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CONTACT: Mina Larson: (703)314-2908 mlarson@thenccaom.org

NATIONAL ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL MEDICINE DAY AIMS TO EDUCATE CONSUMERS ABOUT BENEFITS OF USING CERTIFIED AND LICENSED PRACTITIONERS

Jacksonville, FL. (October 24, 2015) – Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (AOM) Day, celebrated annually on October 24, was created to raise awareness of the benefits of acupuncture and Oriental medicine, an effective form of medicine with a 3,000 year history. This national day of observance, recognized by the thousands of licensed acupuncturists, as well as AOM leadership organizations, was spearheaded by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM)[®] in 2002.

In the United States the use of AOM is at an all-time high. In fact, according to a study conducted by the National Institutes of Health's National Center for Complementary & Alternative Medicine, an estimated 36% of U.S. adults use some form of complementary and alternative therapy; however, misconceptions about this respected form of medicine still exist. AOM Day's primary purpose is to educate the public about the benefits of AOM therapies.

NCCAOM has established, and recently updated the AOM Day website at www.aomday.org. This website is an important vehicle for consumers to get informed about the many benefits of AOM as numerous AOM practitioners will be hosting AOM Day events in cities throughout the country. An event directory on the AOM Day website features detailed information about these events that can be searched by state. Also, patients can access the Patient Testimonials page where they can post their personal success stories with acupuncture and Oriental medicine treatments.

AOM Day events will be hosted throughout the country and internationally and many providers will be offering heavily discounted or free services to promote and educate consumers about the countless benefits of AOM. Practitioners who wish to showcase their event may submit their information via the <u>Submit an Event</u> tab on the AOM Day website. Consumers may find out more information about local events, by visiting the AOM Day website at http://www.aomday.org/programs.html.

Knowledge is power when it comes to making informed healthcare decisions. NCCAOM has not only established a website in honor of AOM Day at www.aomday.org, but the NCCAOM Web site at www.nccaom.org, is an excellent source for consumers to locate certified acupuncturists and practitioners of Oriental medicine (including practitioners of Chinese herbology and Asian bodywork therapy) who are in good standing throughout the nation

and worldwide. The practitioners featured in the NCCAOM <u>Find A Practitioner</u> searchable directory are all certified by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. With thousands of hours of acupuncture and herbs training at an accredited school and a Master's Degree in Traditional Chinese Medicine these practitioners can provide relieve for many medical conditions, where western medicine failed.

About the NCCAOM

The National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM) is a non-profit organization established in 1982. Its mission is to assure the safety and well-being of the public and to advance the professional practice of acupuncture and Oriental medicine by establishing and promoting national evidence-based standards of competence and credentialing.

It is a considerable professional achievement to earn the designation of "Diplomate of the NCCAOM". NCCAOM Certification indicates to employers, patients, and peers that a practitioner has met national standards for the safe and competent practice of acupuncture and Oriental medicine as defined by the profession. The first NCCAOM Comprehensive Written Examination (CWE) in Acupuncture was given in March 1985. Since its inception, the NCCAOM has certified more than 22,000. Diplomates in acupuncture, Chinese herbology, Asian bodywork therapy, and Oriental medicine. For more information about NCCAOM, visit www.nccaom.org.