



## THE MAYOR OF ATHENS

Sarah Shiffert  
American Psychosomatic Society  
6728 Old McLean Village Drive  
McLean, VA 22101

Monday, November 21, 2011

Dear Mrs. Shiffert,

As Mayor of the City of Athens, I would like to pledge my full support to your upcoming event in our city and to ease any overstated impressions that were created for Athens over the past few months.

Athens, despite all the publicity due to the current economic reforms and some incidents of unrest that are confined within the City's main square, remains a safe and friendly city, offering delegates the best in terms of organization, infrastructure, accommodation and transportation, creating a unique experience for its visitors.

It was only recently (26 June-04 July) that the Special Olympics took place in Athens, bringing together athletes and their families from all around the world, with great success and no discomfort to any of the participants, despite the demonstrations in the nearby areas.

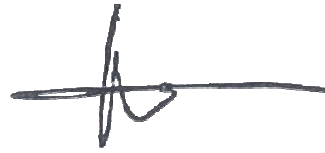
Moreover, there is a significant number of international meetings and conferences that have taken place this year without any problems or disruptions, whatsoever. The Biennial meetings of the International Society of Neurochemistry with a total of 900 participants and the EAO Annual scientific congress, just this past week, with a total of 3000 participants from all over the world are direct proof that conference organizers do feel confident about the city. Equally prestigious events, such as the 2nd edition of the Heart, Vessels & Diabetes European Conference and the European Congress on Menopause and Andropause, just to name a few, are scheduled to take place in Athens over the next months.

Having hosted the 2004 Olympic Games, Athens can evidently meet the requirements of the most demanding of events, always delivering an impeccable result.

I would like to invite you to host your event to our city and assure you that the City of Athens as well as its people will contribute to your very successful event.

I look forward to welcoming you in Athens.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a vertical stroke on the left, a horizontal stroke across the middle, and a loop on the right.

Yorgos Kaminis

Mayor of Athens