**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Alabama Pharmacist Ronda Lacey Honored for Outstanding Community Service**

**WASHINGTON, DC –** The Alabama Pharmacy Association (APA) has selected Ronda Lacey, RPh, JD, as the recipient of the 2018 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. Lacey was presented the award at the Alabama Annual Convention – 2nd General Session on Monday, June 11, 2018. 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.

Lacey has contributed to her community since graduating from the Auburn University in 1995. She began her pharmacy career in an independent pharmacy in 1996. She currently serves as an academia pharmacist and has been a member of her state pharmacy association for over 15 years and is actively engaged in the practice of pharmacy, pharmacy administration and pharmacy law.

Lacey currently serves as Commander and Team Leader of AL-1 DMAT (Disaster Medical Assistance Team) where she coordinates a medical team, medical services and pharmaceutical needs during natural disasters and emergencies. She was most recently deployed to Puerto Rico to aid in recovery from Hurricane Maria. She has served as an Adjunct Professor at McWhorter School of Pharmacy where she taught Pharmacy Law and other legal topics thru the Department of Pharmaceutical, Social and Administrative Sciences.  She presents numerous Pharmacy Law seminars throughout the year, and handles pharmacy related legal issues and risk assessment consultations for pharmacists and pharmacies throughout the state.

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 an active role 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](http://www.aphafoundation.org/). Follow the APhA Foundation on [Twitter](http://www.twitter.com/aphafoundation) and [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/aphafoundation) 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 (NCSPAE). For more information, please visit the NASPA website [www.naspa.us](http://www.naspa.us).