

18 May 2022

To: Members of the American Optometric Association
From: RADM Michael H. Mittelman, USN (ret), President, Salus University

Subj: MY ENDORSEMENT OF DR. MARRIE READ FOR AOA TRUSTEE

1. I have known Dr. Marrie Read for over twenty years. I have watched her grow over that time from a newly minted Navy Lieutenant and skilled optometric clinician to the senior Navy Captain and optometric leader she is today.

2. I am thrilled to wholeheartedly endorse and support Dr. Read's run for AOA Trustee. I cannot think of a more qualified individual to represent the issues and challenges of today's optometric providers, especially those working within the Federal Services. Marrie has held the most demanding jobs while in Navy Medicine that has resulted in her becoming an expert in legislative affairs, policy and resources in the Department of Defense. She has proven her leadership acumen time and time again whether leading others in Navy Medicine or most recently, the Armed Forces Optometric Society. She has been in the AOA volunteer structure for many years contributing her knowledge and talents to address issues both on state and federal levels.

3. I ask that all OD's join me in supporting Marrie's bid for AOA Trustee. Now, more than ever, we need effective, well-informed and honest leadership in our National organization. Marrie will be that and much more!



M. H. MITTELMAN