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## **OPTICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES NEW LEADERSHIP – TIARA CLAXTON NAMED NEW PRESIDENT TO FOLLOW MAUREEN CAVANAGH**

**DALLAS, TX – September 11, 2017** – As part of its 20th anniversary celebration, the Optical Women's Association is proud to announce a new president and two additional board members.

Tiara Claxton, responsible for Western States and Retail luxury sales for Safilo USA and previous vice president of the OWA, has assumed the president position effective immediately. Additionally, Sue Downes, CEO and President of MyEyeDr, and Pamela Capaldi, Director of Professional Services at Brien Holden Vision Institute, to the OWA Board of Directors.

"As I transition into the role of OWA President, I am appreciative and thankful to have such a talented board of volunteers who give their time to strengthen and enhance the OWA," stated Claxton. "I am thrilled to be announcing the appointment of Sue and Pamela. These two women are dedicated to our mission, to enhance and promote the leadership role of women in our optical industry. We are excited to welcome Sue and Pamela, two extraordinary women, to our board."

The OWA would like to give a special thanks to past board member and co-chair of the Digital Marketing Committee, Janet Johnson, Ocuco Inc. Janet's contribution and service to the OWA has shined through in everything she touched.

We would also like to thank our outgoing president, Maureen Cavanagh, VP Essilor Retail-Key Accounts, who has provided exceptional leadership and direction to our association. Accomplishments during her term include providing additional value to members through monthly Tuesday Talks, Regional events, Sponsored Company Ambassadors, Member Spotlights and enhanced website navigation and mobile optimization. Cavanagh will remain on the OWA Board as Immediate Past President for two years.

Claxton added, "Our sincerest thanks to Maureen for her steadfast leadership and continued contribution to the growth of this organization."

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About the Optical Women's Association: Founded in 1997 as a non-profit, the Optical Women's Association is committed to supporting and promoting the professional development of women involved in all facets of the optical industry.

As the vision of the OWA evolves and expands, it maintains the focus of the OWA's founding principles and core mission: to enhance and promote the leadership role of women in the optical industry through networking, education and peer support.