

Edward Diao, M.D.
Hand, Upper Extremity, and Microvascular Surgery
Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Francisco

August 3, 2009

Stephen P. Makk, M.D.
Chairman
AAOS Practice Management Committee

Dear Stephen:

I wanted to introduce Susan Charkin. She is a consultant who has worked with me on numerous contracting projects in the San Francisco Bay area. She is extremely well versed having worked on the insurance company side and now she is working on behalf of physicians. She has got a wealth of knowledge and is very easy to work with. Plus, she is quite compulsive and will take care of whatever she says she will. This has been proven to me most recently when I was chairman of the Clinician Scientist Development Program meeting in Chicago in June 2009. In addition to meritorious residents that were selected to participate, many of the leaders in orthopedic surgery in the United States were present as faculty. As a testament to how well Susan's talk was received, I believe three of the department chairs who were on my faculty have independently contacted Susan to have her consult on their contracting issues in their hospitals in every time zone in the United States.

I think it would benefit the AAOS membership to be able to tap into Susan's abilities and resources and utilize her in AAOS programs. I would leave the type of programming that would benefit from Susan's input up to you and your committee but I would like to give the strongest personal recommendation for Susan.

Sincerely yours,



Edward Diao, M.D.
Professor Emeritus of Orthopaedic and Neurological Surgery
University of California, San Francisco
AAOS Research Development Committee, 2005-2009
AAOS/ORS/OREF Clinician Scientist Development Program Chair, 2009

RE: Susan Charkin
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cc: Karen L. Hackett, FACHE, CAE
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