



July 1, 2020

Dear Delegates,

I want to provide an update directly to current delegates concerning the ongoing discussions the House Officers are having related to the rescheduled HOD meeting in November.

To inform the House Officers' discussions, we recently sent a brief, unscientific survey to all HOD delegates to gauge how you have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and your current thoughts and intentions for attending an in-person HOD Meeting in November. In addition, during our June Board of Directors Meeting, the House Officers sought feedback from the Board regarding the complexities of hosting an in-person HOD meeting at a time of such uncertainty. We have also been in extensive discussions with AAPA staff about the financial and logistical considerations associated with conducting the important business of the HOD under current conditions.

The House Officers have waited as long as possible to make the decision on how best to conduct the business of the HOD, while gathering information and watching the trends across the country. Unfortunately, we have reached the time where a decision must be made in order to enter into the necessary contracts with a hotel and other vendors. As you can imagine, this is a complex issue with multiple considerations, among them: current or potential employer imposed travel restrictions on delegates; comfort level of delegates associated with fall travel with a potential second wave of the virus; the ability of hotels to provide adequate meeting space to account for social distancing and other safety precautions in meeting rooms; willingness of attendees to accommodate hotel safety protocols, such as wearing masks, having temperatures taken upon entering the hotel and limited capacity on elevators and in public spaces; basic logistical restrictions such as adequate space for safely accommodating buffet lunches, delegate credentialing and coffee breaks. Our concern, first and foremost, is for the safety of our members, your families, and the patients for whom you care.

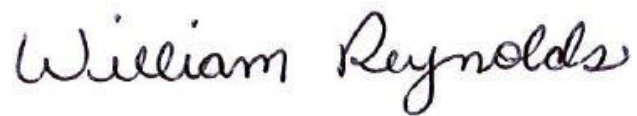
Given these considerations, the recent increase of COVID-19 cases across much of the country, and the uncertainty of how the fall will unfold, the House Officers have decided to conduct the November HOD virtually. Please note that the Title Change Investigation presentation **will** occur in its entirety. We continue to work to identify business that is essential to the organization and the profession and how to best conduct that business. We have already confirmed the option of extending the 2021 HOD by a day and a half in order to conduct any carry-over business. More details will be forthcoming as we work through these unprecedented circumstances.

In order to ensure you and your delegation are receiving timely and accurate information, please submit your organization's entire list of delegates and officers immediately, as all current

delegate terms ended on June 30. All COs whose leadership also turns over in July will need to submit the [CO Annual Update Form](#) (includes officers and delegates), while other COs whose leadership year begins in January, for example, will only need to submit the [HOD Notification Form](#) (only includes delegates).

I want to assure all of you that the House Officers have not taken this decision lightly. We will continue to explore all options to identify and conduct essential business during this difficult time. If you have questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any of the House Officers at [houseofficers@aapa.org](mailto:houseofficers@aapa.org).

My best wishes for all of you to remain safe and healthy.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Reynolds". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William Reynolds, Jr., MPAS, PA-C, DFAAPA  
Speaker of the House and Vice President, AAPA