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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **THE OPTICIANS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT**



**LAKELAND, TN, October 13, 2009** – At the recent National Opticians Convention, the Opticians Association of America elected Diane Charles of Washington State as President of the Association. Ms. Charles is the third female to be elected President in the organization's history and her term of office runs through September 2010. The election took place during OAA's Annual Delegate Assembly Meeting. The Delegate Assembly serves as the voting body of the association and consists of OAA members from all over the United States.

Diane is a licensed Optician and State Examiner in the State of Washington and is a former President of the Washington Opticians Association. Ms. Charles has served as a Board of Director for the Opticians Association of America for many years and most recently served as Chair of the OAA Legislative Committee. She has been an active member of OAA since 1990.

On the election, Diane Charles had this to say, "It is quite an honor for me to serve as President of this wonderful organization. This industry has been very kind to me and my family. Being the third female President is simply a bonus for me. I hope that I not only make the women in this industry proud, but all Opticians."

Established in 1926, the Opticians Association of America (OAA) serves as the only national organization representing opticianry's business, professional, educational, legislative and regulatory interests. OAA fosters, supports and sponsors programs of competency certification, licensing and continuing education for professional development.

For more information about the organization please contact the OAA office at 4064 E Fir Hill Drive, Lakeland, TN 38002, 901.388.2423, chris\_allen14@att.net, or [www.oaa.org](http://www.oaa.org).

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