

# American Psychiatric Association

1000 Wilson Boulevard  
Suite 1825  
Arlington, VA 22209  
Telephone 703.907.7300  
Fax 703.907.1085  
E-mail [apa@psych.org](mailto:apa@psych.org)  
Internet: [www.psychiatry.org](http://www.psychiatry.org)

## Board of Trustees

### 2014-2015

Paul Summergrad, M.D.

*President*

Renée L. I.

*President-Elect*

Maria A. Oquendo, M.D.

*Secretary*

Frank W. Brown, M.D.

*Treasurer*

Jeffrey A. Lieberman, M.D.

Dilip V. Jeste, M.D.

John M. Oldham, M.D.

*Past President*

Jeffrey L. Geller, M.D., M.

Vivian B. F.

Brian Crowley, M.D.

Judith F. Kashtan, M.D.

R. Scott Benson, M.D.

Melinda L. Young, M.D.

Jeffrey Akaka, M.D.

Anita S. Everett, M.D.

Molly K. McVoy, M.D.

Gail E. Robinson, M.D.

Lara J. C.

Ravi N. Shrivastava, M.D.

*Trustees*

## Assembly

### 2014-2015

Jenny L. Boyer, M.D.

*Speaker*

Glenn A. Martin, M.D.

*Speaker-Elect*

Daniel J. Anzla, M.D.

*Recorder*

## Administration

Saul Levin, M.D., M.P.A.

*CEO and Medical Director*

Paul T. Burke

*Executive Director*

*American Psychiatric Foundation*

October 8, 2014

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Senator Grassley:

On behalf of the American Psychiatric Association, the medical specialty society representing over 35,000 psychiatrist physicians, I write to support the nomination of Michael Botticelli as Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Mr. Botticelli joined ONDCP as Deputy Director in 2012 and, upon the departure of former Director Gil Kerlikowske, assumed the role of Acting Director in March of this year.

Mr. Botticelli's career includes a wide variety of leadership roles. He has been recognized by the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors and others for his countless contributions to the field. He served as a member of the Advisory Committee for the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention and the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention. In 2008, Mr. Botticelli received the Ramstad/Kennedy National Award for Outstanding Leadership in Promoting Addiction Recovery.

Prior to coming to ONDCP, Mr. Botticelli was with the Massachusetts Department of Health (MDPH) where he served as Director of the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services for nearly a decade. He worked to expand substance abuse treatment services and oversaw a pilot program expanding access to naloxone to treat opioid overdose.

ONDCP faces significant challenges, including a growing epidemic of prescription drug and heroin abuse. Mr. Botticelli has demonstrated the ability to understand these challenges and to work collaboratively with federal partners, state authorities, and professional associations like the APA to reduce drug use and to promote prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery services.



Mr. Botticelli is the right choice to lead ONDCP. He has the requisite background, skills, and abilities to bring about significant improvement in our county's drug policies and to assure that those policies are built on the strong base of scientific evidence. APA asks for your favorable consideration of this nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Summergrad".

Paul Summergrad, MD  
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Saul Levin, MD, MPA".

Saul Levin, MD, MPA  
CEO and Medical Director