

Emergency Physician Advocacy Award to Be Presented at Ohio ACEP Emergency Medicine Assembly to Michael J. McCrea, MD, FACEP

Columbus, OH—The Ohio Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (Ohio ACEP) is pleased to announce that the recipient of the 2019 *Emergency Physician Advocacy Award* is **Michael J. McCrea, MD, FACEP**.

Ohio ACEP established the Emergency Physician Advocacy Award to celebrate leadership in legislative advocacy efforts on behalf of emergency medicine. Recipients of the award advocate for their specialty, their communities, and their patients.

Dr. Michael McCrea—an attending emergency physician at Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center in Toledo and Assistant Program Director of the Mercy St. Vincent Emergency Medicine Residency—perfectly embodies each of these qualities. Dr. McCrea has been active in advocacy activities with Ohio ACEP for years and championed the recently enacted House Bill 7 (132nd General Assembly), a liability reform bill to strengthen Ohio’s “I’m Sorry” law and promote open and honest communication between physicians and patients.



**Michael J. McCrea, MD,
FACEP**
Recipient of the 2019
Emergency Physician
Advocacy Award

Dr. McCrea took it upon himself to champion HB 7, dedicating many hours to interested party meetings, testifying before legislative committees, and working with legislators and stakeholders. Dr. McCrea’s interest in the legislation was deeply personal, and he testified to House and Senate committees about a difficult case that illustrated the need to strengthen the state’s “I’m Sorry” law. Following the death of a 20-month old burn victim for whom Dr. McCrea and his team provided care, Dr. McCrea wished he could speak to the child’s mother about the difficult case, though his attorneys advised strongly against any contact. Dr. McCrea’s story profoundly demonstrated that, after an adverse medical event, no healthcare provider should have to consider their own legal protection before reaching out to patients and family members to discuss the case, express sympathy, or even offer comfort and support. Thanks in part to Dr. McCrea’s efforts over the course of two years, HB 7 passed both the Ohio House and Senate and was signed into law by then-Gov. John Kasich in late 2018.

Dr. McCrea was nominated collectively by the Ohio ACEP Executive Committee: Drs. John Queen, Purva Grover, Bradley Raetzke, Ryan Squier, and Nicole Veitinger. In their nomination letter, they praised Dr. McCrea’s tireless work, calling it the “perfect illustration of the power of an emergency physician committed to making a difference.”

The Emergency Physician Advocacy Award will be presented to Dr. McCrea on March 20 at the Ohio ACEP Emergency Medicine Assembly in Columbus. Congratulations to Dr. McCrea on his well-deserved accolade!

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Ohio ACEP is a state medical specialty society representing emergency medicine physicians with more than 1,500 members. For more than 40 years, Ohio ACEP has served the state’s emergency physicians through tireless advocacy, nationally recognized continuing medical education, and physician leadership development.

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