



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Shawnee Pharmacist Gordon S. Richards, Jr., Honored for Outstanding Community Service**

**Washington, DC** – The Oklahoma Pharmacists Association (OPhA) has selected Gordon S Richards, Jr., as the recipient of the 2015 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. Richards was presented with the award at the 2015 Mid-America Pharmacy Conference & Expo on Friday, September 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.

Richards is the owner of The Clinic Pharmacy, an independent community pharmacy in Shawnee, Okla. He represents the fourth generation of his family to practice pharmacy in Oklahoma. He earned his pharmacy degree from the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy.

Richards is actively involved in the pharmacy profession at both the state and national level. He is past president of the Oklahoma Pharmacists Association, Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy, Pharmacy Providers of Oklahoma, and Oklahoma Pharmacy Heritage Foundation. He is also a member of the National Community Pharmacists Association, American Institute of History of Pharmacy, and American Society of Consultant Pharmacists.

Outside of the pharmacy arena, Richards plays a number of roles within his local community. He is a member of his church choir and the Jaycees, past president of Lions International and the YMCA, and director of the Chamber of Commerce. He is also active in the Central City Association. Richards is past president of the OU Alumni Association and a First Lieutenant in the United States Air Force Medical Service Corps.

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](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 (NCSPA). For more information, please visit the NASPA Web site [www.naspa.us](http://www.naspa.us).