



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**February 18, 2008**

**AMA FOUNDATION HONORS OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA PHYSICIAN FOR  
VOLUNTEERISM**

CHICAGO – Frank E. Staggers, Sr., M.D. of Oakland, Calif., is a recipient of the 2008 Jack B. McConnell, M.D. Award for Excellence in Volunteerism. Presented by the American Medical Association (AMA) Foundation, the award is given to senior domestic physicians for commitment to volunteer medical care to those without access to health care in the U.S. The AMA Foundation presents the award in association with the Pfizer Medical Humanities Initiative.

The award will be presented on Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, at the 2008 Excellence in Medicine Awards Ceremony preceding the AMA National Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C.

A veteran of the Army and the Navy, Dr. Staggers retired from active duty in the Navy in 1963 with the rank of Commander and then served in the Naval Reserve for 10 years. Dr. Staggers has dedicated his life to preventing disease, improving the health of all in the community, and eliminating racial and ethnic disparities. Dr. Staggers instituted Prostate Cancer Awareness Week, which today is the largest prostate screening program in the country. He was instrumental in the development of the AMA Minority Affairs Consortium, a national forum for advocacy on minority health issues and professional concerns of minority physicians and medical students. He is a key leader in the AMA's Commission to End Health Care Disparities and also heads the Ethnic Health Institute, a nonprofit program to unite medical professionals and community leaders to coordinate health services and outreach in underserved communities. He has mentored countless minority medical students, believing that a diverse physician workforce will help to build trust among minority patients and increase cultural competence and quality health care. Dr. Staggers is currently president of the California Medical Association Foundation. As a colleague has said, when you are with Dr. Staggers, "You can feel it. You can feel his compassion, you can feel his passion."

"Dr. Stagger's energy and involvement is endless," said AMA Foundation President Barbara Rockett, M.D. "His dedication to eliminating racial and ethnic health disparities is one of many important issues that he tackles."

As the philanthropic arm of the American Medical Association, the AMA Foundation is committed to advancing healthcare in America through programs in medical education, research and public health. For more information, please visit [www.amafoundation.org](http://www.amafoundation.org) or call (312) 464-4200.

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