



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Media Contacts:**

Michelle Fritts  
Manager of External Communications  
American Pharmacists Association  
[mfritts@aphanet.org](mailto:mfritts@aphanet.org)  
(202) 429-7558

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

**Alaska Pharmacist, Romie Deschamps, Honored for Outstanding Community Service**

**Washington, DC** – The Alaska Pharmacists Association (AkPhA) has selected Romie Deschamps as the recipient of the 2011 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. The Award is sponsored by the American Pharmacists Association Foundation and the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations.

Deschamps, of Palmer, Alaska, has practiced pharmacy in Alaska for 34 years and has sponsored exchange students through his involvement with the Rotary. Mr. Deschamps is an artist who has taught and volunteered his time and has donated his work to display in retirement centers as well as the Alaska Pharmacists Association.

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 is affiliated with the American Pharmacists Association, the national professional society of pharmacists in the U.S. The APhA Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., works to design solutions to medication use problems in America. The APhA Foundation's mission is to improve the quality of consumer health outcomes affected by pharmacy. For more information, please visit the APhA Foundation website <http://www.aphafoundation.org/>.

**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).

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