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Savannah Pharmacist Ron Stephens Honored for Outstanding Community Service

Washington, DC – The Georgia Pharmacy Association (GPhA) has selected State Representative Ron Stephens as the recipient of the 2015 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. Rep. Stephens was presented with the award at the President's Inaugural Gala and Awards Banquet during the Georgia Pharmacy Convention on Saturday, July 11. The Bowl of Hygeia is sponsored by the American Pharmacists Association Foundation, the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations and the American Pharmacists Association with support from Boehringer Ingelheim.

Rep. Stephens is the owner of Quick Rx Drugs, Inc., in Savannah, Ga. He represents the 164th District in the Georgia House of Representatives and has been a member of the House for 17 years. He earned his pharmacy degree from Mercer University in Atlanta.

Rep. Stephens is chairman of the House Economic Development and Tourism Committee and is passionate about protecting and strengthening Georgia's tourism business and serving his community. He is also a member of the Appropriations, Rules, and Ways and Means Committees. He received the Leadership Award for efforts to bring non-traditional tourism industries over to the tourism side. Rep. Stephens is the co-author of the first floating homestead exemption in Georgia known as the STEPHENS-DAY Bill HB 350, which effectively freezes property taxes for the homeowner and now applies to more than 50 taxing districts in the state.

Rep. Stephens is a member of the Georgia Pharmacy Association and was selected as GPhA's Legislator of the Year. He is actively involved in his community through a variety of organizations, including Men's Breakfast Group, Chatham County Women's Group, Young Republicans, Rotary Club, and Pre-K reading program. He is the dean of the Chatham County Delegation, sponsors a Christmas program for children, and assists with home repairs and nighttime/weekend medication deliveries for the elderly.

Established in 1958, the Bowl of Hygeia Award recognizes pharmacists who possess outstanding records of civic leadership in their communities and encourages pharmacists to take active roles in the affairs of their respective communities. The award is presented annually by participating state pharmacist associations, including those in the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In addition to service through their local, state and national pharmacy associations, award recipients have devoted their time, talent and resources to a wide variety of causes and community service.

The Bowl of Hygeia is the most widely recognized international symbol for the pharmacy profession and is considered one of the profession's most prestigious awards. The Bowl of Hygeia has been associated with the pharmacy profession since as early as 1796 when the symbol was used on a coin minted for the Parisian Society of Pharmacy. The bowl represents a medicinal potion and the snake represents healing. Healing through medicine is precisely why the pharmacy profession has adopted the Bowl of Hygeia symbol.

About the American Pharmacists Association Foundation

The APhA Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., is a trusted source of research demonstrating how pharmacists can improve health care. The APhA Foundation's mission is to improve people's health through pharmacists' patient care services. The APhA Foundation is affiliated with the American Pharmacists Association, the national professional society of pharmacists in the U.S. For more information, please visit the APhA Foundation website www.aphafoundation.org. Follow the APhA Foundation on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) for the latest updates.

About the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations

The National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations (NASPA) promotes leadership, sharing, learning, and policy exchange among pharmacy leaders in all 50 states and Washington, DC, and provides education and advocacy to support pharmacists, patients, and communities working together to improve public health. NASPA was founded in 1927 as the National Council of State Pharmacy Association Executives (NCSPAEE). For more information, please visit the NASPA Web site www.naspa.us.