



## Alabama Veterinary Medical Association

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*Protecting People, Pets and Livestock - Yesterday, Today and Always.*

## PRESS RELEASE

### **ALVMA Honors Dr. Clay Hilton with Service Award**

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#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MONTGOMERY, Ala.** - The Alabama Veterinary Medical Association recently honored Dr. Clayton Hilton of Birmingham with a Service Award during the ALVMA Awards Luncheon on June 19 at their annual conference at Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort. This award is presented to members who have contributed generously of their time and energies to the Association for the advancement of the profession.

"Dr. Hilton has demonstrated his love for his work as a veterinarian through the advancements he has made in zoological settings. His dedication to the well-being of zoo animals, the improvements of their habitats and specifically his work with male elephants make him most deserving of this award," says Bill Allen, DVM, past president of the ALVMA.

Dr. Hilton received his BS in Wildlife Biology in 1984, his MS in Wildlife Ecology in 1986, his DVM from Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1997, and an internship in large animal medicine and surgery from Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1998. Hilton has worked in a variety of clinical settings including a private zoological facility, Montgomery Zoo, Abilene Zoo, Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine, Emergency Clinic of Abilene, Texas and as Vice President of Animal Care, Education and Conservation at the Birmingham Zoo, Inc. Hilton was instrumental in starting the Birmingham Zoo's all male elephant herd. This all male herd is the first and only one in existence.

Hilton, in his role as Vice President of Animal Care, Education and Conservation has had a major part in the recent improvements at the Birmingham Zoo. Animal exhibits are in more natural settings. Through Hilton's efforts, visitors have a much better experience when they visit the Birmingham Zoo.

Founded in 1907, The Alabama Veterinary Medical Association is comprised of approximately 725 veterinarians from around the state, all committed to protecting People, Pets and Livestock – Yesterday, Today and Always.

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