



# AOMA Dispatch

The eNewsletter of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association

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## December 11, 2020

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#### 55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

The Arizona State Legislature will convene the 55th Legislature - Regular Session on Monday, January 11, 2021. After the 2020 election, Republicans have a 16-14 majority in the Senate and a 31-29 majority in the House.

Earlier this month, members were assigned to serve on the House and Senate committees. Three new members will be serving on the House Health and Human Services committee while only one new member has been assigned to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. Click [here](#) to view a full list of assignments and to see the meeting date for each of the committees.

It is still unclear if the legislature will be meeting in person for the new session or what the procedures will look like for members of the public hoping to meet with their members or wanting to attend hearings. Once the session starts, you can visit [www.azleg.gov](http://www.azleg.gov) to view live proceedings.

#### LEGISLATURE CLOSED DUE TO POTENTIAL COVID-19 EXPOSURE

The Arizona State Legislature was forced to shut down this week following Rudy Giuliani's positive COVID-19 diagnosis. Giuliani was in Arizona last week and met with lawmakers. At least 15 current or future legislators may have been exposed to the virus during their meetings with Giuliani. The closure was announced to legislators and staff "due to COVID-19 concerns and out of an abundance of caution."

#### NEW EXECUTIVE ORDERS

Last week, Gov. Doug Ducey held a press conference to announce new measures to address the continui

increases in the number of COVID-19 cases in Arizona. The Governor issued three new Executive Orders:

### **Ensuring the Availability of COVID Vaccine without Financial Barriers**

[https://azgovernor.gov/sites/default/files/executive\\_order\\_2020-58.pdf](https://azgovernor.gov/sites/default/files/executive_order_2020-58.pdf)

### **Further Mitigation Requirement for Events**

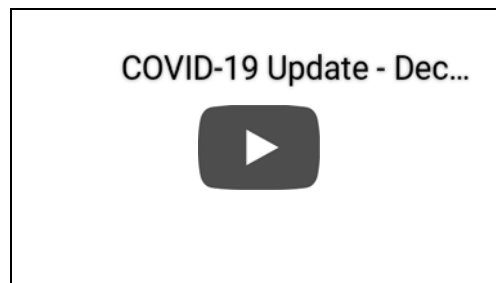
[https://azgovernor.gov/sites/default/files/executive\\_order\\_2020-59.pdf](https://azgovernor.gov/sites/default/files/executive_order_2020-59.pdf)

### **Easing Regulations to Encourage Outdoor Dining**

[https://azgovernor.gov/sites/default/files/executive\\_order\\_2020-60.pdf](https://azgovernor.gov/sites/default/files/executive_order_2020-60.pdf)

## **ADHS Director COVID-19 Update**

On Thursday, December 10, 2020, Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) Director Dr. Cara Christ released a video sharing the latest information on COVID-19 in Arizona. Dr. Christ discussed mitigation measures, connecting with friends and loved ones responsibly, vaccine distribution and more. Watch Dr. Christ's message on [YouTube](#).



For ways to stay safe and healthy during the holiday season, visit [azhealth.gov/winterholidays](https://azhealth.gov/winterholidays).

COVID-19 updates and information about health precautions can be found on the ADHS website [here](#).

## **FDA Panel Recommends Use of Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine**

On Thursday, December 10, 2020, a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) federal advisory panel recommended the emergency use of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. The FDA does not have to follow the panel's recommendation, but it is expected to do so. Distribution of nearly 3 million doses across the United States could begin within days.

If approved, the vaccine is recommended for emergency use in people aged 16 years of age and older. Health care workers and nursing home residents will be among the first eligible to receive the vaccine.



## Top Doc Voting Now Open

For more than 25 years, Phoenix Magazine has published its **Top Doctors** list. Chosen by Valley physicians in the annual voting, this is your opportunity to recognize your peers for their professional, expertise, and patient care.

To access the [survey](#), simply enter your medical license number and fill out the appropriate fields. You may not have nominations in some practice areas. Please include your suggestions' full names in the questionnaire. The list will be published in the April issue of Phoenix Magazine. Deadline to vote is January 11, 2020.

<https://www.phoenixmag.com/2021-top-doctors-survey>



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Search: Physician Arizona



## 'Tis the Season

*This year, more than ever, we need the miracle of Hanukkah.*

*May the Festival of Light be a Festival of Hope, Happiness, Love, and Health for us all.*



## Help AOMA Help You

The 2021 Legislative session is going to be challenging with many impending threats, but also opportunities to enact beneficial public policies for your profession and patients.

The AOMA Political Action Committee (PAC) provided more than \$17,500 to more than 30 legislators in advance of 2020 election. The AOMA PAC allows us to support legislators who share our concerns about the future of healthcare and improved access to quality care in Arizona.

Please help us replenish the AOMA PAC account. Become a Gold PAC member by making a contribution of \$250. Of course, your contribution in any amount is appreciated and will support AOMA's efforts on your behalf.



To make your contribution, please go to [www.az-oste.org/AOMAPAC](http://www.az-oste.org/AOMAPAC).

## Need CME Before 12-31-2020? Check out the DOCME.org

Does your Arizona license renew at the end of the year? Still need CME hours? Earn CME at your convenience! The DOCME on-demand program is built so that you can access CME whenever and wherever you like. DOCME offers all categories of AOA CME credit, including 1-A! DOCME boasts a catalog of more than 250 different lectures in a wide variety of specialties. New content is added regularly.

Go to [www.docme.org](http://www.docme.org) to view the entire catalog of on demand offerings.



## We Want Your Two Cents - Literally!

You can make Arizona Osteopathic Charities a big bucks winner by making a pledge in the Birdies for Charity competition at the 2021 Waste Management Phoenix Open. Arizona Osteopathic Charities will receive **every penny** of collected pledges. To make a pledge online go to [birdiesforcharityaz.com](http://birdiesforcharityaz.com).



**Feeling stuck with your current private student loans?**

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**SoFi.**

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[Update Your Profile!](#)

One of the benefits of AOMA membership is the **Find a Physician** public directory search. Make sure your practice information is up to date by logging in to your member profile on the AOMA website. When you do, prospective patients and potential referring physicians will be able to find you.

[Join AOMA](#)

[Not an AOMA Member?](#)

Join today and be a part of the 99-year tradition of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association!

Membership in AOMA is an affordable vehicle to keep abreast of national and local issues, protect your professional practice, enhance your specialized skills, further your career, and be a part of the future of osteopathic medicine in Arizona.

Refer a new AOMA member and receive a \$100 credit. Go to [www.az-osteo.org/Recruit](http://www.az-osteo.org/Recruit)

[COVID-19 Tracking Resources](#)



[www.covidactnow.org](http://www.covidactnow.org)

<https://91-divoc.com>

[AOMA Calendar of Events-www.az-oste.org](http://www.az-oste.org)

**AOMA Board of Trustees Meeting** - February 6, 2021  
**AOMA 99th Annual Convention** - April 7-11, 2021

In case you missed a past issue of the AOMA Dispatch, visit the Archives [here](#).



The AOMA Dispatch is published twice monthly. Direct your questions and comments to AOMA at [communications@azoste.org](mailto:communications@azoste.org)

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