



## **American Gem Trade Association Announces Board of Directors' Election Results**

*Dallas, Texas, September 14, 2016* – The American Gem Trade Association (AGTA) announced today the results of its annual AGTA Board of Directors' Election. The following candidates were elected as Directors:

Pramod Agrawal, Shanu Gems	David Nassi, 100% Natural
Jonathan Gad, Gad Enterprises	Shekhar Shah, Real Gems
William Heher, Rare Earth Mining Co.	Simon Watt, Mayer & Watt
Gina Latendresse, American Pearl Company	

The Directors'-elect will take office February 2017, and will serve three-year terms.

The following Members will continue with their positions on the Board:

Jeffrey Bilgore, President	Jeff Mason, Director
Bruce Bridges, Vice President	Avi Raz, Director
Charles Carmona, Director	Cynthia Renee, Secretary
Kusam Malhotra, Director	Robert Van Wagoner, Director

AGTA would like to extend special thanks to Gerry Manning, Vice President; Niveet Nagpal, Director; and Larry Woods, Director, for their years of service and dedication to AGTA and the Board of Directors. They will complete their Board terms in February 2017.

The Nominating Committee was chaired by Past President Ruben Bindra. The Committee Members were John Bachman, Benjamin Hackman and Ray Zajicek. The AGTA Board of Directors holds elections on a rotating cycle in order to guarantee coherence of the Board's long-term plans. The new Board Members will be introduced at the AGTA Membership Meeting, which is open to all AGTA Members and will be held Friday, February 3, 2017, at AGTA GemFair™ Tucson. For more information, please contact [info@agta.org](mailto:info@agta.org) or 800-972-1162.

*The American Gem Trade Association (AGTA) is an association of United States and Canadian trade professionals dedicated to promoting the long term stability and integrity of the natural colored gemstone and Cultured Pearl industries. The Association pursues its goals through the combined use of educational programs, publicity, industry events, government and industry relations, and printed materials for both the trade and consumer. The AGTA is well-known in the gemstone and jewelry industries for maintaining the highest ethical standards.*