

Consider Serving as a Delegate of the Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists to the AAO House of Delegates

Serving as a Delegate for the Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists (GLAO) in the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) House of Delegates can provide one of the most meaningful professional roles of your career. It offers a rare opportunity to advocate for colleagues across our region and to help shape the future direction of our specialty at the national level.

The House of Delegates is the AAO's primary governing body, responsible for reviewing and voting on resolutions that influence policy, education, advocacy, and the overall strategic direction of the organization. Being part of this process requires careful preparation, including studying proposed resolutions, participating in discussions with fellow GLAO representatives, and collaborating with Delegates from across the country. This thoughtful dialogue ensures that every decision is grounded in sound reasoning and reflects the diverse needs of orthodontists and the patients we serve.

What I feel stands out most in this role is the responsibility to communicate clearly and consistently. Serving as a conduit between the AAO leadership and the GLAO membership will allow you to help colleagues stay informed and engaged with issues that directly affect their practices. It's a privilege to bring the perspectives of our region to the national stage and to ensure they are heard and considered.

Beyond the policy work, being a Delegate offers a chance to build meaningful relationships with dedicated orthodontists who share a commitment to elevating our profession. The collaboration, the thoughtful debate, and the shared sense of purpose all reinforce the importance of leadership and service within our community.

I feel that you will find that representing the Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists is an honor*. My experience as delegate has deepened my appreciation for the hard work that goes into guiding our specialty, and it continues to remind me how much we can accomplish when we work together on behalf of our members and our patients.

If you are interested in further information about serving the GLAO as delegate, please reach out to me (contact information below).

If you are interested in serving as delegate for the 2027 House of Delegates, please reach out to Ms. Debbie Nunner (debbie@assnoffices.com, Executive Director of the GLAO, before March 13, 2026).

-Michael Sherman, GLAO Trustee

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*I am aware that the spelling of honor/honour varies between the USA and Canada.