



For Immediate Release

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ATPO Names New President



August 3, 2016, St. Paul, MN - Sergina Flaherty, COMT, OSC, of San Antonio, TX, will serve as the 35th President of the Association of Technical Personnel in Ophthalmology, Inc. (ATPO®) beginning August 1, 2016. Ms. Flaherty succeeds Christine McDonald, COA, COE, ROUB, OSC, of St. Louis, MO, who served from 2015-16.

"I am honored and excited to become ATPO's President. I look forward to leading ATPO into a bright future that continues our history as the national membership organization for ophthalmic technicians. I will build on the great work of my exceptional predecessor, Christine McDonald, to take us to even greater heights," said Ms. Flaherty.

Ms. Flaherty currently works at Stone Oak Ophthalmology, in San Antonio, TX. She has been an elected ATPO Board Member since 2013, and has served on the Membership and Marketing Committee, Scientific Session Committee, Bylaws Committee, and the Flash Card Review Committee. Additionally, she is a contributor and author to ATPO's *ViewPoints* magazine, and was an appointee to the ATPO Board of Directors as the representative for the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO), prior to her election to the Board.

As the proud daughter of a retired US Army nurse, Ms. Flaherty joined the US Army at nineteen, seeking a career in the medical field. "It was the best decision I ever made," she stated. She spent four and a

half years in the Army as an eye specialist. Over the years, she has advanced to the highest level of certification as a Certified Ophthalmic Medical Technologist, COMT.

JCAHPO CEO Lynn D. Anderson, PhD, said, "The allied ophthalmic personnel field has many exciting opportunities on the horizon. JCAHPO is pleased to continue our partnership with ATPO on numerous initiatives that we know will advance the field. I personally am looking forward to working with Sergina Flaherty, a strong leader who embodies the passion necessary to help ATPO achieve its goals."

ATPO partnered with JCAHPO in October of 1999 in order to provide the ophthalmic community with the most up-to-date and highest levels of service available. Because this alliance has such a strong historical significance, both JCAHPO and ATPO are dedicated to making this partnership a successful model of unparalleled opportunities for ophthalmic medicine. Associations that champion change and embrace leadership, technology, membership, and interaction are ensured a vibrant future.

ATPO is a non-profit membership organization that has been an advocate for the profession, sets standards and encourages certification, offers continuing education, is at the forefront regarding issues that confront the profession, provides national and international channels of communication among members, and enhances the image of ophthalmic medical personnel for eye care excellence since 1969. ATPO's membership exceeds 2,100 ophthalmic assistants, technicians and technologists from across the globe. For more information about ATPO, visit www.atpo.org or call (800) 482-4858.