



February 24, 2020

Dear Physicians,

I had the honor to speak on behalf of TOMA at Lincoln Memorial University-DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine's White Coat Ceremony on Saturday, and wanted to share my comments to the class with you:

*Students, professors, colleagues, and families, CONGRATULATIONS on your White Coat ceremony. This is a moment steeped in tradition and hard earned through great sacrifice. It is a moment you will carry during the coming decades of service to your patients. It is a moment shared by all those who have come before you and all who will follow in generations to come.*

*I'm Dan Logan, DO, President of the Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association. Since graduating residency, I have had the honor of serving in Dayton, TN, a small community north of Chattanooga, where I run an independent, private family medicine practice. Working in a rural community has afforded the opportunity to wear many hats such as medical director for a hospice agency, staff physician at two local nursing homes, taking shifts as a hospitalist at our local hospital, and twice serving as chief of staff for our hospital. Daily, I have the privilege of caring for families, patients from young children through those in their dying moments; as a rural, primary care physician, I have the honor of building relationships across generations. It is an honor I hold dear; one that has been rooted in strong and robust medical training, after walking across the stage at my white coat ceremony in 2002 at CCOM.*

*I'm proud to stand beside you in support of this symbolic moment in your life. Cloaking yourself to move forward from the basic sciences to practicing the art and science of osteopathic medicine transforms you from today on. You really can't go back. You have earned the right to palpate, listen, diagnose, and treat. We, as osteopathic physicians, hold this privilege close to our hearts and believe this sacred tradition is rooted in a distinct philosophy that began in 1892. It truly is a privilege, and I'm excited to celebrate your next step on this journey.*



*TOMA, your state medical society, has been active for the last 122 years to advance the practice of the philosophy of osteopathic medicine. Our goal is simple. We are the leading voice for all osteopathic physicians and students in Tennessee.*

*How do we do this, one might ask? Two-fold – through the promotion of osteopathic medicine and by offering high-quality opportunities for continuing medical education.*

*Each Monday, during the legislative session, Tennessee DOs have the opportunity to serve as "doctor of the day". One of our colleagues travels to Nashville to share the ups and downs of patient care in today's healthcare climate, ensuring that each senator and representative understands how we take care of patients, the practical concerns facing our healthcare community, and the direct effects those have on the lives of our patients. This is an important piece of advocating for our medical community and offers time for meaningful dialogue and collaboration with those making policy and laws in our state. TOMA is also a standing partner, along with other Tennessee medical societies, in the Coalition of Collaborative Care – your voice to ensure that the physician remains quarterback of the healthcare team. This piece is a pivotal juncture for physicians in our state.*

*TOMA's emphasis on education is focused on Didactic and hands-on lectures provided at our state convention that is held annually each spring. 3 1/2 days of hourly lectures focus on various subspecialties and primary care. Attendees have the occasion to receive up to 23 of the 40 required bi-annual continuing medical education hours or CMEs. I have attended every convention since moving back to Tennessee in 2007. This is where I get to see students, see old friends, and try to stay up as late as students do. Needless to say, 10 pm comes a lot earlier for me now in life.*

*It should be noted that TOMA is also directly connected to our national representative organization the American Osteopathic Association, or the AOA. Each summer, we send members to the AOA annual House of Delegates where national policy is discussed and created. In fact, the current president-elect for the AOA is Tennessee's own, Dr. Tom Ely, who practices in Clarksville.*

*The message I want to leave is that the heart and soul in the practice of osteopathic medicine in Tennessee can only be maintained through the protection of the physician-patient relationship. It is*

529 Myatt Drive  
Nashville, Tennessee 37115



615/345-9550  
Fax 615/530-1037  
Toll Free 800/808-8662  
[www.tomanet.org](http://www.tomanet.org)

*unique; it is sacred; and, it is core to the oath taken by all physicians. TOMA takes this role very seriously. I invite you to join your state association, even now as students, and remain active throughout your professional career, continuing to solidify the consecration of this art known as the practice of medicine.*

Finally, don't forget to register for TOMA's 2020 Convention, April 2-5, in Knoxville. You will be able to earn up to 23 CME credits, meet with other Osteopathic Physicians and students, and see the new LMU-DCOM Knoxville facility. [Register online here!](#)

Regards,

Dan Logan, DO