



American Gem Trade Association Announces Board of Directors' Election Results

Dallas, Texas, September 11, 2018 – The American Gem Trade Association (AGTA) announced today the results of its annual AGTA Board of Directors' Election. Mr. Ruben Bindra, of B & B Fine Gems was elected President. Mr. Jeff Mason, of Mason-Kay, Inc. was re-elected as a Director to the Board. Mr. Robert Bentley, of Robert Bentley Company, Inc. and Mr. Jaimeen Shah, of Prima Gems USA, LLC, were newly-elected. The President and the Directors'-elect will take office in February 2019, and will serve three-year terms.

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

Pramod Agrawal	Gina Latendresse
Bruce Bridges	David Nassi
Charles Carmona	Hemant Phophaliya
Kimberly Collins	Shekhar Shah
Jonathan Gad	Simon Watt
Bill Heher	

AGTA would like to recognize Mr. Jeffrey Bilgore for his excellent leadership as President, and Mr. Avi Raz and Ms. Kusam Malhotra for their commitment as Directors. AGTA would like to express appreciation for their years of service and dedication to AGTA and the Board of Directors. Their terms as President and Directors will end in February 2019.

The Nominating Committee was chaired by Past President Ruben Bindra. The Committee Members were John Bachman, Benjamin Hackman, Hemant Phophaliya 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 Tuesday, February 5, 2019, at AGTA GemFair™ Tucson. For more information, please contact 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.

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