

MDA Names John Tramontana, MS, CAE, as New CEO/Executive Director



After an extensive search process, the Michigan Dental Association has named John Tramontana, MS, CAE, of DeWitt, as its new CEO/executive director. He will assume his duties with the MDA on April 1.

Tramontana is an experienced association executive who currently serves as CEO of the Michigan Veterinary Medical Association. He was selected after interviewing with the MDA Board of Trustees on Dec. 7, following initial interviews by a search committee chaired by MDA President-elect Dr. Todd Christy. Other members of the search committee were Dr. Vince Benivegna, Dr. Deb Peters, Dr. Jerry

Kohen, Dr. Cheri Newman, Dr. Lauryne Vanderhoof, Dr. Tamar Shrikian, Dr. Michael Maihofer, and MDA President Dr. Eric Knudsen as an ex-officio member.

“We welcome Mr. Tramontana to the MDA and look forward to the many contributions he will make,” Knudsen said. “He brings a combination of experience, enthusiasm, and leadership to the MDA, and his Michigan connections will be useful in the legislative arena as well as within the greater association community. His proven management experience in his previous positions will further strengthen our entire MDA team – volunteers and staff – as we move forward.”

The CEO/executive director position became vacant after the death on July 18 of former CEO/Executive Director Karen Burgess, who earlier had announced plans to retire in 2024. A search committee was already in place and was able to immediately begin looking for her replacement.

“It’s fitting that we make this announcement now as we look ahead to the new year and a new era for our Michigan Dental Association,” Knudsen said.

Tramontana will be just the MDA’s seventh executive director in its 167-year history. The MDA is the oldest professional association in Michigan and the oldest state dental society in continuous existence.