



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 6, 2017

**Contact: Sharla Hooper
(602) 347-6908**

**NEW PRESIDENT, OFFICERS ANNOUNCED FOR THE
ARIZONA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

Phoenix, AZ – Phoenix, AZ – Michael Hamant, MD, became the 126th president of the Arizona Medical Association (ArMA) on June 2, 2017, at the association’s annual meeting in Phoenix. Dr. Hamant will serve a one-year term in that capacity.

Dr. Hamant received his undergraduate and master’s degrees from Northern Arizona University. He earned his medical degree from University of Arizona College of Medicine in Tucson, completing a general surgery internship at Rutgers University and then a family medicine residency at University of Oklahoma Tulsa Medical College before returning to Arizona. Board-certified in Family Medicine, Dr. Hamant has also completed the Certificate of Added Qualifications (CAQ) in Sports Medicine. Dr. Hamant has been a private practice family physician in Tucson since 1989. He has served in numerous professional appointments at Tucson Medical Center and in physician networks.

Dr. Hamant is an active member of organized medicine. He has served ArMA previously as president-elect, vice president, secretary, and as a member of the Committee on Legislative & Government Affairs. Dr. Hamant is a member of the American Medical Association (AMA) and an Arizona alternate delegate to the AMA. He has been a member of the Pima County Medical Society (PCMS) since 1989 and served as PCMS President in 2008. He has been a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) since 1986, and was made a Fellow in 1992. He is a member of the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) and the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine (AMSSM).

In his role as ArMA president, Dr. Hamant will be responsible for leadership of the ArMA Board of Directors and members, for organizational support and representation, and for communication with the membership of the organization.

Dr. Hamant’s focus during his presidency will be on promoting physician leadership and countering burnout, through establishing better community connections. “Identifying and nurturing leaders within organized medicine should be encouraged and not left to chance. Nor should we solely depend upon our society executives to find our future leaders. We need a more systematic approach, to this, and to develop programs to help physicians treat burnout before it becomes entrenched. One of the ways this can be done is by creating interest group sections within ArMA based on practice setting,” said Dr. Hamant. “I believe that this will create a new synergy and enhance membership growth. Further, leaders will emerge from these sections who will become the backbone of ArMA in the years to come.”

The following officers were also elected to serve one-year terms: president-elect – Traci Pritchard, MD, Phoenix; vice president – Susan Whitely, MD, Phoenix; and at-large members, Brenda Gentz, MD, Tucson; Ross Goldberg, MD, Phoenix; and Thomas Hicks, MD, Tucson. Miriam Anand, MD, Phoenix, was elected treasurer, a two-year term. Also serving on the Executive Committee are Jennifer Hartmark-Hill, MD, Phoenix, secretary; Ronnie Dowling, MD, Show-Low, AMA Delegation Chair; Immediate Past President Gretchen Alexander, MD, Phoenix; and Outgoing Past President Nathan Laufer, MD, Phoenix.

ArMA has been promoting and providing leadership in the field of medicine for 125 years. For more information, visit www.azmed.org.

###