

**OOA BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CODE OF LEADERSHIP**

The mission of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), as established by the AOA Board of Trustees and the House of Delegates, is to serve the membership by advancing the philosophy and practice of osteopathic medicine and by promoting excellence in education, research, and the delivery of quality cost-effective healthcare in a distinct, unified profession.

The mission of the Ohio Osteopathic Association (OOA) as established by the OOA Board of Trustees is to partner with our members in order to create, provide and promote programs, services and initiatives that prepare osteopathic physicians (DOs) to thrive now and in the future; to educate the public; and to promote legislative and regulatory initiatives that allow DOs to continue to provide excellent and comprehensive health care. The OOA Constitution further defines the purpose of the state association to include the following:

- To promote the public health of the people of Ohio;
- To cooperate with all public health agencies;
- To maintain high standards at all osteopathic institutions within the state;
- To maintain and elevate osteopathic medical education and postgraduate training programs in the prevention and treatment of disease;
- To encourage research and investigation especially that pertaining to the principles of the osteopathic school of medicine;
- To maintain the highest standards of ethical conduct in all phases of osteopathic medicine and surgery; and
- To promote such other activities as are consistent with the above purposes.

As a Board Member of the Ohio Osteopathic Association, I am fully committed to the American Osteopathic Association and the Ohio Osteopathic Association and their missions. I recognize that wearing the mantle of leadership is a higher calling and carries additional responsibilities and obligations to support the activities of the American Osteopathic Association and the Ohio Osteopathic Association. As a leader, my decisions and actions must be guided by what is best for the Associations. To this end, I pledge to honor and promote the American Osteopathic Association and the Ohio Osteopathic Association and their missions by following three guiding principles:

I. I will maintain and strengthen the **Visions** of the AOA and OOA by the Board of Trustees and House of Delegates, as demonstrated by...

- Defining with my Trustee colleagues the missions of the Associations and participating in strategic planning to review the purposes, programs, priorities, funding needs, and targets of achievement.
- Annually contributing to osteopathic philanthropy, encouraging DO colleagues to do the same, and encouraging my spouse to participate in the state and national Auxiliary.
- Publicly supporting and promoting the Associations' policies within the osteopathic family and to the public.

II. I will conduct myself with the highest level of **Integrity** to honor the AOA and its affiliated organizations to support the highest ideals of the osteopathic profession for which they stand, as demonstrated by...

- Accepting the by-laws of the state and national Associations, understanding that I am morally and ethically responsible for the health and vitality of the Associations, and adhering to the AOA and OOA Conflict of Interest policies by recusing myself from discussions or votes in which I may not be impartial.

- Leading the way by being an enthusiastic booster and a positive advocate for the Associations, and extend that enthusiasm to the Associations' affiliates and auxiliary groups.
- Accepting that every Board member is making a statement of faith about every other Board member, we trust each other to carry out this Code to the best of our ability.

III. I will be **Competent** in my actions and decisions for the AOA and the OOA, as demonstrated by...

- Fulfilling my financial responsibilities by reviewing and approving the annual budget, overseeing adherence to it, ensuring an independent audit takes place, and overseeing the investment policies and procedures of the association.
- Making myself available to attend Board meetings, taking phone calls, and serving on committees, and being prepared for these meetings by reading agenda and other materials.
- Understanding that the job of the Board is to govern, not manage, and that the only staff member I have responsibility for and authority over is the Executive Director.