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### **Arlington Heights Dentist Receives Academy of General Dentistry Fellowship Award**

**Nashville (June 29, 2013)**—The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) is pleased to announce that John K. Pontikes, DMD, FAGD, of Arlington Heights, IL, received the association's Fellowship Award during the AGD 2013 Annual Meeting & Exhibits, held from June 27 to 30 in Nashville, Tenn.

The AGD Fellowship Award is presented to dentists who seek to provide the highest quality of dental care by remaining current in their profession. To accomplish this goal, Dr. Pontikes completed 500 hours of approved continuing dental education, passed a comprehensive board exam, and fulfilled three years of continuous membership in the AGD. Dr. Pontikes is one of only six dentists from Illinois in this year's graduating class.

As a Fellowship Award recipient, Dr. Pontikes joins more than 6,900 active AGD Fellows who have gone above and beyond the basic requirements to care for their patients' oral health.

"We are proud to honor Dr. Pontikes for his commitment to the profession," says AGD President Linda J. Edgar, DDS, MEd, MAGD. "He has distinguished himself professionally among his peers and is a role model for both fellow dentists and community members of the Chicago-land areas."

Dr. Pontikes graduated from Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine in 2002, completed his hospital residency at Northwestern University/Evanston Hospital in 2003 and currently practices dentistry in Arlington Heights. He and his wife, Georgia, have one child, Marianna and are expecting their second.

#### **About the Academy of General Dentistry**

The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) is a professional association of 38,000 general dentists dedicated to providing quality dental care and oral health education to the public. AGD members stay up-to-date in their profession through a commitment to continuing education. Founded in 1952, the AGD is the second largest dental association in the United States, and it is the only association that exclusively represents the needs and interests of general dentists. A general dentist is the primary care provider for patients of all ages and is responsible for the diagnosis, treatment, management, and overall coordination of services related to patients' oral health needs. For more information about the AGD, visit [www.agd.org](http://www.agd.org). The AGD is a member of the [Partnership for Healthy Mouths, Healthy Lives](#), a first-of-its-kind national dental coalition composed of 35 leading dental health organizations. The Partnership's campaign is designed to educate parents and caregivers on how to improve their children's oral health in simple ways. The campaign offers families oral health resources through the website [2min2x.org](http://2min2x.org).