

## THE DIPLOMATE

AMERICAN BOARD OF ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

**SUMMER 2025** 



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# 2024-2025 Board of Directors



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# A Message from Your President



"Being a soldier is more than courage; it is sacrificing yourself for something greater than yourself." –Anonymous

As I write this message over Memorial Day weekend, I find myself filled with two profound emotions: gratitude and reflection. Gratitude—for the countless sacrifices made by the brave men and women of our armed forces. Sacrifices that have safeguarded our freedoms and shaped the world in which we live and practice. Reflection—as I ask myself the hard but necessary question: Am I living a life worthy of their sacrifice? Am I honoring their legacy not only through remembrance, but through ongoing service—by striving each day to improve the lives of my family, my community, my patients, and our specialty?

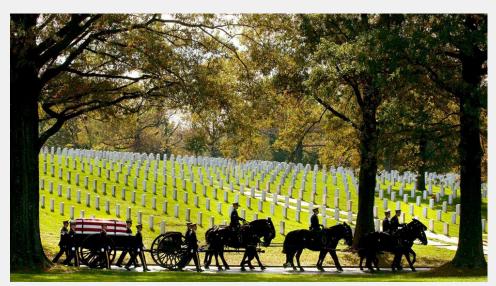
This holiday has always carried deep personal meaning for me. During my career in the United States military, I have borne witness to moments of extraordinary courage—and devastating loss. I have stood beside warriors at the hour of their final breath. To be physically present at the moment of such profound sacrifice leaves a mark that never fades. It shapes how one understands words like duty, service, and sacrifice. And it continues to influence who I strive to be as a husband, father, surgeon, and leader.

While these experiences represent the most visceral expressions of sacrifice, they are not the only ones that merit our reflection. Gratitude and service are not reserved for the battlefield alone. They are woven throughout our journey as oral and maxillofacial surgeons. Ours is a profession that offers deep personal fulfillment and a lifestyle that is the envy of many across the healthcare spectrum. But how often do we pause to express genuine appreciation for all that this specialty has given us? And more importantly—how do we give back? Yes, we have all made sacrifices to complete our rigorous training, but have we fully recognized the sacrifices made by others on our behalf?

Think back to your first sedation, your first trauma case, your first complex patient. Do you remember the patient who became, perhaps unknowingly, your teacher? Do you recall the residents, the faculty, the mentors who invested in your education—often at great personal or financial cost—so that you might succeed? These are not rhetorical questions.

They touch the very core of pressing challenges facing our profession: a decline in applicants motivated for residency training within our specialty and a growing disengagement from hospital-based practice. These trends threaten the vitality and legacy of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

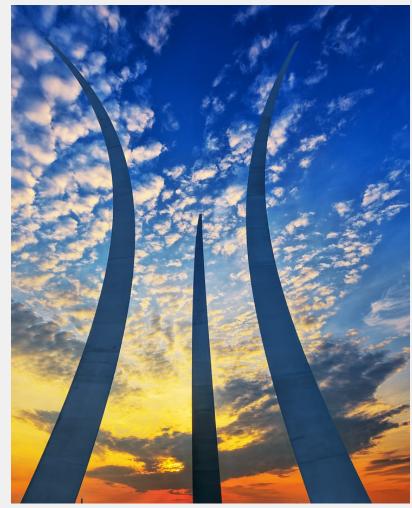
We must ask ourselves: Have we failed to share the remarkable rewards and purpose of our profession with the next generation? Have we grown too focused on individual enrichment at the expense of collective responsibility?



**Arlington National Cemetary** 

Some in our specialty have elected to diminish the perceived scope of their practice, relinguishing hospital credentials altogether or distancing themselves even from foundational responsibilities such as infection management and fracture care. I speak from experience—as someone still actively engaged in over twenty weeks of trauma call annually—that the personal sacrifices associated with call are real. They demand time, energy, and personal compromise. But I must ask: Does stepping away serve our communities or protect the integrity of our scope? Does it honor the Canons of Ethics to which we commit ourselves upon board certification and recertification—specifically, the tenet requiring us to "maintain continuous hospital privileges that permit the OMS to perform core procedures in oral and maxillofacial surgery"?

As leaders, educators, and practitioners, we must do more. We must reclaim the narrative of our profession—one grounded in excellence, service, and enduring impact. We must honor the countless surgeons who came before us—those who built, nurtured, and elevated this specialty. And we must model gratitude and purpose in our daily actions, investing in those who will inherit this mantle. To that end, our Board, in collaboration with the Officers and Board of Trustees of AAOMS, has undertaken a significant step: the formation of a Task Force



**US Air Force Memorial** 

dedicated to addressing the decline in residency interest and engagement. This is not a symbolic gesture—it is a call to action. But meaningful change cannot come from committees alone. It must come from each of us. I urge you: mentor a student. Invite a young observer into your operating room. Speak authentically about the profound rewards of your work. Stay connected to your local hospital. Demonstrate—through your presence and your passion—what this specialty truly represents. By doing so, we not only honor those who shaped our path, but also ensure that the future of oral and maxillofacial surgery remains strong, ethical, and resilient—worthy of the sacrifices made by those before us.

As we reflect this Memorial Day, let us not only remember the fallen, but recommit ourselves to the ideals they died defending. Let us live lives of service, gratitude, and purpose—for our families, our communities, our patients, and our profession.

In service,

David & Powers

David B. Powers, DMD, MD, FACS, FRCS (Ed)

President, American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

# A Letter from Your New CEO



**Dear ABOMS Diplomates:** 

I am thrilled to introduce myself as the new Chief Executive Officer of ABOMS. It is both an honor and a privilege to step into this role and serve such an esteemed community of dedicated OMS professionals.

From my first interactions with the Board of Directors, I have been consistently impressed by their unwavering commitment to our mission and genuine passion for supporting our Diplomates. Their leadership has created a strong foundation that positions ABOMS for continued growth and success. I am grateful for their confidence in me and look forward to working closely with them to achieve our shared goals.

Equally impressive is our Professional Team, whose expertise, dedication and collaborative spirit have made my transition seamless. Their deep understanding of our members' needs and their commitment to operational excellence demonstrate why our organization continues to thrive. I am excited to build upon the outstanding work they have already accomplished.

My career spans three decades across diverse industries including healthcare, education and consulting, with the majority of my experience focused on nonprofit organizations. Most recently, I served in a leadership role with the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (AOSSM), where I built enduring relationships, collaborated with multidisciplinary professional teams, ensured compliance with best practices and regulations, and aligned strategies to achieve organizational objectives. I was drawn to this new role with ABOMS because it offers the opportunity to leverage these experiences at the next level while serving a community that shares my commitment to professional excellence.

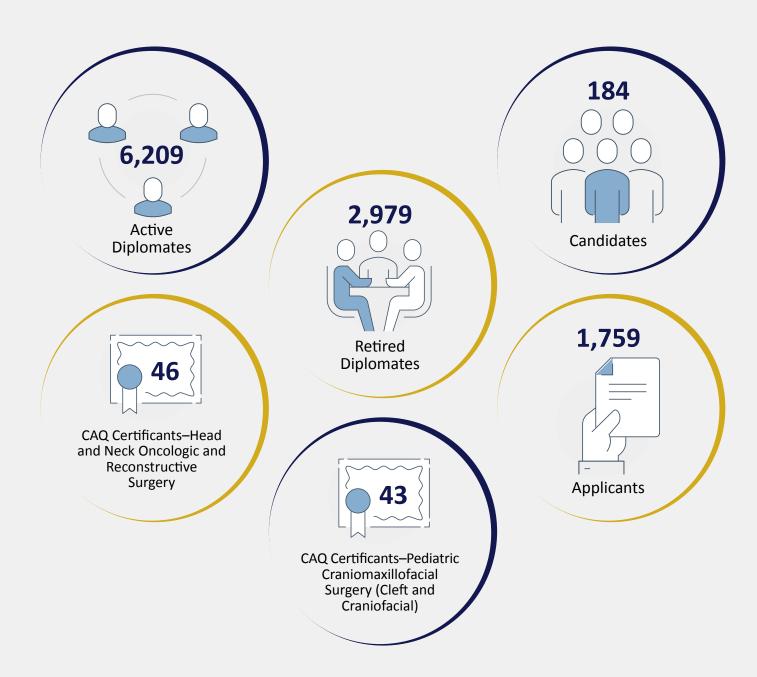
ABOMS has a rich history of supporting Diplomates' professional development, advancing standards of practice, and fostering innovation within our field. I am committed to building upon this legacy while exploring new ways to enhance our specialty.

In the coming months, I look forward to connecting with many of you personally, whether at upcoming events or via other opportunities for engagement.

Thank you for the warm welcome I have already received and thank you for your continued dedication to our profession.

Christina Tomaso, CAE
Chief Executive Officer

## **Keeping Informed**



## **Keeping Informed**

## We Need Your Expertise— Become an ABOMS Examiner!

Help with our core mission by becoming an ABOMS Board Examiner for candidate surgeons. Examiners bring additional value to our board by providing guidance and oversight to the newest qualified surgeons interested in joining the ranks.

#### Why serve as an Examiner?

- Uphold our central purpose as the only certifying board for the specialty of oral and maxillofacial surgery in the United States
- Share your expertise & influence the next generation of oral and maxillofacial surgeons
- Strengthen our organization and help maintain ABOMS standards

Applications will open in August through Diplomate profiles. Applicants will be notified next spring for the 2026-2027 year. More information will be posted soon at www.aboms.org/diplomates/examination-committee.

#### **Reminders**

**Certification Maintenance (CM):** If you have not yet completed your 2025 CM, you have until December 31, 2025. This is required for all Diplomates (with the exception of those with an Unlimited Certificate). Visit your Diplomate profile to view and complete your requirements.

**Annual Registration (AR):** Annual Registration runs on a calendar-year basis, from January to December, with payments being collected January through March. You will not be able to pay 2026 AR if you have not yet completed your 2025 Certification Maintenance requirements, so please be sure to complete those by the end of the year.

## **Keeping Informed**

#### **Display your Digital Badge!**

ABOMS recently launched its digital badge program! What is a digital badge? It's more than just a certificate—it's a digital representation of your achievement that you can share easily online. With your badge, you can:

- Highlight your accomplishment on LinkedIn and other professional networks.
- Showcase your skills in email signatures or digital resumes.
- Securely verify your expertise with potential employers or colleagues. (Please note this will not replace official verification letters)



If you have not yet done so, you can claim your digital badge in the email from Credly sent on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Email <u>info@aboms.org</u> if you need this resent to you. For more information about the digital badge program, visit <u>https://www.aboms.org/diplomates/digital-badge</u>.

#### **Diplomate Digest**

Last year, we launched our quarterly email. Stay up-to-date on the latest advancements in the OMS specialty and learn how we are advocating for the highest standards of patient care and outcomes. These updates are also designed to support our current and future Diplomates with important updates, reminders, volunteer roles, and professional development opportunities. If you have not yet subscribed and are interested in receiving these emails, click here.

## Congratulations on Another 10 Years

ertification Maintenance (CM) is a continuous process of learning, self-assessment and testing that proceeds over a 10-year period, during which Diplomates with time-limited certificates must fulfill specified requirements in certain years of the cycle. Once the 10-year cycle is complete, Diplomates receive a new certificate and begin the 10-year cycle again. The Diplomate names listed below are individuals who completed their 10-year certificate cycle on December 31, 2024, and successfully met all four components of the CM process: Professional Standing, Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment, Cognitive Expertise, and Evaluation of Performance in Practice.

Jarred Abel Nathan Adams Ravi Agarwal Arsalan Ahani Nazir Ahmad Lee Akin Peter Albanese David Alfi Mohammed Alkindi Samuel Allen Riccardo Ambrogio Kenneth Anderson Taite Anderson Paul Anderson Mark Anderson Simona Arcan Kevin Arce Mark Armanious George Arquitt Lvnn Ascher Gabriel Aslanian Shahid Aziz Scott Baird Mark Baker David Baker Krystin Bandola David Barnett Steven Barney David Basi Jairo Bastidas Frik Belinfante Ronald Berube Amar Bhandari George Blakey William Blood Jeffrey Bobst **Gregory Bohle** Michael Borenstein Val Boudreau Sidney Bourgeois Thomas Bowers J Boyd James Boyle Patrick Brain Christopher Brown Desmon Brown Jared Brown Lawrence Brown James Bruno Vernon Burke **Hugh Burnett** Robert Burns Jeffrey Burstein Kamal Busaidy

Jason Buschman

Paul Calat **Gregory Caldwell** Colonva Calhoun **Ronald Caloss Anthony Camillo Daniel Cannon** Jack Capodice Aaron Card Kenneth Carev Albert Carlotti Steven Carney Evan Chalk Michael Chan Radhika Chigurupati Christopher Choi Bryan Christensen Scott Cohen Christine Coke Nicholas Coles Matthew Conquest Richard Cordero Harold Cox Robert Cronvn Darren Cross John Crowder **Brian Cutright** Michael DaBell Steven D'Abundo Patrick Dalton Jeremiah D'Anna James Davies Michael Demo Hardeep Dhaliwal Ruchi Dhameja Jason Diamond Rvan Diepenbrock **Thomas Dietrich** David Dieu Therese DiFlorio Brennan Rvan Dobbs Michael Downie David Dugan **Christopher Durham** Donita Dvalram David Ehsan Ali Elyassi **Daniel Escalante** Justin Evanson Steven Evelhoch Stephen Fairchild Babak Farzaneh Jalal Fatehi **David Fenton** 

Luis Ferrer-Nuin

Adam Fettig Derrick Flint Pedro Franco John Freeman Luke Freml Earl Freymiller Scott Fross **Emily Frye** Robert Fuentes Richard Fugler Joseph Fullmer Joseph Funderburk **David Gailey** James Garrett Jose Garri Shauna Gauthier Matthew Gauthier Louis George Gary Geracci Todd Gerlach Paul German G.E. Ghali Ryan Gibson Jason Gile Michael Gladwell Tamer Goksel Ronen Gold Matthew Goldschmidt Steven Gollehon James Gossett Stephen Goth Ann Marie Grady Michael Grau James Green Tony Greer **Bradley Gregory** Jennifer Griffin Mark Grubb **Gregory Hailey** Adam Hairr Farryn Harrison Holly Hatt Peyman Hedayati Scott Heitzmann Robert Henderson Charles Henry Michael Hoffman Richard Holtzen Michael Horan Benjamin Howard Kacey Howell Steve Huang **Gregory Hueler** Joe Huss Adam Irvine

Haroon Ismaili Majid Jamali Jeremy Jannuzzi Maurice Jenkins Mark Jesin Amritpal Johan Antoine Johnson Ankur Johri **Byung Joo** Vivian Jui Young Jun Christopher Kahn Jordan Kaltman David Kang Richard Kaplan Vasiliki Karlis Anthony Kasper Firas Katabi Eric Katch Keith Kealey Joseph Kern Shachika Khanna Ashoo Khanuia Sami Khayat Sam Khoury Sang Kim Jone Kim Chi-Young Kim Steven King Christopher King Russell Kirk Craig Knell James Koehler Gary Koterwas Mark Kuo Fabian La Tocha Carl Labella David Lairmore Asif Lala Jeremy Lassetter Sarah Lawson Jason Le Moine Andrew Lee Andrew Lee Kristopher Lee Mimi Lee Janice Lee Ryan Leonhart Lawrence Levin **Fulton Lewis** Thomas Ligon Daniel Loggi Gregg Lombardo David Lui

Trevann Lyn

**Gregory Lynam** Michelle Maak Zain Manii Victor Manon Laurie Manthos Jose Marchena Jason Margolis Pedram Marhabi Ivan Marks Manuel Matos Fredric Mazza William McBee John McCabe Mark McConnell Christopher McDaniel Cabel McDonald Alex McDonald James McDonald Jeffery McFadden Andrea Mcphillips James Melville Nelson Mercado-Castro Wayne Michael David Miller Mark Miller Patrick Moore Ofilio Morales David Morgan Rickey Morlen Robert Mower Daniel Muff Matthew Murray Joseph Nawrocki Craig Neal Tyler Nelson **Howard Nelson** Khashavar Neshat **Gregory Ness** Michael Newton Wai Pong Ng Michael Nichols Matthew Nichols Donald Nikchevich Patrick Nolan **Aaron Noordmans** Mark Oghalai Brian Oglander James Olsen Alexis Olsson Kvle O'Neal Sharon Ornstein Michael O'Shell **Todd Owsley** Carlo Pagni

Petros Panagos Franklin Pancko Marieange Panossian Gregoire Panossian Niral Parikh Julie Park Nam Park Michael Parsons Suketu Patel Teial Patel James Paul Robert Pellecchia Kimberley Perkins Dennis Pettit Lee Pham Mau Pham Rawle Philbert Kimberly Pingel Raymond Plona Kelly Podlosky **David Powers** John Prather Peter Protzel David Pulsipher Aaron Quitmeyer Susan Rector Scott Redlinger Lucas Reed Stephanie Reeder Glenn Regenye **Bradley Renehan** Serafim Reppas John Richard **Odes Robertson** Christian Robin Christopher Rochford Gerardo Romeo Luis Rosario Jason Rosetti Mark Roszkowski Marc Rothman Salvatore Ruggiero Sharon Russell Manaf Saker Harlene Sandler Miraj Sanghvi Michael Saumur **Daniel Saunders** Stephen Schacht Eric Schlesinger Thomas Schlieve **Timothy Schmakel** Bruce Schneider Keith Schneider Gary Schween

Kirk Scott Scott Searcey Clint Shelley Jonathan Shum Hessam Siavash Charles Simpson Jan Slapnicka Paul Smith Joshua Smith **Dennis Song** Christian Steffey Michael Steinle Eric Stine Marwood Stout Jaime Suárez Jonathan Sudol **Bradley Sundick** R. Dennis Swann Jay Swanson Jason Swantek **Bradley Szutz** Imad Tamimi David Telles **Gregory Thomas Gregory Thomas** Jonathan Threadgill William Tom **Angel Torio** Antwan Treadway David Turbyfill Nathan Turley Ramtin Vahadi Scott Varland Amogh Velangi John Villano George Visnich **David Walls** Joy Wang Terry Wang Charles Weber David Wells William West Jeffery Wheaton **Daniel Whitney** Michael Wilkinson Shane Williams Jordan Williams Grant Wiswell Daniel Witcher Jennifer Woerner Mark Wohlford Jenny Wong Mark Yafai Samuel Young Neal Zabiegalski

### Join Us in Welcoming

he ABOMS certification program is a rigorous and thorough process, as every Diplomate knows. The individuals listed below successfully completed the certification process by passing the Oral Certifying Examination at the beginning of this year. Please join us in giving a warm welcome to our newest ABOMS Diplomates!

Asher Adamec Chad Spencer Adams Paul Addamo Alex Ali Afshar Hannah Afwerke Lynch Kristi M. Agari Michael A. Aguirre Jared Akers Hamza Al Atassi Akher Ali Ali Alkola Ali Al-Sammak Yousef Saad Alshamrani Omar Alzarooni Erik Anderson Amanda Andre Fernandez Nikole Ankrom Nnamdi L. Anosike Vincent M. Aquino Peter Arvanitis **Syed Asghar** Jorge Autrán Martínez Sejin Bae Sara Bahmanyar Michael Baily Kvle Baird Andrew M. Baker Richard B. Baker Marissa Bergthold Sasha Jane Betz Andrew M. Bhagyam Arsalan Bhatti Spencer L. Blumberg Shawn Boehm Daniela Boldikova Mina Boulos Shelby Bowman Thomas Brader Meaghan Bradley Nicholas Branham Tara Powers Brantley Matthew Breglio Karah L. Brown Scott Bueno Daniel Bui Matthew Bures Sergio Fabian Calleja Blanco Conor Campbell

Sam Reiser Caruso Daniel Phillip Caruso Rachna Casteel Louis Cesteleyn **Dominique Chagniot** Rvan Chaliff Matthew Chavarria Anthony Chen Eric Chiccone **Kelly Chuang** Benjamin Coenen Joshua Coffey Zachariah Cole Katelyn Conley Andrew Cook Jessica Renee Croxton Stephen Scott Davis Vincent Debitetto Andrew Deek Taylor L. DeLaura Maria A. DeLeonibus Allison J. DeRenzi Daili Diaz Sarina Dodhia Jennifer Marie Dolan Nathan C. Dombrowski Dasha Donado Lorenza A. Donnelly Peter Dorf Natalie Dunlop Marawan El Naboulsy Andrew R. Emery Edwin Eshaghzadeh Omar Faraj Marie-Chantale Farhat Jassel J. Fernandez Elizabeth Floodeen Joseph Foote Makenzie R. Fortney Samuel Fowler **Kevin Francois** Karan Ganjawalla Ricardo Garza Jr. Ross Gemmill Michael Ginzburg

Mark Goodenough

Sebastian Graca

Eric Grant

**Robert Grasso** Weston C. Grimes Michael Gross Jiasheng David Guo Sebastian Gutierrez de Souren Hajjar Steven G. Halepas Jr Michael Hanna Flisa Hannan Craig Edward Harrison II Charles Allen Hauge Kimberly Hawrylyshyn Peter Henein Michael Scott Henriksen Abdulrahman Hesham Tvler B. Hill Samantha Hirt Derek Holecek Jonathan Hsiao Raphael Huntley Thomas Inman Danielle Jaul Yisi D Ii Jared Johnson Jessica Marion Jurovich Thomas Keith Bryan T. Kendricks Abrahim Khaleghi Hadi Adnan Khazaal Ali Khodadad-Hossaini Mohammad Amin Khoshnevisan Jeanne A. Kiernan Jaegak kim Jason Kim Min Kyoung Kim Soo-Keun Sean Kim Samuel Eungook Kim Juan Kim Tyler R. King Tzvi Menachem Krupka Gloria Ha-young Kwon Paul Lee Alexander P. Lee Kevin Lee Steven Licht

Brandon M. Locke

Alyssa Gail Manski Ahmad Masri John Maxwell McCullum Amy McFarling Caitlyn McGue Kara McLaughlin Kale McMillan Dane McMillan Tyler William Mealy Kvle Mecca Carter Melendez-Christensen Tarek Nabil Metwally Radislav Meylikh Jason Middleton Christopher Stephen Midtling Meagan Miller Robert Ivan Miskimen III Ramiz Mogannam Thomas Patrick Monahan Jr Issac D. Morton Paula Munoz Cole Murbach Andrew Naden Kevur Naik Daniel S. Nassimi John Nathan Anju Jacob Nellissery Andre Huunhan Nguyen Tri Minh Nguyen Nicholas T. Nikchevich **Grant Nishimura** Amir Nojoumi David Omole Benjamin Palla Kanvar S. Panesar Robinpreet Pannu Paul Jungmin Park Rvan Park Mehul J. Patel David Pencarinha Nguyen Phan Danielle Ploussard Brian R. Poore Kipley Powell Oleg Prokopenko Jose Ramos Bartolomei

Warren Maharrey

Mitchell Mamorsky

Sean Rathburn Andrew Tyler Ray Daniel John Ripperger Cesar Rivera Paul Rossetti **Christopher Everett Rosson** Andrew W. Ruble Matthew Russ Alfonso Salcines **Flliot Saleh** Matthew Sansevere **Ethan Santore** Anne Scruggs Justin Jonathan Sedaghat Indraiit Sehbi Michael Siew Eric Silver Chad S. Sloan Richard Tyler Smith Andre Smith Evan Reed Sobiesk Samuel Song Louis Lawrence Spear **Ross Stanley Ryane Staples Austin Starr** Matthew Stratton Benjamin J. Subtelny Megan Sullivan William Summey Samuel Tack Jacob T. Taylor Jason Tepper **Grant David Hartwell Tippet** Christopher Treinen Steven Tucker **David Reed Turpin** Sevedeh F. Valaei Patrick T. Vaughn Jonathan Martin Voge Riley James Wedlake **Charles Evan Williams** Skyler Williams Jordan Willner Jodi Wolf

Patrick Wong

Tyler C. Woodling

## Diplomates Making a Difference



#### Peter Tan, DDS

I am currently the Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army (3 Star Protocol) and serve the Secretary at the highest levels of the DOD and Legislative branches, overseeing Army Recruitment and Retention; support Active Duty, Reserve, and National Guard soldiers and their families; and support those that are transitioning or have retired with the Soldier for Life Program. I received this appointment 2 years after I retired from the US Army after 36 years in uniform. Having served as a clinician, office-in-charge, department chair, Consultant, DIMA Regional Commander for the Pacific Region, DIMA Regional Commander for Europe, the DIMA Dental Corps Chief at the Office of the Surgeon General/Pentagon, a Task

Force Commander, A Fight Tonight Commander for the largest Dental Company in the world, and a Commander for the Medical Readiness Training Command, I was chosen by the 25<sup>th</sup> Secretary of the Army, the Hon. Christine Wormuth after a rigorous selection process.

My family has served our nation for four generations to include my two sons, one who is an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon who trained at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (Dr. Peter M. Tan, Jr.). Both of my parents were WWII veterans, my cousin and niece are members of the Long Gray Line at West Point, and my uncle and grandfather were Bataan Death March Survivors and POW's. Our family was awarded 4 Congressional Gold Medals for WWII.

I also am the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, HCA Florida Oak Hill Hospital, a 350-bed acute care hospital treating patients in Hernando, Pasco, Citrus counties. I have a Board of senior leadership to include the CEO/President, senior Vice-Presidents, medical staff department chairs, and community leaders that provide guidance and governance for this Leapfrog A, US News and World Report Top 5% in the nation teaching hospital. The Emergency Department sees approximately 60,000 patients each year and admits approximately 20,00 patients per year. I oversee the hospital's \$3.6 billion annual revenue and have helped promote plans to add a free-standing Emergency Room and Inpatient rehabilitation facility. I provide executive leadership for Medical Staff of -over 700 physicians, hospital employees (approximately 1500), and 138 residents participating in Graduate Medical Education (Oak Hill Hospital is a statutory teaching facility).

I was honored to receive the Humanitarian Award in 2023 by the American College of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. This truly is a Lifetime Achievement award recognized by my surgery community.

I am honored to have been selected for the 2025 class of the US Veterans Hall of Fame, induction to be held in Virginia Beach, Saturday November 8, 2025 at 6:00 pm. This selection is a lifetime culmination by those that supported my journey along the way, for it could never have been accomplished without my family, my colleagues, and friends.

I thank God and everyone who supported and groomed me for greater professional challenges! Thank you ABOMS for the selection! Who would have predicted this 35 years ago!



# Diplomate Making a Difference

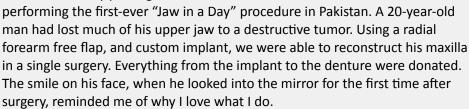
#### Arshad Kaleem DMD, MD, FACS

Every year, I find myself boarding a plane to various places—not for vacation, but for a mission that gives my profession its deepest meaning. As a surgeon, I've always believed that the skills we are blessed with are not just tools for a career but also skills that we use in service of others.

I visit Pakistan regularly and partner with local surgeons to operate on complex and large tumors that have been neglected for years because of



lack of awareness, resources and/ or skills. In February 2025, I had the extraordinary privilege of



My mission in Pakistan goes beyond the operating room. Since 2022, I've been conducting hands-on workshops in microvascular and microneural surgical techniques for oral and maxillofacial surgery residents. I consider it both a duty and an honor to help equip them with advanced skills that are still limited in many parts of the world.

In August 2024, I joined a surgical mission to the West Bank in Palestine. The need there was overwhelming—facial trauma, untreated tumors, and deformities from delayed care. We operated in modest conditions and with limited supplies given the blockades that impact daily life in the region. In fact, one of my vivid memories was operating on a patient and hearing a baby's cry. Our OR shared space with the incubators for new babies as there was no other space.

Perhaps the most emotional case of my career happened just months ago. A 13-year-old Palestinian girl had suffered a horrific injury from an explosion—losing most of the soft tissue on the right side of her face and part of her mandible. Through a collaborative effort with a humanitarian organization, we were able to bring her to El Paso, Texas. At the Children's Hospital in El Paso, we rebuilt her face using a fibula free flap and a custom titanium plate—restoring both form and hope, with every part of her care offered freely and without charge." Her courage, resilience, and smile at the end of the journey will stay with me forever.

I often reflect on these experiences not as personal accomplishments, but as evidence of what can be done when medicine is married with compassion, when global borders do not define the reach of our care. Each scar we mend, each function we restore, and each face we help bring back to life is a testament to the power of service. And in this service, I have found the purest expression of why I chose this path.



## Future Diplomates of America

e asked our current residents, "What are you most looking forward to in becoming a Diplomate of ABOMS?" and/or "Why did you decide to pursue your Board Certification?" Here's what they had to say!



#### Dr. Derrick C. Nelson

"I am most looking forward to becoming part of a community fundamentally focused on enhancing our specialty. Members of ABOMS have inspired me to become my best as an oral and maxillofacial surgeon both for my patients and community at large. Being part of ABOMS grants me the opportunity to become an expert in our field, while fostering the philosophy of paying it forward. I'm always amazed at ABOMS members' desire to give back to the specialty.

I sought to pursue board certification in order to accept the challenge of becoming a complete, oral and maxillofacial surgeon. Anyone could consider themselves an expert in the specialty but obtaining that recognition from our board carries weight in the community. Patients should know their surgeon took the time and dedication to receive the stamp of approval from experts that already exist in the field. The success I hope to achieve in my career comes from standing on the shoulders of the giants that have come before me; board certification is the first footstep unto those shoulders."



Dr. Angel Wu

"Becoming a Diplomate of ABOMS represents a milestone of excellence and commitment. It's a meaningful way to demonstrate competence in our specialty. Many of the surgeons I admire are board certified and I'm excited to join the community that trained and shaped me. It's a way to honor their influence, uphold the high standards they instilled in me, and eventually pass those values on to the next generation of rising surgeons."



#### Dr. John Bishara

"I look forward to becoming a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery to join a group of remarkable surgeons who continue to make significant contributions to our field and are dedicated to the advancement of our specialty. It is an attestation of my commitment to the highest standard of patient care, advancement in surgery, and mentorship for future surgeons. It is the culmination of comprehensive training in medicine, dentistry, and surgery, and it affirms my dedication to thoughtful clinical judgment, surgical skill, and professional growth. Becoming a board-certified surgeon

signifies that I have met, and will continue to meet, the gold standard of our specialty set by the pioneers of oral and maxillofacial surgery. I am excited to uphold the high standards of ABOMS certification and continue my pursuit of excellent patient care and dedication to the future generation of surgeons."

## Input and Inspiration

n addition to reaching out to our residents, we looked to our Diplomates for guidance, tips, or words of encouragement they may have for those seeking Board Certification with ABOMS. Here's what they had to say:



#### Dr. Mina D. Fahmy

### Preparing for Board Certification: Focus, Resilience, and Growth

To all OMS residents preparing for Board Certification—embrace the journey with confidence. Mastering your craft requires discipline, but don't lose sight of the bigger picture: delivering exceptional patient care. Trust your training, seek mentorship, and approach every challenge as an opportunity to grow. The process is rigorous, but your dedication will define you. Stay

focused, support your colleagues, and remember—you've earned your place here. Keep pushing forward, and success will follow.

#### Dr. Luis Ferrer-Nuin

#### Ready for the next step of your professional career?

Board certification is the initial commitment to lifelong learning for the benefit of our patients and our specialty. Fast Track offers the added convenience of initiating the process in a seamless fashion during the last year of training.

There is no question that in today's rigorous and rapidly evolving private practice and academic arenas, board certification is a fair process that validates that diplomates fulfill the required current standards of training, knowledge and clinical competence to practice safe contemporary oral and maxillofacial surgery.

As a member of the examination committee, we are a team dedicated to supporting you throughout this most fulfilling and gratifying journey!



# 2025-2026 Examination Committee

ach spring the Board of Directors selects a group of Examiners to serve on its current year's Examination Committee. This group of exceptional individuals aid in the development of the ABOMS computer-based testing (CBT) examinations and Oral Certifying Examination (OCE). Committee members are responsible for submitting questions and cases for specific examinations and, at times, assigned to leadership positions within the Committee. The Committee also includes a number of those who have added qualifications and contribute items to our Certificate of Added Qualifications (CAQ) examinations. The Board recognizes the time and commitment spent as an ABOMS Examiner and thanks our dedicated members in advancing the specialty.

Tara Aghaloo Fawaz Alotaibi Melissa Amundson Suganya Appugounder Kevn Arce Benjamin Archer Varun Arya **Normund Auzins** Carrie Baldwin Christopher Ban Veronica Barreto **Gerard Begley** Rachel Bishop **Thomas Bolten** Hans Brockhoff Jeffrey Brown Tuan Bui Anthony Bunnell Kamal Busaidy Nicholas Callahan Jennifer Caroline Vincent Carrao Angelle Casagrande Paul Casmedes Srinivasa Chandra Allen Cheng Joli Chou **Kyunghoon Chung** Scott Claiborne Justin Clemow Reece Cofer

**David Cummings** Jason Dashow Paul Deitrick Valmont Desa Robert Diecidue **Douglas Dingwerth** Donita Dyalram Nathan Eberle Jeffrey Elo Hany Emam Michael English David Fallah Luis Ferrer-Nuin William Fillmore Elda Fisher Steven Fletcher Danielle Freburg-Hoffmeister James Gates Michael Gentile Tamer Goksel Jesus Gonzalez Lawrence Gorzelnik Mark Green Matthew Green **Bradley Gregory** Carlo Guevara Anish Gupta Daniel Hammer Michael Han Drew Havard

David Haynes James Henderson Andrew Henry Raza Hussain Malini Iyer Courtney Jatana Anku Johri Robert Julian Arshad Kaleem Anthony Kasper Karen Keith **Brian Kelley Kevin Kempers** Douglas Kendrick **Christopher Kepros** Beomjune Kim Roderick Kim Antonia Kolokythas Benjamin Kur Carl Labella Edward Lahey Zahid Lalani Jay Lee Aaron Liddell Susie Lin John Lupori Killian MacCarthy Caitlin Magraw **Ashley Manlove** Glenn Maron Hisham Marwan

Daniel Meara Nicholas Mechas James Melville Mark Miller Justine Moe Waheed Mohamed James Murphy **Brandon Newell** Lauren Odono Alexis Olsson Wavne Ozaki Bonnie Padwa Neeraj Panchal Chan Park Ashish Patel Zachary Peacock Vincent Perciaccante Daniel Perez Leonel Perez Justin Pisano Jason Portnof Kathlyn Powell Michael Proothi Patricia Rake Michael Ray Andrew Read-Fuller Jonathan Redditt Gwendolyn Reeve Shravan Renapurkar Cory Resnick Fabio Ritto

Tracey Rosenberg Sara Runnels Michael Safian Salam Salman Randy Sanovich Michael Schiffman Brian Schmidt **Curtis Schmidt** Nathan Schroeder Joshua Segal Trina Sengupta Syed Adnan Shah Jonathan Shum **Constantine Simos Christopher Smith Brittany Sonnichsen** Imad Tamimi R. John Tannyhill Tibebu Tsegga Ashok Veeranki Peter Vellis Chi Viet Christopher Viozzi James Ward Dean Whitman Monty Wilson Melvyn Yeoh Yedeh Ying Waleed Zaid

## **Committee Leadership**

xamination Committee members are selected by the Board to serve in leadership roles through the development and administration for both our CBT examinations and OCE. The individuals listed exude the highest level of professionalism and exceptional knowledge in the specialty. The Board of Directors graciously thanks each of these individuals for their time and commitment to the specialty.

#### **Co-Chairs**

Vincent Carrao Raza Hussain Robert Julian Edward Lahey Sara Runnels James Ward

#### **Section Editors**

Carl Labella

Michael Ray

Joshua Segal

#### **Certification Maintenance Committee**

Tuan Bui Elda Fisher Steve Fletcher

### **Examination Statistics**

#### **2025 Qualifying Examination**

Time Taken	Total Taking Examination	Total Passing Examination	Pass Rate
Fast Track (Senior Residents)	247	239	97%
First Time Candidates	49	40	82%
Repeat Candidates	35	21	60%
Total/Overall	331	300	91%

#### **2025 Oral Certifying Examination**

Time Taken	Total Taking Examination	Total Passing Examination	Pass Rate
Fast Track*	202	173	86%
First Time Candidates	43	28	65%
Repeat Candidates	59	36	61%
Total/Overall	304	237	78%

<sup>\*</sup>Fast Track refers to those who had taken the QE while in their last year of residency.

# **Upcoming Examinations**

#### 2026 Qualifying Examination (QE)

January 10-17, 2026, Prometric Testing Centers

#### 2026 Oral Certifying Examination (OCE)

February 2–6, 2026, Raleigh, NC Applications open now through September 25, 2025

## 2026 Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery In-service Training Examination (OMSITE)

February 7–21, 2026, Prometric Testing Centers Applications open September 24–October 23, 2025

