



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts:

Mary Fenimore
Manager of Community Relations & Communications
Medical Society of Delaware
(302) 366-1074

Stacey Inglis
Vice President of Marketing
University & Whist Club
(302) 658-5125 ext. 102

2019 Tilton Award to Honor Nicholas J. Petrelli, M.D. Medical Director of the Helen Graham Cancer Center and Research Institute

Wilmington, Delaware October 2, 2019 The 2019 Tilton Award Dinner for medical achievement in the State of Delaware will take place on Friday, Oct. 4, 2019 from 6:00–9:00 p.m. in the ballroom of the Tilton Mansion, home to The University and Whist Club. This year the Tilton Award will be presented to Nicholas J. Petrelli, M.D., FACS, Medical Director of the Helen Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute. Lt. Gov. Bethany Hall-Long and Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester will be on hand to help celebrate this prestigious recognition.

Among his many medical accomplishments throughout his nearly five decade career, Petrelli is credited with helping take the State of Delaware from number one in cancer mortality to number eighteen during his tenure as Medical Director, where he oversees the state's largest and most technologically advanced cancer program. Recognized both nationally and internationally as an expert on colorectal cancer, *Good Housekeeping* and *American Health* magazines listed him among the best doctors in the nation and as one of the top 100 cancer physicians in the United States.

The Tilton Award, named after James Tilton, MD, a revolutionary war surgeon, founder and first President of the Medical Society of Delaware in 1789, and the first Army Surgeon General, is given annually to a Delaware physician who exhibits superior leadership, vision, innovation, and who has shown a life-long commitment to service for the betterment of patients, local community, and the nation. Previous recipients of the Tilton Award include Stephen Permut, M.D., J.D., who is presently a professor of Family and Community Medicine at the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University and G. Dean MacEwen, MD, an endowed chair for the Department of Orthopedics of Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children.

Nominees for the Tilton Award are vetted and selected by a panel comprised of board members from the Medical Society of Delaware, the Tilton Mansion Preservation Society, and the University and Whist Club. Each year, the Tilton Award honoree receives a bronze bust of Tilton, commissioned to local sculptress Olga Nielsen in 2016.

This year an honorary Tilton Award will be presented posthumously to the late William H. Duncan, MD for his tireless service to his country and the practice of medicine. Dr. Duncan, a Past President of the Medical Society of Delaware and Vice President for Ambulatory Services for Wilmington Medical Center, passed away suddenly in December.

The Medical Society of Delaware has partnered with the Tilton Mansion home to the University and Whist Club, with this year's sponsors including Brown & Brown Private Client Insurance, Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition, and USI Insurance Services.

The festivities will include remarks from Lt. Gov. Bethany Hall-Long and Medical Society of Delaware President, Andrew Dahlke, M.D.; music from Second Opinion Jazz Duo; hors d'oeuvres and a three-course gourmet dinner. Individual or table tickets are available online at <http://bit.ly/TiltonAward2019> or by calling (302) 658-5125.

###

About the Medical Society of Delaware

The Medical Society of Delaware is the third oldest institutions of its kind in the United States and rich in history. Founded in 1776 and incorporated on February 3, 1789, the Medical Society of Delaware continues its support of physicians in their vigor and spirit to advance the profession, which was the basis for its creation. Its mission is "To guide, serve and support Delaware Physicians, promoting the practice and profession of medicine to enhance the health of our communities."