

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**Vice Chair: Cesar De Leon, DO**

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**Vice Chair: Leonard Hock, DO**

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**Vice Chair: Lee Ann Brown, DO**

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## AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON FOMA REDISTRICTING:

**Chair: Jeffrey Nelson, DO**

**Vice Chair: James Towry, DO**

Members: Kayvan Amini, DO, Chet Anthony, DO, Lee Ann Brown, DO, Mayrene Hernandez, DO, Joseph Sassano, DO, Carl Spirazza, DO, Diana Graves, DO

## AI TASKFORCE:

**Chair: Kayvan Amini, DO**

**Vice Chair: Matt Brill, DO**

Members: Victor Aramayo, DO, Joseph McNerney, DO, Jeffrey Nelson, DO, Donald Pyle, DO, Shailesh Rajguru, DO, Joe Semkiu, DO, Carl Spirazza, DO, Ronald Torrance, DO

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Samantha Cotler, DO
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Chet Anthony, DO
- Samuel Gubernick, DO  
Lee Ann Brown, DO  
Andrew Gross, DO  
Michael Markou, DO  
Nicholas Okeson, DO  
Lee Shettle, DO
- Elaine Wallace, DO  
Mayrene Hernandez, DO  
Kayvan Amini, DO  
Joel Stein, DO  
Marie Florent-Carre, DO  
Anthony Silvagni, DO  
Michael Margolis, DO  
Barbara Arcos, DO  
Fawn Winkelman, DO  
Victor Jaffe, DO
- Joseph Sassano, DO  
Mark Kauffman, DO
- Natassja Gangeri, DO  
Judith Schaffer, DO
- Michael Belotti, DO  
Robert C. Greer, V, DO  
Carl Spirazza, DO  
Matt Brill, DO  
Linda Delo, DO
- Ronald Torrance, DO  
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Joel Rose, DO  
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- Walter B. Flesner, DO  
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- Diana Graves, DO  
James Towry, DO  
David Oliver, DO  
Kalpesh Solanki, DO
- Nicole Bixler, DO
- James Andriole, DO
- Jay Olsson, DO  
John Potomski, DO
- Cesar DeLeon, DO

### Resident

Merly Cubelo, DO

### (TRUSTEES CONT.)

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NSU-KPCOM  
Shannon Smith, President,  
NSU KPCOM TBR  
Ferris Handoklow, President,  
LECOM Bradenton

#### SGA

Olivia Pisarski, SGA President,  
NSU KPCOM  
Philip Ordonez, SGA President,  
NSU KPCOM TBR  
Priya Patel, SGA President,  
LECOM Bradenton  
Abigail Dugas, SGA President,  
OCOM  
Michael Yingst, SGA President,  
Burrell COM-FL

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Janae Fry, DO  
Donald Pyle, DO
- Charlene LePane, DO  
Brian Browning, DO  
Victor Aramayo, DO  
Ronald R. Burns, DO  
William Silverman, DO  
Hal Pineless, DO  
Eva-Marie Heurich, DO
- Erica O'Donnell, DO  
Frank Armstrong, DO  
Gene DiBetta, DO  
Jeffrey Grove, DO  
Scott Ray, DO  
Gregory James, DO  
Tracie Leonhardt, DO
- Joshua Lenchus, DO, RPh  
Eric Goldsmith, DO  
Jorge Luna, DO
- Donald Erb, DO  
Mark Kauffman, DO  
Misha Denham, DO
- Paul Seltzer, DO, Legislative Chair  
Joseph Giaimo, DO  
William Stager, DO  
Robert Greer, IV, DO
- Michael Austin, DO
- Lindsey Johnson, DO  
Sara Lohbauer, DO  
Jeremy Olloqui, DO  
Frank Paiano, DO
- Joseph McNerney, DO
- Stephen Yandel, DO  
Adam Weiner, DO
- Daniel Kaplan, DO

#### Resident

Alex Sher, DO



# FROM AROUND THE STATE...

# DISTRICT REPORTS

## DISTRICT SOCIETY 1

The FOMA sponsored a meet & greet for FOMA District Society 1 at the Pearl & Horn Restaurant in Pensacola, FL on April 17th. Attendees enjoyed an evening of food, drinks, and networking with their local osteopathic colleagues. FOMA President Bruce Rankin, DO, CPI, MRO, FACOFP attended the meeting and gave a brief legislative update along with an overview of FOMA activities around the state.



FOMA President Bruce Rankin, DO, CPI, MRO, FACOFP



FOMA District 1 Members

## DISTRICT SOCIETY 2

The 26th Annual Primary Care and Cardiovascular Symposium was May 14-17, 2025. The Annual Primary Care and Cardiovascular Symposium was held at a NEW location in 2025. We were excited to partner with the University of North Florida- Adam W. Herbert University Center @ 12000 Alumni Drive Jacksonville, Florida to bring an affordable, CME event. Attendees earned up to 36 credits (including all required CMEs for re-licensure) for MDs, DOs, ARNPs and PAs. Presentation topics covered cardiology, endovascular medicine, hematology, oncology, peripheral vascular medicine, podiatry, surgery and other internal medicine subspecialties areas. For more information, visit [www.FOMADistrict2.com](http://www.FOMADistrict2.com).

## DISTRICT SOCIETY 3

FOMA District Society 3 held a District Society dinner meeting on January 23rd at Maggiano's Restaurant in Orlando. A lecture entitled "Academic Fun for the Busy Clinician" was presented by Latha Ganti, MD, Professor & Director of Research at OCOM.

## DISTRICT SOCIETY 4

FOMA District 4 held a meeting on April 3rd at Hyde Park Steakhouse in Daytona Beach, FL. A lecture entitled "Asclera for Spider Veins" was presented to those in attendance. FOMA President Bruce Rankin, DO, CPI, MRO, FACOFP attended the meeting and gave a brief legislative update along with an overview of FOMA activities around the state.

## DISTRICT SOCIETY 5

FOMA District 5 (PCOMS) held their Annual Meeting and Holiday Dinner on December 12, 2025, at the Sheraton Sand Key Resort, Clearwater Beach. Over 100 colleagues, families

and friends were in attendance.

Kevin A. Ache, DO, FACOFP was installed as the 67th President of the PCOMS, by Michael Markou DO, FACOFP, Past President of the FOMA. Dr. Ache is a Board-Certified family medicine physician and is currently a Medical Director in Florida, for Optum Home and Community. Dr. Markou administered the oath office also to the incoming officers - President Elect, Brian Lake, DO, Vice president, Tahirih Jensen, DO, MHA, Secretary, Robyn Ache, DO, FACOS and Treasure, Matthew Duke, DO. Stacy Chase, DO, FACOFP, FAOGME was recognized for her two terms as president of the PCOMS with the Presidential Gavel. In addition, Dr. Chase was recognized as the PCOMS Physician of the Year for her exemplary leadership at the regional and national level for the community and professionally.



President Ache and Officers of the PCOMS attend a dinner welcoming AOA President - Dr. Hubka

The meeting also provided the opportunity to recognize other members of the PCOMS: Gregory James, DO, FACOFP, dist. and Jeffrey S. Grove, DO, FACOFP, dist. were both recognized by Dr. Chase with Presidential Citations. Gene DiBetta, DO, was recognized with the PCOMS Distinguished Service Recognition for his consistent leadership, stewardship and service to his patients, the community and PCOMS. Dr. DiBetta was unable to attend the event and received his formal recognition at the 36th Annual Osteopathic Winter Seminar Presidential Luncheon on January 31, 2025. The evening also provided the opportunity for Michael Hadley, DO Chairman of the PCOMS Scholarship Committee to present a \$2,500 scholarship to each of three Osteopathic Medical Students. The students recognized were: Gowsalya Sothy, OMS II, Jennifer Lima, OMS II, and Julia P. Bethea, OMS III (presented at the 36th Annual Osteopathic Winter Seminar).



(L-R) Dr. Gene DiBetta was presented the PCOMS Distinguished Service Award at the 36th Annual Osteopathic Winter Seminar Presidential Luncheon.



Dr. Grove is presented the Presidential Award by PCOMS President Dr. Kevin Ache on Behalf of Immediate Past President, Dr. Chase.



(L-R) Dr. Greg James was presented with a Presidential Award by Dr. Chase.



FOMA Past President Michael Markou, DO, FACOFP, FISHRS, addresses the PCOMS Annual Meeting and Holiday Dinner.



L-R: Dr. Stacy Chase, President of the PCOMS, Gowsalya Sothy, Jennifer Lima, & Dr. Michael Hadley, Scholarship Chairman



Left Photo: Gene Dibetta, Jr., DO Past President and Chief Medical Director for Paxton Medical Management - AOA President Teresa Hubka, DO



Right Photo: Teresa A. Hubka, DO AOA President and Kevin A Ache, DO, PCOMS President.



L-R: Julia Bethea, OMSIII, pictured with PCOMS 2025 President Kevin Ache, DO, FACOFP, FAAHN - received her scholarship at the Alumni reception held at the 36th Annual Osteopathic Winter Seminar.



(L-R) Jeffrey Grove, DO, FACOFP, dist. is presented the Stephen Winn Friends of the Osteopathic Profession Award from Michael Markou, DO, FACOFP, FISHRS, FOMA President.



Andrew Buelt, DO was recognized two years ago with the New Physician Award but because of his lecture schedule at specialty societies, state and local medical meetings it is only this year the POMS was able to recognize him in person prior to his lecture on Prescribing of Controlled Substances-Opioids.



AOA President Teresa Hubka, DO, FOMA President Michael Markou, DO, PCOMS President Kevin Ache, DO, Past PCOMS President Gene DiBetta, DO, at the Young Physician, Resident, Student & Alumni Event.

The PCOMS also recognized three distinguished colleagues who passed away over the last year: Paul Edward Kudelko, DO, April 6, 1942 - February 12, 2025; Karen Kritsky, DO, July 26, 1951 - July 2, 2024, and George Bondar, DO, October 18, 1953 - August 15, 2024.

## DISTRICT SOCIETY 6

FOMA District Society 6 (BCOMA) held their 4th Annual Residency Program Director Panel with NSU-KPCOM SGA on March 11th, 2025. This program sponsored by FOMA and the FOMA Foundation was a successful event, well attended by over 130 medical students and 8 Residency Program Directors. During the event, students had an opportunity to network with program directors followed by an interactive question and answer (Q/A) session. Specialties represented included Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, General Surgery, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Emergency Medicine and Osteopathic Neuromuscular Medicine. Special thanks to the FOMA for their support with this program. Thank you to Kayvan Amini, DO, FACC & Marie Florent-Carre, DO, MPH, BCOMA President for their incredible efforts in organizing such a memorable and impactful event!





FROM AROUND THE STATE... CONTINUED

# DISTRICT REPORTS

Marie Florent-Carre, DO was installed as President of BCOMA District 6 at the Annual Dinner held on January 23rd, 2025 in Fort Lauderdale.

**The BCOMA Officers of FOMA District 6:**  
Marie Florent-Carre, DO, President  
Fawn Winkelman, DO, Vice President  
Vickie Calamese, DO, Treasurer  
Sheela Anasseri, DO, Secretary  
Kayvan Amini, DO, Immediate Past President, BCMA President



FOMA Director-at-Large Marie Florent Carre, DO, FOMA Members Barbara Arcos, DO, & Joel Rush, DO, along with FOMA President Bruce Rankin, DO attended the Kirian Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine Alumni Meeting in Clearwater, where all were recognized for thier Alumni Recognition. The event also featured inspiring lectures focused on “Leadership in the New Millennium”.

## DISTRICT SOCIETY 7

FOMA District 7 hosted an event on April 10th in Sarasota. Over 60 OMS I and OMS II students attended the meeting along with 11 District 7 physicians representing multiple specialties to discuss the student’s preceptor paths along with post-graduation programs. The event was held at LQ Latin Quarters on Main in Sarasota and was a great success. A special thank you to Bruce Rankin, DO, FOMA President for attending and addressing the students and Physicians. It was well received and appreciated.



Students from LECOM-Bradenton meet with Bruce Rankin DO, FOMA President



FOMA District 7 President Joseph Sassano, DO, participated in First Coast Honor Flight out of Jacksonville on April 5. Dr. Sassano participated as flight physician to 22 veterans who we flew to Washington DC to visit the war memorials. The veteran ages ranged from 68-101 with one WW II veteran Mr. Benson who is pictured with his great grandson Adam.



## DISTRICT SOCIETY 10

FOMA District 10 held an event for members at the Rays Game on April 9th at Steinbrenner Field. There was a great turn-out including special guest FOMA President Bruce Rankin, DO, CPI, MRO, FACOFP. Fun was had by all!



HCOMS Members enjoy the Ray baseball game



HCOMS Members enjoy the Ray baseball game

FOMA District 10 would like to congratulate Lisa Belliveau, Administrator who received the 2025 Stephen R. Winn Friends of Osteopathic Medicine award at the FOMA Live Convention in Orlando, Florida on February 22, 2025. The award was presented by FOMA President Michael Markou, DO, FACOFP.



Lisa Belliveau, Administrator received the 2025 Stephen R. Winn Friends of Osteopathic Medicine award at the FOMA Live Convention

## DISTRICT SOCIETY 12

FOMA District Society 12 held a District Society meet & greet meeting on May 1st at The Salted Brick in Ocala, FL. The meeting welcomed attendees to gather socially with their colleagues in the area. Complimentary food and beverage were provided and the meeting was welcomed with great enthusiasm.

# STUDENT NEWS

## BURRELL COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE FLORIDA (BCOM-FL)

Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine first-year students Michael Yingst and Salvatore Corallo were named FOMA Student Scholars at the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association (FOMA) Live 2025 conference in Orlando. Both students were selected for their academic achievements and promise in the field of osteopathic medicine. They attended the conference alongside their peers from Burrell College who also participated in the conference.



## NSU-KPCOM - TAMPA BAY

NSU-KPCOM TBR students recently attended the AACOM Educating Leaders Conference. During the conference, COSGP held its quarterly meeting, and representatives from SGAs across the nation had the opportunity to connect, collaborate, and share ideas. Additionally, I (NSU KPCOM TBR), along with representatives from NSU Fort Lauderdale and LECOM Bradenton, had the chance to meet and connect with student leaders from the new schools—OCOM and Burrell College – Florida. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to get acquainted and begin building relationships moving forward. We’re looking forward to continuing these connections and hopefully reconvening in Chicago this summer!



## ORLANDO COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE (OCOM) -



OCOM is thrilled to announce that Student Doctor Kenneth Quezada, Class of 2028 President, has been selected for the prestigious AOA Leadership Academy—an incredible opportunity to grow as a leader in the osteopathic community. We also celebrated a joyful and vibrant Holi Hungama, where students and staff came together to mark the festival of colors with unity and happiness. A big thank you to @samsa\_ocom and Dr. Ganti for hosting such a memorable event that captured the spirit of new beginnings. Plus, shoutout to the Orange Observer for highlighting The OCOM Podcast, which continues to spark engaging conversations in medical education across platforms like Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and YouTube!





# WELCOME NEW FOMA MEMBERS

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT - FEBRUARY 2025

### ACTIVE - 26

DISTRICT 1	Michael Kasabian, DO James Milani, DO	Gulf Breeze Panama City Beach
DISTRICT 2	Anja Kinaszczuk, DO Aino Mueller, DO	Jacksonville Green Cove Springs
DISTRICT 3	Brett DeVoursney, DO Nikita Gosalia, DO Hemwattie Jaimangal, DO John Malone, DO Elizabeth Savko, DO	Orlando Sanford Lady Lake Orlando Mt. Dora
DISTRICT 4	Louella Pritchette, DO	Ormond Beach
DISTRICT 6	Martinus Dyrud, DO Shefali Majmudar, DO Ingrid Solomon, DO Alia Sommerville, DO Marcos Zaragoza, DO	Weston Miramar Plantation Ft. Lauderdale Davie
DISTRICT 7	Donald Erb, DO	Sarasota
DISTRICT 8	Susan Fox, DO Nelson Velazquez, DO	Miami Miami Lakes
DISTRICT 9	Kristi Langston, DO Tai Vo, DO	Stuart Loxahatchee
DISTRICT 10	Salma Akhter, DO Mahad Mohammed, DO	Tampa Lutz
DISTRICT 12	Michelle Hornstein, DO	Ocala
DISTRICT 15	Virden Evans, DO	Tallahassee
DISTRICT 16	Russell Peterson, DO	Vero Beach

### 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR PRACTICE - 6

DISTRICT 1	Alana Lilland, DO	DeFuniak Springs
DISTRICT 2	Genevieve Marshall, DO	Atlantic Beach
DISTRICT 3	Janet Chen, DO Soren Jensen, DO Gino Singer, DO	Orlando Orlando Orlando
DISTRICT 12	Elizabeth Ray, DO	Gainesville

### 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR PRACTICE - 2

DISTRICT 1	Hannah Alvarado, DO	Jacksonville
DISTRICT 2	Shing Ko, DO	Ruskin

### FACULTY - 3

DISTRICT 3	April Smith-Gonzalez, DO (OCOM)	Orlando
DISTRICT 8	Steven Vanni, DO	North Miami
DISTRICT 16	Robert Coni, DO (BCOM)	Melbourne

### PUBLIC HEALTH/MILITARY - 2

DISTRICT 9	Mojgan Hosseinipour, DO Jason Williams, DO	Deerfield Beach Port St. Lucie
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### INACTIVE/RETIRED - 2

DISTRICT 3	Max Watzman, DO	Oviedo
DISTRICT 4	Keith Marshall, DO	Ormond Beach

### RESIDENT - 4

DISTRICT 2	Yang Jiang, DO	Jacksonville
DISTRICT 6	Moshe Bengio, DO	Hollywood
DISTRICT 7	Danielle Glaze, DO	Lakewood Ranch
DISTRICT 8	Pedro Garcia Rodriguez, DO	Miami

### LIFE MEMBERSHIP

DISTRICT 2	James Atchison, DO Mary Schmieder, DO	Jacksonville Orange Park
DISTRICT 3	Carl Barr, DO	Ocoee
DISTRICT 4	Eric Cohn, DO Sandford Kinne, DO	Orange City Ormond Beach
DISTRICT 5	John DeCosmo, DO	Saint Petersburg
DISTRICT 6	Richard Antosek, DO Archie McLean, DO	Sunrise Pembroke Pines
DISTRICT 8	Thomas Chaille, DO	Miami
DISTRICT 9	Daniel Carney, DO	Boynton Beach
DISTRICT 10	Dolfi Herscovici, DO	Tampa
DISTRICT 11	Robin Osborn, DO	Port Charlotte
DISTRICT 12	John Graves, DO	Ocala
DISTRICT 13	Richard Miller, DO	Port Richey
DISTRICT 15	James Caldwell, DO	Tallahassee
DISTRICT 16	Andrew Goodrich, DO John Potomski, DO	Malabar Melbourne

### OUT OF STATE - 7

Olga Demidova, DO	Moreland Hills, OH
Kevin Gleason, DO	Atlanta, GA
Paula Gregory, DO	Hagerstown, MD
William Pieratt, DO	Las Cruces, NM
Jon Schauer, DO	Winnetka, IL
James Sekel, DO	Sewell, NJ
Endra Sookoor, DO	Tomball, TX

### IN MEMORIAM ~

DISTRICT 2	Thomas Abbey, DO (CCOM-1970)	Jacksonville
DISTRICT 4	Brent Schlapper, DO (KCOM-1978)	Deland
DISTRICT 5	Paul Kudelko, DO (KCOM-1967)	Clearwater
DISTRICT 10	Robert Norman, DO (CCOM-1981)	Tampa
OUT OF STATE	Kerry Nagel, DO (NSU-KPCOM-1991)	Acworth, GA

For further information regarding your membership, contact:

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







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.



# 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 Killearn  
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  
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Joseph McNerney, DO  
Dr. Michelle Mendez and Family  
Dr. & Mrs. Alan Menkes & Family  
James Milne, DO  
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NSU-KPCOM  
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Dr. & Mrs. Jeremy Olloqui & Family  
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Dr. & Mrs. Todd Patterson & Family  
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Joel Rose, DO  
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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)





FLORIDA OSTEOPATHIC  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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# EVENT CALENDAR



**2025 FOMA VIRTUAL SEMINAR**  
**SEPTEMBER 5-7, 2025**

**2026 FOMA LIVE CONVENTION**  
**FEBRUARY 6-8, 2026**

FORT LAUDERDALE MARRIOTT HARBOR BEACH RESORT & SPA

**2026 FOMA VIRTUAL CONVENTION**  
**MARCH 6-8, 2026**