



PRESS/NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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SDMS Membership Exceeds 20,000: Growth of Sonography Professional Association 'Phenomenal'

PLANO, TEXAS – On Tuesday, August 14 a little after 4:00 p.m. (CDT), the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (SDMS) welcomed Rebecca Elijah, BS, RDMS, RDCS, RVT of St George, Utah to the association as its 20,000th member. Rebecca is a sonographer who has been actively practicing in the profession for 11 years and holds a baccalaureate degree in Sonography from Seattle University. She is triple credentialed holding the RDMS, RVT, and RDCS credentials from the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography. When asked what had attracted her to the sonography profession she offered the following comment; “I like the patient interaction. It’s rewarding to be able to offer good quality care to patients who are appreciative and happy that you are helping them.” Ms. Elijah is a ‘returning member’ to the SDMS and explained her decision to rejoin the Society; “I know that the SDMS does a lot to support sonographers through government relations activities and lobbying efforts on behalf of the membership, and I know that this is extremely helpful. I also appreciate and look forward to receiving the association’s publications.”



Rebecca Elijah
BS, RDMS, RDCS, RVT
St. George, Utah

The SDMS is a nonprofit, professional association representing over 20,000 sonographer and sonography student members. SDMS members can be found in all fifty states and thirty-seven other countries. The Society provides its membership with a comprehensive array of educational activities, information, and products reflecting all of the sonography specialty areas including: Abdominal; echocardiography; neurology OB/GYN; vascular and others.

The SDMS is the largest professional association for sonographers in the world, and hosts the largest annual conference for sonographers with this year’s conference scheduled for the Red Rock Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada October 11 – 14. SDMS publishes a bi-monthly journal, the Journal of Diagnostic Medical Sonography, as well as a bi-monthly print newsletter, *News Wave*, and a monthly electronic newsletter, *SDMS Sound News*. The association also supports a broad advocacy program supporting legislative and regulatory initiatives designed to support sonographers and quality control standards for sonography services provided to patients by the SDMS membership.

SDMS has experienced unparalleled growth over the last eight years having expanded its membership from the 9,000 range in 2000 to over 20,000 in 2007. Jean Lea Spitz, the

SDMS President, made the following comments regarding the Society's growth; "Our growth rate is a phenomenal success story by anyone's standards. We exist to support and provide services to our sonographer members and to promote quality patient care. Our growth has been fueled by our ability to deliver the educational products and services that sonographers value. We are a membership-focused organization, respected within the professional community for our leadership and commitment to our members' needs and interests."

Ms. Spitz welcomed Ms. Elijah to the Society and said she looked forward to introducing her to the Society at the SDMS Annual Conference at the opening ceremonies in October.

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