

**FRED M. JACOBS, MD, JD, TO RECEIVE
PETER W. RODINO, JR., CITIZEN'S AWARD®**

Lawrenceville, NJ – January 6, 2009 – Paul J. Hirsch, MD, Chairman of the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Foundation, today announced that Fred M. Jacobs, MD, JD, will receive the Peter W. Rodino, Jr., Citizen's Award®. The award will be presented at the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Awards® ceremony on May 6, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Princeton.

The Peter W. Rodino, Jr., Citizen's Award™ is presented annually to a citizen or group of citizens of New Jersey who merits recognition for distinguished service in advancing and promoting the health and well being of the people of our state. Fred M. Jacobs, MD, JD, is an Executive Vice President for the Saint Barnabas Health Care System and Director of the Saint Barnabas Quality Institute. He is Board Certified in both Internal Medicine and Pulmonary Disease. Dr. Jacobs is the former Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services appointed by Acting Governor Codey in December 2004 and reappointed by Governor Corzine in 2006. Among many initiatives taken by Dr. Jacobs during his tenure as Commissioner was an important role in the enactment of the New Jersey Smoke Free Air Act signed by Governor Codey in January 2006. He also led major statewide initiatives for management of childhood asthma, diabetes and childhood obesity as well as avoidance of second hand smoke exposure by children in homes and cars.

“Dr. Jacobs is an eminent leader, physician, educator, administrator and humanitarian,” stated Paul J. Hirsch, MD. “His distinguished career as an advocate for public health honors the memory of Senator Peter W. Rodino, Jr., for whom the Citizen's Award is named.”

The other 2009 awardees include:

- Edward J. Ill Physician's Award®: Kenneth G. Swan, MD
- Outstanding Medical Educator Award: Nagaswami S. Vasan, DVM, PhD
- Outstanding Medical Research Scientist Award for Clinical Research: Joseph R. Bertino, MD
- Outstanding Medical Research Scientist Award for Basic Biomedical Research: Aaron J. Shatkin, PhD
- Outstanding Medical Executive Award: Gary S. Carter, FACHE
- Verice M. Mason Community Service Leader Award: John W. Beckley, MPH, on behalf of Hunterdon County Partnership for Health
- Special Award: Jill A. Lipoti, PhD, for protecting the people of New Jersey from unnecessary exposure to radiation from natural and man-made sources

The awards will be presented at the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Awards® ceremony on May 6, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Princeton. To purchase tickets or advertisements for the event or to learn more about the awards, contact the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Foundation at 609-803-2350 or visit www.EJlawards.org. Profits from this year's event will benefit the Community Food Bank of New Jersey and the Joetta Clark Diggs Sports Foundation's Head 2 Toe Fitness Program. The awards program is sponsored by MDAdvantage Insurance Company of New Jersey, a leading provider of medical professional liability insurance in New Jersey.