



State of West Virginia *Board of Medicine*

AHMED DAVER FAHEEM, MD
PRESIDENT

RAHUL GUPTA, MD, MPH
SECRETARY

101 Dee Drive, Suite 103
Charleston, WV 25311
Telephone 304.558.2921
Fax 304.558.2084
www.wvbom.wv.gov

KISHORE K. CHALLA, MD, FACC
VICE PRESIDENT

MARK A. SPANGLER, MA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Contact:

Mark A. Spangler, Executive Director
(304) 558-2921
Mark.A.Spanger@wv.gov

For Immediate Release: May 15, 2017

Knittle Receives Distinguished Service Award

Charleston, WV – Robert C. Knittle, former executive director of the West Virginia Board of Medicine, received a Distinguished Service Award from the Federation of State Medical Board during the national organization's recent annual meeting in Fort Worth, Texas.

"Bob certainly made us all proud," said board president Dr. Ahmed Faheem, who accepted the award on Knittle's behalf. Knittle was one of three distinguished service honorees.

During his 11-year tenure at the Board of Medicine, Knittle was known as a strong advocate for protecting the public, while modernizing systems and processes which regulate the practice of physicians, podiatrists and physician assistants in West Virginia.

He retired at the end of 2016, and was succeeded by Mark A. Spangler as executive director.

At the Legislature, Knittle shepherded updates to the state's Medical Practice Act and the board's rules to incorporate rapid changes in the health care industry. In 2014, Knittle led the Board of Medicine's advocacy for the enactment of the West Virginia Physician Assistants Practice Act, which overhauled and modernized the licensure and regulation of physician assistants in the state.

Knittle also represented the board through memberships and affiliations with national professional associations, including the Federation of State Medical Boards and Administrators in Medicine. Knittle served as a commissioner for the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission, which enhances license portability among member states for physicians.

The West Virginia Board of Medicine is the sole authority for the issuance of licenses to practice medicine and surgery, to practice podiatry, and to practice as a physician assistant for a medical doctor (M.D.) in the state of West Virginia, and is the regulatory and disciplinary body for medical doctors, podiatrists and their physician assistants.