

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP



by C. Scott Litch COO and General Counsel

This column takes a break from discussing legal and regulatory issues affecting pediatric dental practice to recognize an attorney who has been instrumental to AAPD's federal advocacy successes over the past two decades.



On May 28, 2022, at the AAPD General Assembly, the AAPD approved Honorary AAPD Membership for C. Michael "Mike" Gilliland, by unanimous consent. Gilliland recently retired as a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Hogan Lovells, a global legal practice with over 2,800 lawyers operating out of more than 40 offices in the United States, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, and Asia. Hogan Lovells and Mike have represented the AAPD in Washington, D.C., since 2003. This relationship resulted in a tremendous increase in Title VII funding for pediatric dentistry education, including the Dental Faculty Loan Repayment Program (**DFLRP**) that is developing a great cadre of new faculty to secure a bright future for the profession.¹

At the Jan. 14, 2022, AAPD Board of Trustees meeting, the board approved a motion to initiate the process for considering Honorary AAPD Membership for Mr. Gilliland. Per the AAPD

bylaws, "honorary members may be elected for unusual and outstanding contributions to the profession."² A nomination must come from a voting member; in this case, the entire Board of Trustees concurred. The nominee's qualifications were sent to the Credentials and Ethics Committee, who made a unanimous recommendation as required under the Bylaws. The Board of Trustees approved this recommendation at its meeting of May 24, 2022, and forwarded it to the General Assembly.

As group leader of the Hogan Lovells' appropriations practice, Mike directed federal appropriations efforts that effectively secured millions of dollars for university construction and research projects, hospital expansion projects, economic development initiatives, public transportation facilities and airports, new technology programs, and defense procurement. He also assisted clients in using the appropriations process to accomplish other legislative goals, including federal agency regulatory and policy matters. Mike counseled clients on legislative and policy matters involving tax, energy, health,

telecommunication, insurance, federal election law, and other matters. He represented a broad range of clients including corporations, trade associations, universities, and nonprofit entities. AAPD greatly benefitted from his vast range of knowledge and expert guidance.

Prior to joining the firm, then called Hogan & Hartson, in 1991, Mike practiced in the legislative department of another major Washington, D.C., law firm. From 1987 to 1991, he served as tax and legislative counsel to the American Insurance Association, which represents more than 200 of the country's largest stock property and casualty insurance companies. While at the association, he was instrumental in drafting and negotiating the property casualty portions of the 1986 Tax Reform Act. From 1981 to 1987, Mike was the Legislative Director for Senator Howell Heflin of Alabama. He received his law degree from Cumberland School of Law at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., and Master's in Tax Law from Georgetown University Law Center.

For further information contact Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel C. Scott Litch at (773) 938-4759 or slitch@aapd.org.

1. <https://www.aapd.org/globalassets/2022-ceo-report.pdf>

2. AAPD Bylaws Chapter 1 (Membership), Section 2 (Eligibility), Paragraph O (Honorary).