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April 2, 2020
Sacramento, CA

Eye Bank Association of America

Dear Sirs:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter recommending Jason Kent Woody as a candidate for a board position with the Eye Bank Association. I have known Mr. Woody for almost two decades during which time he has served at almost every level of eye banking. He worked three years as an Eye Bank technician followed by three years as technical director at the Eye Bank in Tampa and is currently the president and chief executive officer of the Lions Eye Institute For Transplant and Research, Inc. in Tampa.

An important aspect of Mr. Woody's readiness to serve as a member of the Board of Directors has been his strong connection with other tissue and organ donation organizations including, among others, Donate Life America and Vision Share of which he has served as chairman and vice chairman.

Mr. Woody is deeply involved in his community. He was the recipient of the Helen Keller Award in 2004, was made a Melvin Jones Fellow by the Lions organization, and was a recipient of the Heise Award in 2012. He served previously on the Eye Bank Association of America Board (2006-2011) and has been president of the Southeast region, a member of the International Affairs Committee which he has chaired, the Practical Performance Committee, and the Item Writing Committee.

More important than his obviously pertinent CV in terms of his experience in the Eye Bank Association and related organizations is his genuine dedication and enthusiasm for eye and tissue banking and his insistence on the highest level of ethical behavior.

In my multiple interactions with Mr. Woody, I have always found him straightforward and willing to help solve problems. I believe that he is one of the preeminent voices in American eye banking at the present time, and I am sure that the organization could do no better than to have him as a member of the Board of Directors. He has my very strongest recommendation for this position to which I believe he will bring great distinction. It is a pleasure to write this letter on his behalf.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "M. Mannis".

Mark J. Mannis, MD, FACS
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