

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Los Angeles General Medical Center Celebrates Dr.
Lawrence M. Opas, Recipient of the ACGME 2025 John C.
Gienapp Distinguished Service Award**

LOS ANGELES, CA – Los Angeles General Medical Center proudly announces that Lawrence M. Opas, MD, Senior Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education (GME) at the Keck School of Medicine of USC and Designated Institutional Official (DIO) at LA General Medical Center, has been honored with the prestigious [John C. Gienapp Distinguished Service Award](#) from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). Dr. Opas will be recognized during the ACGME's 2025 Annual Educational Conference, scheduled for February 20-22, 2025, in Nashville, Tennessee.

The John C. Gienapp Distinguished Service Award—one of the highest honors in graduate medical education—recognizes individuals who have dedicated their careers to advancing the quality of residency and fellowship programs. This award celebrates sustained contributions that have a lasting impact on the field.

For over five decades, Dr. Opas has been a cornerstone of medical education at LA General Medical Center, one of the nation's foremost teaching institutions. Under his leadership, the medical center has maintained its status as a top training ground for future physicians, overseeing 71 residency and fellowship programs across various specialties.

LA General Medical Center, operated by the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services (DHS), is a Level One Trauma Center and one of the country's premier academic teaching hospitals. With more than 600 beds, the medical center provides essential care to patients across Southern California, including specialized services through its Burn Center, Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and dedicated Psychiatric and Pediatric Emergency Rooms.

As the busiest emergency department and trauma center in the largest county in the U.S., LA General Medical Center delivers world-class care in a wide array of specialties. The medical center excels in both trauma and primary care, serving as a crucial healthcare provider for the community. Moreover, as a premier teaching hospital, LA General Medical Center has trained countless doctors who now practice throughout the country, advancing medicine on a national scale.

"Dr. Opas's exceptional leadership and unwavering dedication have elevated both our institution and the field of graduate medical education," said Brad Spellberg, MD, Chief Medical Officer at Los Angeles General Medical Center. "His lifelong passion for educating future physicians and enhancing patient care has had a profound impact, not only here at LA General but across the healthcare industry. We are incredibly proud to celebrate his achievements and contributions."

Throughout his career, Dr. Opas has played an essential role in shaping graduate medical education at LA General Medical Center. Since 2001, he has served as the DIO, ensuring the institution's accreditation and the continued excellence of its residency and fellowship programs. Dr. Opas has also made significant contributions to the ACGME, including his service on the Institutional Review Committee and his role as co-chair of the Sponsoring Institution 2025 Task Force. In 2012, he was awarded the ACGME Parker J. Palmer Courage to Lead Award, recognizing his

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