



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 23, 2020

Contact: Kay Whalen (kwhalen@aaem.org)  
Executive Director, AAEM  
Phone: 800-884-2236

Missy Zagroba (mzagroba@aaem.org)  
Associate Executive Director, AAEM  
Phone: 800-884-2236

### **AAEM Creates Position Statement Advocating for Immunity From Malpractice Litigation During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

MILWAUKEE — In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, physicians are being asked to make difficult clinical decisions with limited resources. Patient care decisions that may be best for an individual patient may not be feasible or appropriate when viewed in context of the entire population. On March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a nationwide emergency pursuant to Section 501(b) of the Stafford Act. The American Academy of Emergency Medicine calls for the federal government to provide immunity from malpractice litigation for medical care that occurs during the period this nationwide emergency remains in effect.

###

*The American Academy of Emergency Medicine (AAEM) is the specialty society of emergency medicine and the champion of the emergency physician.*

#### **OFFICERS**

DAVID A. FARCY, MD FCCM  
President  
Miami Beach, FL

LISA A. MORENO, MD MS MSCR FIFEM  
President-Elect  
New Orleans, LA

JONATHAN S. JONES, MD  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Jackson, MS

MARK REITER, MD MBA  
Immediate Past President  
Brentwood, TN

JOSEPH WOOD, MD JD  
Past Presidents Council Representative  
Cave Creek, AZ

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

KEVIN BEIER, MD  
Brentwood, TN

ROBERT FROLICHSTEIN, MD  
San Antonio, TX

L.E. GOMEZ, MD MBA  
Annapolis, MD

BOBBY KAPUR, MD MPH CPE  
Edgeworth, PA

EVIE MARCOLINI, MD FCCM  
Sharon, VT

TERRENCE MULLIGAN, DO MPH  
Baltimore, MD

CAROL PAK-TENG, MD  
Summit, NJ

THOMAS TOBIN, MD MBA  
Grand Junction, CO

#### **YPS DIRECTOR**

PHILLIP DIXON, MD MPH  
Columbus, OH

#### **AAEM/RSA PRESIDENT**

HAIG AINTABLIAN, MD  
Glendale, CA

#### **EDITOR, JEM**

#### **EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBER**

STEPHEN R. HAYDEN, MD  
San Diego, CA

#### **EDITOR, COMMON SENSE**

#### **EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBER**

ANDY MAYER, MD  
New Orleans, LA

---

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

KAY WHALEN, MBA CAE

#### **ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

MISSY ZAGROBA, CAE

**AMERICAN ACADEMY OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE**

555 East Wells Street, Suite 1100, Milwaukee, WI 53202-3823

(800) 884-2236 • info@aaem.org • www.aaem.org