

April 14, 2022

Letter of reference for Dr. Tisha Van Pelt

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to provide a letter of support for Dr. Tisha Van Pelt in her application for the Resident and Fellow Section Governing Council Member-at-large position. I have worked with Dr. Van Pelt for the last 2 years as her residency faculty, medical director, faculty mentor, and now program director; I know her well and am happy to speak to her qualifications for office.

Since entering our program in July 2020, Dr. Van Pelt has been a strong resident in excellent academic standing. She received the First Year Resident Obstetrics Award and has impressed us with her commitment to patient care. I do not have concerns about Dr. Van Pelt's ability to manage the responsibility of this AMA role with her training requirements; we have already created a leadership elective which will provide her with the necessary time to attend the RFS meetings.

Dr. Van Pelt has a demonstrated a strong commitment to Family Medicine and to leadership in medicine. She served as the Community Service Chair in medical school with the American Medical Society. She was active as the Florida Academy of Family Physicians (FAFP) Medical Student Director for the University of Florida, energizing medical students to advocate for family medicine. Tisha did a wonderful job of working with leaders within the FAFP to advance student education and services to promote Family Medicine across Florida medical schools. Her resume is evident of her service as a medical student. As an intern, she was elected by peers state-wide to serve as Resident President, a position usually awarded to second-year residents. This is an honor she earned due to her involvement within the FAFP and her ability to effect change. During the current academic year, she has served as alternate Delegate for the AMA Resident and Fellows section; this experience has spurred her to seek national office again.

Tisha is an advocate for patient care and physician wellness and understands the importance of physician presence at the legislative level to advance the mission of the AMA. I can continue to list the contributions she has made to our family medicine society, residency, and state, but I believe that her service as a leader speaks for itself. I am confident that Tisha will excel in the role of Member-at-large. She is committed to improving the health and community of the patient population that she serves. She is a future leader in medicine and will represent the mission of the AMA. Her zest for clinical and academic excellence is contagious; I support and recommend her for this position without reservation.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Lawrence, MD, FAAFP
Program Director, USF/MPM Family Medicine Residency
Associate Professor, USF Dept of Family Medicine
Clinical Assistant Professor, FSU Dept of Family Medicine
Diplomate, American Board of Obesity Medicine