

News RELEASE

American Psychiatric Association, 1000 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1825, Arlington, VA 22209

For Information Contact:

Jason Young, 703-907-8582
jyoung@psych.org

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APA Hires Audi for Government Relations

ARLINGTON, Va. – The American Psychiatric Association (APA) announced today that it has hired Rachel Audi as a lobbyist in its Department of Government Relations (DGR). Audi starts as DGR’s Deputy Director for Congressional Affairs in mid-August and will work to advance the APA’s legislative priorities in the U.S. Senate.

“Rachel Audi brings a wealth of health policy experience to her new role,” said Nicholas M. Meyers, Director of APA’s Department of Government Relations. “I’m particularly pleased that she joins APA with impeccable Republican credentials and a demonstrated record of working well with staff from both sides of the aisle. Rachel will be a tremendous asset in the Senate in advancing APA’s efforts on behalf of psychiatry and quality patient care.”

The APA’s current legislative priorities include enacting the Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act to end discriminatory coverage of treatment of mental illnesses, preserving patient access to psychiatric treatment and medications in the Medicaid program, ensuring adequate mental illness research funding, protecting medical records confidentiality, and safeguarding patients through the regulation of the practice of medicine and non-physician scope of practice.

Since 2001 Audi has served as legislative assistant and health care policy advisor to Sen. Wayne Allard (R-Colo.). Prior to that, she worked for several years for then-Sen. John Ashcroft. Audi holds a master’s degree in public policy from Regent University in Virginia.

The American Psychiatric Association is a national medical specialty society, founded in 1844, whose 35,000 physician members specialize in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of mental illnesses including substance use disorders. For more information, visit the APA Web site at www.psych.org.

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