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Illinois Poison Center Leader Named President-Elect of the American Association of Poison Control Centers

Chicago—Carol DesLauriers, PharmD, DABAT, Assistant Vice President of the Illinois Poison Center (IPC), has been named president-elect of the American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC).

With 17 years at IPC, DesLauriers is a dedicated and passionate advocate for protecting the public from poisoning harm. She works tirelessly to advance IPC's capacity to serve Illinoisans and to educate the public on the poisoning dangers.

DesLauriers was originally elected to the AAPCC Board of Directors in 2017 and will become president-elect in September 2020. She will assume the presidency in fall 2022 for a two-year term, leading the national organization that represents the nation's 55 poison centers. DesLauriers will continue to serve the organization as past president from 2024-2026.

"The two most valuable assets of the AAPCC membership are our diversity and our passion," DesLauriers said. "We come from different parts of the country, and from poison centers large and small. Our passion for the mission drives us all toward the same ultimate goal: to see our poison centers succeed, today and in the years to come."

In addition to managing the IPC—part of the Illinois Health and Hospital Association—DesLauriers contributes to her field by educating the next generation of healthcare professionals and serving state government.

She holds the following positions:

- Faculty, Toxikon Consortium Medical Toxicology Fellowship Program;
- Member, Illinois Department of Public Health's Health Injury and Violence Prevention Strategic Planning Committee;
- Clinical Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science in North Chicago;
- Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor, University of Illinois College of Pharmacy in Chicago;

- Affiliate Clinical Faculty, Southern Illinois University School of Pharmacy in Edwardsville; and
- Governor appointee, Illinois Adult Use Cannabis Health Advisory Committee.

“I am committed to serving the best interests of our entire membership,” DesLauriers said. “A strong, united poison center voice will make clear to stakeholders, consumers and funders the indispensable value of our services. As AAPCC President, I will leverage our diversity and our passion to ensure that we are all successful.”

The AAPCC supports poison centers, including IPC—the nation’s first poison center—in their public health mission to prevent poisonings, provide education, conduct scientific research and treat individuals exposed to poisoning from medications, environmental events, plants, animals, and household products or toxins.

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The Illinois Poison Center is a nonprofit health service that provides the people of Illinois with comprehensive and trusted information and treatment advice on potentially harmful substances via a free, confidential 24-hour helpline staffed by specially trained physicians, nurses and pharmacists.