



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**October 24, 2014**

**Media Contacts:**

Megan Lewis  
Communications Manager  
American Pharmacists Association Foundation  
[mlewis@aphanet.org](mailto:mlewis@aphanet.org)  
(202) 588-2724

Nancy K. Longest  
Awards Coordinator  
National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations  
[awards@naspa.us](mailto:awards@naspa.us)  
(804) 285-4431

**Medford Pharmacist Erasmo A. Mitrano Honored for Outstanding Community Service**

**Washington, DC** – The Massachusetts Pharmacists Association (MPhA) has selected Erasmo A. Mitrano, MS, R.Ph., as the recipient of the 2014 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. Mitrano was presented with the award during the MPhA Annual Installation and Awards Banquet on October 23, 2014. 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.

Mitrano is an employee of Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and resides in Medford, Mass. He is a graduate of Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

As a pharmacy supervisor at MGH, Mitrano was also a volunteer with MGH's International Medical and Surgical Response Team (IMSuRT) East. IMSuRT East is one of the three national Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) teams that are highly specialized, trained and equipped to establish a full, free-standing field surgical facility anywhere in the world. Mitrano spent many hours on training retreats learning how to be a part of an emergency response team by setting up tents and familiarizing himself with ventilators, defibrillators and other types of equipment.

As a volunteer with IMSuRT East in 2010, Mitrano was part of the Hurricane Katrina emergency response and the relief efforts for the earthquake in Haiti. He is known for his courageous service.

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.

Information regarding contributing to the Bowl of Hygeia future is available by contacting the APhA Foundation at 202-429-7565 or [info@aphafoundation.org](mailto:info@aphafoundation.org).

**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](http://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](http://www.naspa.us).