

December 17, 2018

Dear fellow colleagues of the SES of the AUA,

I wish to put fourth my wholehearted endorsement of Tom Stringer as our next AUA President. I have known Tom since my first year as a urologic resident at the University of Florida in 1979. Tom has been an associate and one of my closest friends since that time. Tom's qualifications and attributes have been well stated and documented by many in regards to how truly qualified he is to seek the office of President of the AUA.

In this endorsement, I would like to emphasize Tom's personal qualities and high character which I have witnessed firsthand on many occasions over the years. I always marvel at his true concern for his fellow man and woman. On a personal note, several years ago I was in the midst of a divorce. I phoned Tom to tell him I was moving out of my home and some of the circumstances I was facing. It was not a happy time to say the least. Tom listened and then said, "I'm coming to visit you now and help you in this painful transition." I tried to resist his kind offer but to no avail, he would not be deterred. He canceled every commitment he had planned for the weekend to help his friend in need. I can't express in words how his kindness helped me endure a painful time in my life. His warmth, sincere caring and humor helped me in so many ways. This is not the only time I have witnessed the true unselfishness and kindness of Tom's character. I have seen his almost fatherly caring for his residents and working staff. I have seen his desire to help others succeed and work tirelessly to help them achieve success. Personally, Tom has guided me to do important things that I probably would not have accomplished without his wonderful support and mentoring. I know both of our candidates possess the intellect and character to be a fine and successful AUA President. I also know that there is no better person who will work for the AUA membership in a more decent, caring and unselfish manner than Tom Stringer. It is who he is and who he can only be, no matter what honor is bestowed on him. Tom was given that extra attribute of caring more for others than for himself. This, in my mind, is the type of person who should always lead others. This is the person I have no doubt will give his absolute all for all of us. Please consider Tom to lead us as our AUA President. I am certain he would not let us down, but would raise us to a better place.

Respectfully,

Michael J. Wehle