



Eye Bank Association of America

PRESS RELEASE

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Monty Montoya to be Awarded 2009 Heise Award

The Eye Bank Association is pleased to announce that Monty Montoya MBA, CEBT, President/CEO for SightLife, Inc. will receive the 2009 Leonard Heise Award during the EBAA Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington, June 17-20, 2009.

The Leonard Heise Award is presented to lay people within the eye-banking community recognized for their outstanding devotion to the EBAA's development and for exemplifying the precepts of Leonard Heise, a major contributor to the fight against blindness and one of the EBAA's original founders.

Mr. Montoya has served in the eye banking community for the past 17 years. Beginning as a part-time eye bank technician in 1991, he has worked in all aspects of eye banking. After helping build the Donor Network of Arizona's Ocular Services Department into one of the country's leading eye banks, Mr. Montoya was recruited to lead the Northwest Lions Eye Bank (now, SightLife, Inc.) in 1997. He has served as the President/CEO since that time.

Mr. Montoya has a Bachelor of Science degree in Zoology from Arizona State University and a Master of Business Administration degree from Duke University's Fuqua School of Business.

The Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA), established in 1961, is the oldest transplant association in the nation. The EBAA is dedicated to the restoration of sight through the promotion and advancement of eye banking. It has led the transplantation field with the establishment of medical standards for the distribution of eyes and comprehensive training and certification programs for eye banking personnel. These standards have been used as models for other transplantation organizations. Member eye banks operate in the United States, Canada, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. These eye banks make possible more than 50,000 sight-restoring corneal transplants annually.

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