ABMS Names Recipient of 2015 Distinguished Service Award
Renowned Emergency Physician John McCabe, MD, FACEP, Honored

CHICAGO – June 30, 2015 – The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), composed of 24 Member Boards that oversee physician certification in the United States, has awarded John McCabe, MD, FACEP, its 2015 ABMS Distinguished Service Award.

Created in 1986, this award recognizes individuals for their extraordinary contributions to the medical specialty certification process. Dr. McCabe accepted the award at the ABMS Board of Directors (BOD) meeting held June 24-25 in Chicago.

Dr. McCabe joined ABMS in 1999 as a member of the ABMS/Council of Medical Specialty Societies Joint Committee. He was elected to the ABMS BOD in 2005 and three years later, to the Executive Committee. From 2010 to 2012, Dr. McCabe served as the 33rd ABMS Board Chair and the first Immediate Past Chair.

“While John served on numerous committees and groups, he was central in the establishment of the ABMS Enhanced Public Trust Initiative, which resulted in the formation of the Ethics and Professionalism Committee,” stated Lois Margaret Nora, MD, JD, MBA, ABMS President and Chief Executive Officer. “As a committee member, John played a significant role in broadening ABMS’s view of ethics and professionalism. Additionally, John has been an instrumental figure as a member of the Maintenance of Certification Task Force.”

Outside of his ABMS endeavors, Dr. McCabe is the Chief Executive Officer of University Hospital, and Senior Vice President for Hospital Affairs and Professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, New York, where he was instrumental in the development of the university’s residency program in emergency medicine. Dr. McCabe oversaw a recent expansion of University Hospital’s Emergency Department, and enlarged the university’s hyperbaric medicine program, one of the only 24-hour hyperbaric programs in the state. He assisted in the creation of a mass casualty unit and upgraded infirmary at the New York State Fairgrounds; developed an emergency medicine simulation center for training medical residents and local emergency medical services professionals; and spearheaded the university’s creation of a Katrina Response Unit to answer calls for medical assistance following the hurricane in 2005.

Nationally, Dr. McCabe has helped lead the discussion on health issues as president of both the American College of Emergency Physicians and the American Board of Emergency Medicine. Internationally, he has developed medical conferences at universities in China and India, and has hosted delegations of international physicians at Upstate. A renowned emergency medicine physician, Dr.
McCabe’s research interests have covered numerous aspects of emergency medical care, including the treatment of hemorrhagic shock, cardiac resuscitation, and the care of patients in the pre-hospital environment.

“John is one of the most well respected emergency medicine physicians in the country, and exemplifies all the characteristics embodied within the intent of the ABMS Distinguished Service Award,” said Valerie M. Parisi, MD, MPH, MBA, ABMS Board Chair. “We are pleased to be able to recognize his dedication and efforts on behalf of ABMS and his impact on the continued development of the medical specialty certification process.”

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About ABMS

For 80 years, the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) has been a leading not-for-profit organization overseeing physician certification in the United States. It assists its 24 Member Boards in their efforts to develop and implement educational and professional standards for the evaluation, assessment and certification of physician specialists. ABMS Member Boards provide physician certification information to ABMS for its certification verification service programs. The ABMS Maintenance of Certification® program (ABMS MOC®), currently engages more than 500,000 physicians in MOC activities, is an evolution of ABMS Member Board Certification. ABMS is recognized by the key health care credentialing accreditation entities as a primary equivalent source of Board Certification data for medical specialists. Patients can find out for free if their physician is ABMS Member Board Certified by visiting www.CertificationMatters.org or calling toll-free 1-866-ASK-ABMS. For more information about ABMS, visit www.abms.org or call (312) 436-2600.

The 24 Member Boards that comprise the ABMS Member Boards Community and certify more than 800,000 physicians include the American Board of Allergy and Immunology, American Board of Anesthesiology, American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery, American Board of Dermatology, American Board of Emergency Medicine, American Board of Family Medicine, American Board of Internal Medicine, American Board of Medical Genetics and Genomics, American Board of Neurological Surgery, American Board of Nuclear Medicine, American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, American Board of Ophthalmology, American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery, American Board of Otolaryngology, American Board of Pathology, American Board of Pediatrics, American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, American Board of Plastic Surgery, American Board of Preventive Medicine, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, American Board of Radiology, American Board of Surgery, American Board of Thoracic Surgery and American Board of Urology.