March 2, 2021

CLBB Director of Law & Ethics
Dr. Rebecca W. Brendel, MD, JD
Named American Psychiatric Association President-Elect

Just announced: "The members of the American Psychiatric Association (APA) have chosen Rebecca W. Brendel, MD, JD, as the medical society's next president-elect."

'As a proud member of APA for nearly two decades, I am honored to have been elected to help lead this organization,' Brendel said. 'We have right now an unprecedented opportunity to advance psychiatric treatment in order to improve the lives of persons with mental illness, and to address the challenges before us to set the path forward for psychiatry's promising future.'

Among the priorities Dr. Brendel named during her campaign were parity and practice; member engagement; and accountability, professionalism, and self-regulation. She will assume the office of president in May 2022 at the APA Annual Meeting. Click here to see the full announcement.

Dr. Rebecca W. Brendel, MD, JD, is Director of the Master's Program in Bioethics, Harvard Medical School Center for Bioethics, a psychiatrist at the Law & Psychiatry Service and the Consultation Psychiatry Service at Massachusetts General Hospital, and an assistant professor in Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Brendel is the former Clinical Director of the Veterans Program at the Red Sox Foundation and Massachusetts General Hospital Home Base Program. She also previously served as associate director of the Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Brendel is a graduate of Yale College, where she majored in Philosophy and earned distinction in the major. She is an honors graduate of both the University of Chicago Law School and Pritzker School of Medicine. In 2000, she was awarded the Janet Glasgow Award from the American Medical Women's Association for graduating first in her medical school class. Dr. Brendel completed her medical internship at Brigham and Women's Hospital and her adult psychiatry residency at Massachusetts General and McLean Hospitals. She completed a forensic psychiatry fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital in 2004, and served as the Edmond J. Safra Faculty Fellow in Ethics at Harvard University during the 2006-2007 academic year. Dr. Brendel is a Board Certified Psychiatrist with added qualifications in Psychosomatic Medicine and is admitted to the Massachusetts Bar. See her full bio here.