

August 27, 2009

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Join AMWA Today!

AMWA's Donor Members include contributors who believe in AMWA's mission and goals through advocacy and our charitable programs. Donation categories are variable and affordable. To Donate Now, [Click HERE](#). For those interested in Voting Membership categories, annual dues are as follows: Member, \$225; Discounted & Non-Physician Member, \$150; Resident Member, \$100;

American Medical Women's Association

This message contains graphics. If you do not see the graphics, [Click here to view](#)



Save the Dates!
2010 Annual Meeting
Friday, March 26 through Sunday, March 28
AMWA will again team up with the Institute for Women's Health for the 2010 meeting, held at The Crystal Gateway Marriott in Crystal City, VA.

AMWA News

Donate to AMWA's Legacy Fund Today!

Help preserve AMWA's legacy for future generations. Funds are needed to support AMWA's permanent exhibit in the lobby of Drexel University's new building for the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership (Philadelphia, PA). The institute is also the home for the Archives & Special Collections on Women in Medicine, the largest collection of material pertaining to the history of women in medicine, including AMWA's historical documents and photos from the founding meeting in 1915 to the present day. Donations of \$2,500 and above will be individually recognized in the lobby's "Wall of Fame" display. [Click here to donate now!](#)

Preparation for AMWA Day on the Hill 2010

Make your voices heard in health reform and other legislative matters. Join us Thursday March 26, 2010 for Advocacy Day immediately before the Women's Health Congress/ 95th year Anniversary AMWA Meeting. There will be a panel discussion in the morning and we will meet with our Legislators and/or their Health Legislative Assistants in the afternoon. If you are interested please RSVP to [LWaters MD@yahoo.com](mailto:LWatersMD@yahoo.com).

Medical Students, \$75 (one time fee); and Undergraduate Students, \$25 (one time fee).

Donate to AWHS

Help AMWA maintain and expand vital programs by supporting the American Women's Hospitals Service. AWHS supports medical clinics for the underserved and international travel grants for young women physicians and medical students. Your gift to AWHS is fully tax deductible, and you will have the comfort of knowing that each AWHS-supported clinic's service and quality of care is monitored by AMWA physicians. You can see the stories of our clinics and read stories told by students who have received our travel grants posted on our website, www.amwa-doc.org. To order AWHS logo note cards, [click here for an AWHS Note card Order Form](#)

AMWA thanks our Corporate Partners for their continued generous support:






Reform Matters Toolkit

An important part of AMWA's advocacy activities is to ensure that women's specific needs and the challenges are addressed within the health care system. The National Women's Law Center whose work focuses on women's health and health care coverage has a great advocacy and lobbying resource called the **Reform Matters Toolkit**. This Toolkit provides the resources women's advocates need to be full participants in the health care reform movement and policy debates at the state and national levels. The toolkit explores various health care reform proposals and their impact on women's access to comprehensive, affordable, quality care.

Join us! - Call for Committee Members

Interested in getting more involved with your AMWA membership? Join one of our **14** committees, and donate your time and enthusiasm to grow AMWA as an association.

Choose one or more: *American Women's Hospitals Service, Awards and Nominations, Annual Meeting/Program, Communications, Fundraising, Global Outreach, Membership, Physician Branch Affairs, Policy and Advocacy, Resolutions/Position Papers, Senior Physicians, Student Affairs, Women's Health, and Career Development.*

Email your interest in a committee or questions to associatedirector@amwa-doc.org.

Are you involved in a local AMWA branch?

AMWA headquarters is updating the branch listings, so please email your branch name and contact information to associatedirector@amwa-doc.org.

Reminder to AMWA Student and Resident Members

A reminder about one time fees for Students and Residents:

- Undergraduate students- onetime fee of \$25
- Graduate/medical students- onetime fee of \$75
- Residents- onetime fee of \$100

If you are currently a Student or Resident member, please email your anticipated completion year to associatedirector@amwa-doc.org so we can extend your membership.

Medpedia.com

In order to raise the professional profiles of our members, facilitate group dialogue and increase the networking potential of the AMWA, we've joined Medpedia, the new technology platform for the global health community.

Medpedia is a long-term project, launched last week that includes three features: a collaborative knowledge base, a professional network and directory for health professionals and organizations, and communities of interest in which medical professionals and non-professionals can share information about conditions, treatments and lifestyle choices.

By joining Medpedia, physicians and PhDs will have the opportunity to create and edit medical articles, or opt to oversee content on a specialized topic and receive credit for it. Each member of our group can set up their own professional profile, viewable by the public, and participate in the AMWA discussion forum. We hope that this will open dialogue within our organization, and that you'll post questions or comments to the community on Medpedia.

Follow this link to join the group: <http://www.medpedia.com/groups/99-AMWA>

FLASH!!! REPORT FROM THE WOMEN'S HEALTH WORKING GROUP



After nearly 16 months of meetings, conference calls, reports, investigations, and determination, the AMWA Women's Health Working Group is ready to launch the Women's Health Digital Resource Library (WHDRL) on the Medpedia website.

Wendy Taylor, one of the founders of Medpedia, has been working with our group to facilitate construction of the library. The materials we have posted so far can be found on the Medpedia.com website under the AMWA page under "Organizations". Go to: <http://www.medpedia.com/groups/99>. Take a quick look at it today, and then determine what materials you can create, or that you may have ready to place onto the site.

Under the Wikipedia concept, any materials can be placed on the site, and you may designate yourself as the lead author. Other MDs or PhDs can make changes to the materials, but you can ask to be notified of those changes if you become a follower of the article. If you disagree with the change, you can make corrections. In the future, we will have a board of peer reviewers, and you may ask that your materials be peer-reviewed.

Medpedia is fast becoming a popular site visited and used by medical students, so this will be a way to share your unique Women's Health knowledge with a large community of professionals. The articles posted at this point are a set of one page case presentations which were edited by the American College of Women's Health Physicians to discuss management of Women's Health Issues through a sex- and gender-specific lens.

AMWA and ACWHP have entered into a partnership that will fund a part-time coordinator for the project for the first year, and the job description for this position follows:

AMWA/ACWHP JOINT VENTURE: WEB-BASED WOMEN'S HEALTH DIGITAL RESOURCE LIBRARY PROJECT

SEEKING: Innovative, outgoing, friendly and progressive person with some online publishing and Internet community experience to coordinate, organize, direct, and manage a Web-based Women's Health Resource Library (WHDRL) which will inform the medical community in evidence-based, high quality, gender-specific care of women.

For many years, the American Medical Women's Association and the American College of Women's Health Physicians have been working to produce gender specific teaching and learning resources and Women's Health curricula, and they have now formed a partnership with www.Medpedia.com with the objective of placing these materials on the Web and making them available to all in the medical community who have an interest in translating gender specific research to clinical practice. All interested teachers, students, and clinicians will be invited to donate to appropriate resources which they have created or discovered.

We are looking for a responsible and deeply committed "people-person" to work with the Medpedia editors and volunteer editors to manage and grow the project.

Responsibilities include:

1. Finding and recruiting potential writers, educators, and editors who will contribute to the project by identifying, writing, editing, or donating materials to be posted on the digital library.
2. Coaching those volunteers and making their contributions simple to post and use.
3. Working closely with the Medpedia staff to organize and place these materials on the site.
4. Willing to travel occasionally to inform schools and educators of the project and facilitate its growth and use.
Strong writing and communication skills are a must; some editing skills required.
5. We envision that this will be a 1/2 time position for one year, with continuation contingent upon funding. The coordinator will be hired as an independent contractor, working off-site with minimal supervision.

To apply or make inquiries, please contact:
Ms. Sarah Hagy, Associate Director

American Medical Women's Association
associatedirector@amwa-doc.org

2010 Award Nominations

Nominations for the 2010 AMWA Awards are now being accepted for the awards below.

Elizabeth Blackwell Award

This award, initiated in 1949 by Elise S. L'Esperance, M.D., is granted annually to a woman physician who has made the most outstanding contribution to the cause of women in the field of medicine.

Bertha Van Hoosen Award

This award is named in honor of the Founder and first President of AMWA, and honors a woman physician who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and service to AMWA, and has been an active member for at least five years.

Lila Wallis Women's Health

This award is given in the name of one of AMWA's most beloved Past Presidents. Each year, the award is given to an individual whose lifetime achievements, accomplishments, motivation, mentorship, energy and enthusiasm for women's health, education, and research reflect the trailblazing achievements and influences in women's health exemplified by Dr. Lila A. Wallis.

Woman in Science Award

This award is given to a woman physician who has made exceptional contributions to medical science, especially in women's health, through her basic and/or clinical research, her publications and through leadership in her field.

Anne C. Carter Leadership Award

This award honors the memory of Anne C. Carter, MD, and is in recognition of a national student leader in AMWA. *The award honors Dr. Carter's dedication to the welfare and success of all women medical students. Dr. Carter's life was a celebration of what women can achieve and contribute to others. For many years, Dr. Carter was Trustee of the Financial Aid Fund of AMWA's New York Branch 14, served as Chair of the Student Loan and Scholarship Committee, and on the AMWA Foundation Board.*

Email nomination and CV to associatedirector@amwa-doc.org by December 31, 2009.

AMWA Interim Board Meeting

AMWA's Board of Directors is preparing to make their way to the Philadelphia Headquarters Office for their Interim Meeting, September 12-13. If you are interested in attending this board meeting, please email associatedirector@amwa-doc.org for more information regarding the agenda and hotel information.

Policy, Legislation & Oversight

Senate Democrats Consider Tactic to Push Through Government Health Plan

By Robert Pear

Senate Democrats said Sunday that they were fleshing out plans to pass health legislation, particularly the option of a new government-run insurance program, with a simple majority, instead of the 60 votes that would ordinarily be needed to overcome a **filibuster**.

After consulting experts in Senate rules and procedure, the Democrats said they were increasingly confident that they could legislate creation of a public plan in a way that would withstand challenges expected from Republicans.

[Read the full story on nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)

Health-Bill's Pace Prompts Calls for Delay

By GARY FIELDS

WASHINGTON -- President Barack Obama should re-evaluate his push to overhaul the nation's health-care system and move more slowly, key senators in the debate said Sunday.

Sen. Joe Lieberman, a Connecticut independent who caucuses with the Democrats, said in an appearance on CNN's "State of the Union" that he credits the president for trying to fix health care "but he took it on at a very difficult time that was not of his making. In other words, we're in a recession."

[Read the full story at *wallstreetjournalonline*.](#)

Health & Wellness

Whooping Cough Resurges: In the Future, Whooping Cough Vaccination May Become Part of Prenatal Care

The number of cases of pertussis, or whooping cough, is on the rise in the United States. According to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Ga., pertussis cases have witnessed the largest upsurge since the 1950's, with more than 50,000 new cases reported in the US between 2004-2005.

A disease that was once under control with vaccination is now witnessing an increase among teenagers and adults who have lost their immunity and need a booster shot and young children who haven't completed a full course of vaccinations.

[Read the full story on *womenshealthresearch.org*.](#)

Prioritize Pregnant Women to Get Swine Flu Shot, Experts Say

As the US prepares for the likely return of the swine flu as the weather gets colder and fall rolls in, drug makers are scurrying to produce as many doses of a vaccination as possible. With so little time to prepare, there is no way that enough doses of a vaccine will be produced in time for flu season, so Americans will have to receive the vaccine in order of priority—those who are the most susceptible to the flu or are at greatest risk for complications from the virus will be first in line for the vaccine. Experts have determined that pregnant women should be a priority, as this segment of the population has been determined to be at great risk for the H1N1 virus. Based on studies of how the swine flu has affected people thus far, pregnant women infected with the virus have had a higher rate of hospitalization than others with virus, and a higher proportion of deaths were amongst pregnant women. The risk of complications from swine flu has been determined to be great enough that in Britain and Switzerland, health officials have advised women to delay pregnancy during an H1N1 outbreak. The US has made no such recommendations. The first batch of flu shots to vaccinate against the swine flu are expected in October, and it seems all experts agree, moms-to-be should be first in line to receive them.

[Read the full story on *healthday.com*.](#)

In US, No Comeback Seen for Hormone Therapy

Hormone therapy has seen its highs and lows: it once was regarded as an almost miracle product, helping women to age gracefully and get through the symptoms of menopause. Then the large-scale Women's Health Initiative study was halted 3 years early in 2002 when researchers discovered that hormone replacement therapy (HRT) produced an increased risk of breast cancer, heart attack, stroke, and blood clots. Since then, several studies have shown ways in which HRT may still be beneficial for some women. Taken under the correct circumstances at the right time (and not for too long a period), hormone therapy has been shown to be beneficial with little to no side effects. However, the negative press has outweighed the positive press on hormone therapy, and in the US at least, HRT remains fairly taboo. However, women who are interested in hormone therapy should talk to their doctors about the possibility of taking

hormones, even if it is for a brief amount of time. Studies have determine some "safe" circumstances for taking HRT, such as taking estrogen alone instead of in combination with progesterone. Canadian doctors are now revising their guidelines on hormone therapy, but experts in the US do not see a possible comeback for HRT in America.

[Read the full story on healthday.com](#)

Professional Development

THROUGH OUR OWN EYES RETREAT (TOOER) Version 8.0: TOWARD MORE WHOLE LIVES: AN AUTUMN SANCTUARY BY AND FOR WOMEN PHYSICIANS

**September 27 - October 2, 2009 Mount Madonna Center
Watsonville, California
Explore, Rejuvenate, Breathe, Stretch, Heal!**

This is our eighth TOOER, and another great opportunity for women physicians to reflect on our careers, our work-life balance, and our personal health. SEPTEMBER 2009 TOPICS include:

- wellness assessment
- stress management skills
- medical malpractice prevention
- personal and career evolution over a 5/10/20 year timeline
- successful aging and gerotranscendence

Each day we will have:

- FACILITATED SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS and exercises based on the specific interests and needs of our participants.
- DAILY YOGA SESSIONS
- OPEN TIME for you to pursue activities that renew your energy and creativity. Bring your journal, your watercolors, hiking boots, meditation pillow, your sunglasses, and a great book! We also en-courage you to consider attending with a colleague, a friend from medical school, residency or your community.

MOUNT MADONNA CENTER is a conference and retreat center located on 355 acres of mountain-top redwood forest and grassland over-looking Monterey Bay, between Santa Cruz and Monterey, in Northern California.

FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Chiara Associates, c/o Charlea Massion, MD.
3235 Cunnison Lane, Soquel, CA 95073
Phone: 831.421.2476 Fax: 831.462.9098
Email: chiarasantacruz@gmail.com

Comprehensive Breast Centers of Excellence September 30-October 2, 2009, Baltimore, Maryland

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women in the United States and the leading single cause of death overall in women between the ages of 40 and 55. According to the American Cancer Society, nationwide there is a new diagnosis every 3 minutes and a death from breast cancer every 14 minutes. Due to the most recent advances in technology, shrinking reimbursements, economic pressures of managed care and increasing number of baby boomers, most hospitals, physicians and healthcare facilities are starting to see the benefits of defining themselves by comprehensive breast center of excellence. As a healthcare executive, it will be imperative for you to develop the planning and investment strategy to succeed in this highly competitive field and capture the consumer market. Join us for this 3 day strategic business meeting with distinguished speakers covering topics such as:

- Creating a state of the art comprehensive breast center to improve patient care, enhance workflow and efficiency
- New models for achieving operational excellence

- Accreditation programs for breast centers
- Maximizing the competitive advantage by providing innovative, integrated, high-quality and cost-effective care

To learn more, call 414-221-1700 x130 or gbosch@acius.net

Register Today for Reproductive Health 2009

Registration is now open for *Reproductive Health 2009*. This is the cornerstone conference in reproductive health hosted annually by the Association of Reproductive Health Professionals, the Planned Parenthood Federation of America National Medical Committee, and the Society of Family Planning.

Make plans to join us for networking with committed colleagues and cutting-edge sessions on reproductive health research and clinical practice. Many distinguished speakers are already confirmed, including Jacqueline Darroch, senior fellow at the Guttmacher Institute; Henry Gabelnick, executive director of CONRAD; Scott Gilbert, professor at Swarthmore College; Joseph Speidel, Bixby Center director and professor at UCSF; and Beverly Winikoff, president of Gynuity Health Projects.

Reproductive Health 2009 will be held September 30 – October 3 in Los Angeles. Register early for discounted conference rates and first choice of breakout sessions. For more information, visit www.ReproductiveHealth2009.org.

Psychiatric Aspects of Women's Health Care- Saturday, September 26, 2009

Accredited for 4.0 CME/CEU by the Indiana University School of Medicine

Saturday, September 26, 2009

Hyatt Regency, downtown Indianapolis
7:45 am Onsite registration & continental breakfast
8:30 am - 1:00 pm Programming

Featured topics will include common psychiatric disorders in women with comorbid medical conditions, the impact of trauma on women's health, and a review of the rational use of hormonal and nutritional therapies in addressing women's health issues.

To register, visit www.pdallc.com/fall.html

Questions, contact Sara at 888.477.9119 or sara.stramel@pdallc.com

The Women's Alliance 2009 National Conference Celebrating Ten Years of Service

November 5 - 7

Chicago Marriott O'Hare Hotel

Sponsored by

Heartland Human Care Services and Bridge to Success

Preparation for the November Conference is in full swing and it will be jam packed with vital information for surviving the current economy. We are running out of presentation time slots!

When making your Thursday travel plans, make sure you arrive early enough to participate in a fabulous pre-conference session planned for Thursday night, November 5th, from 6:00 to 7:30. This hilarious session, presented by Beyond the Good Life, will warm everyone up for the conference, helping to create a sense of connection and community. While having fun, you will discover how to create agreements that serve you, your partners & the organization; learn some strategies to stay grounded and calm in the times of chaos & challenge; and ways to identify early signs of common areas of burnout, fatigue & being overwhelmed.

FRIDAY NIGHT: Special Evening Reception at Bridge to Success from 6:00 to 7:30 - Pre-registration needed!

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Edith Crigler, not only carried the Olympic Torch, but serves as Associate Executive Director of the Chicago Area Project and President of the Board of Directors for the Chicago Jobs Council. Edith not only talks the talk, she has walked the walk.

Teri Goudie, international media consultant and a former ABC News journalist, is considered one of the world's top trainers. Goudie teaches a simple five step method that is designed to turn words into action. Her method can be used in media interviews, presentations, meetings and email.

We also have **Angie Blumel**, Manager for Volunteer Services for the Chicago Architectural Foundation; **Cheyenne Brinson MBA, CPA**, TWA Board Treasurer and consultant with Karen Zupko and Associates; **Julie McClure** of New York Life Insurance; **Kacie Walters**, Knowledge Leader with Hewitt & Associates; **Colleen Pogany**, free lance web designer; **Jeanne Flint**, Executive Director WHW and TWA Board Vice President. And, more speakers are being lined up!

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES:

Members - \$150.00

Non-Members - \$199.00

One-Day Member - \$75.00

One-Day Non-Member - \$100.00

Registration fee includes: conference materials, one reception, two continental breakfasts, & two luncheons

FOR A CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM PLEASE EMAIL:
svanveen@heartlandalliance.org

Call for Submissions: "Accidental Crusader" for Equal Rights- Dr. Linda Brodsky Launches Multi-Author Book Project

Dr. Linda Brodsky, one of the most respected names in pediatric otolaryngology and Quality Assurance in Healthcare, is launching a multi-author book project to be published early in 2010. Linda, who has been awarded the Association of Women "Distinguished Member Award" and the Sylvan Stool Award for Teaching and Service, is looking for stories about how the challenges facing women physicians, surgeons, and healthcare workers affect the way healthcare is delivered in our country. The project was conceived after the conclusion of Linda's nearly ten year legal battle based on her claims of gender discrimination in the hospital and university in which she worked. Instead of shrinking into the role of a gender discrimination victim, Linda instead became an advocate for equal rights, and is now out to help others tell their 2 stories. Though Linda continues her work as one of the country's top otolaryngologists, her "accidental crusade" for gender equality in healthcare has come to define a big part of her life's mission. The book project comes on the heels of the successful launch of Linda's site, www.LindaBrodskyMD.com, and her blog, <http://thebrodskyblog.com>. For more information on the project or to submit your story, please visit the [website](#).

Membership Updates

Medelita - Dedicated Shopping Page for AMWA Members

Medelita continues to make it easy for AMWA members to purchase lab coats and scrubs tailored for female physicians. Check out **the new page** to easily take advantage of your AMWA discount through Medelita. Be sure to tell your AMWA colleagues of this great member benefit!

Medelita proudly supports AMWA in its mission to advance women in medicine and improve women's health. AMWA members receive a 15% discount orders. Medelita will also donate 10% of all member sales directly to the American Medical Women's Association.

The STAR Doctor Medical Professional Liability Insurance Program for Women in Medicine

The Star Doctor Insurance Program provides Preferred Medical Professional Liability Insurance for Women Physicians. Coverage is available for most specialties.

The Star Doctor Insurance Program product is backed by an insurer who has provided Medical Professional Liability Insurance for over 35 years and is rated "A XIII" (Excellent) by A.M. Best Company.

Our program for Women in Medicine combines the value of competitive premiums with preferred and specialized features for Women Physicians who need to balance their personal and professional lives. (Some states are not eligible).

STAR Doctor Medical Professional Liability Insurance Highlights

- "Nose" or Prior Acts Coverage is available
- Affordable, part-time rates
- Free, automatic coverage for your locum tenens physician for up to 45 days
- Free, Unlimited Tail protection in the event of death, disability, or retirement (certain conditions may apply)
- Unlimited Tail available
- Legal Defense protection
- No deductible
- Defense expense paid in addition to the limit of liability
- Leave of absence features designed for new parents, illness, continuing education, and caring for family members
- Outstanding claim services

For more information, please contact: Jodie Cole, Senior Vice President, Ext. 222 jodiec@woodinsurancegroup.com.

Journal of Women's Health is expanding its monthly Bulletin Board section to include more information on the following topics. Kindly put JWH@liebertpub.com on your news alerts and/or let us know when there is news or new projects or programs that the women's health community should be aware of, such as:

- Centers of Excellence activities
- Fellowship announcements
- New women's health programs
- New funding opportunities
- Special events
- Advocacy activities

If you are an AMWA member, and you are not taking advantage of your FREE online Journal Subscription, email info@amwa-doc.org and we will send you the instructions on how to receive this great membership benefit!

Doctor's Digest

NOW...Doctor's Digest ON THE IPHONE/IPOD TOUCH!!! iPhone/iPod Touch users can download the Doctor's Digest "Essential Practice Tip" App from the "Medical" category in the Apple App Store or from the iTunes store. HCPs receive a new tip downloaded twice per week to their iPhone/iPod Touch. **Click here for more info.**

ALSO...FOLLOW Doctor's Digest on Facebook (www.facebook.com) and on Twitter (www.twitter.com/DoctorsDigest)

Doctor's Digest: May/June 2009 Primary Care and the Medical Home

The idea of the primary care medical home is gaining support from payors and physicians alike. This issue talks about the technology and other tools you'll need to transform your practice, and how to get paid for practicing this type of patient-centered care.

Doctor's Digest: March/April 2009 Accurate Billing and Coding

As claims data is used for quality improvement projects and other purposes beyond reimbursement, getting coding right is more important than ever.

Doctor's Digest: January/February 2009 Time Management

Effective time management can make practices more efficient and profitable *and* improve the quality of physician's lives. This issue will offer practical tips and real-life examples for managing a busy schedule at work and at home.

Doctor's Digest: Free E-Subscription, Podcasts and Vodcasts on Demand

AMWA members and subscribers receive a free e-subscription to *Doctor's Digest*, access to all back issues and practice management podcasts and vodcasts on demand 24/7. Getting your free 2009 e-subscription and accessing the back issues is easy: just go to the ***Doctor's Digest*** page on AMWA's website and click on the link provided. Follow the links on **www.doctorsdigest.net** for access to the podcast and vodcast series.

AMWA invites you to participate in our continued E-volution by giving us feedback about what you like or don't like about our weekly news and information e-mail. If you have suggestions regarding readability, content, timeliness, etc. send them to amwa@fernley.com.

If you have been forwarded this message and would like to subscribe, please email amwa@fernley.com with your name and "subscribe to e-newsletter" in the subject line.

To be removed from our distribution list, please do **NOT** reply to this email. Please follow instructions below.

To be removed, simply **[CLICK HERE](#)** to send a prepopulated unsubscribe request.