

## For Immediate Release

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### **Donald B. Wagner, LFACHE, Receives ACHE's Lifetime Service Award**

**CHICAGO, January 14, 2009**—Donald B. Wagner, LFACHE, has been named the recipient of the American College of Healthcare Executives Lifetime Service Award. Wagner will receive the award on Tuesday, March 24, 2009, at the Malcolm T. MacEachern Memorial Lecture and Luncheon during ACHE's 52nd Congress on Healthcare Leadership in Chicago.

The Lifetime Service Award was established in 2000 to recognize a healthcare executive who has made substantial contributions to ACHE during his or her career. It is awarded to a Life Fellow or Retired Fellow who has made significant contributions to ACHE through elected office, has served on ACHE committees or task forces and has participated in ACHE activities or affiliated groups.

Wagner began his healthcare career in 1952 in the United States Air Force as a physical therapist but was encouraged to transition to healthcare management. From 1955 to 1962 he held various Air Force medical administrative posts in England and Texas.

Following his time in clinical settings, from 1962 to 1975 Wagner was stationed at a number of U.S. Air Force headquarters operations.

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He served in Washington, D.C., as Staff Officer in the Consultant's Division, Directorate of Professional Services Office of the Surgeon General; Headquarters, U.S. Air Force Europe in Wiesbaden, Germany, as Chief, Facilities and Financial Programs, Office of the Surgeon; at Randolph Air Force Base as Chief, Medical Corps Assignments and Utilization, Air Force Military Personnel Center; and at Sheppard Air Force Base as Deputy Commander, School of Health Care Sciences.

Wagner returned to clinical setting from 1975 to 1982. During this period, Wagner was promoted to Brigadier General, the first time in the Air Force Medical Service Corps' 30-year history that a nonphysician hospital administrator was promoted to that rank. With this promotion he was named the U.S. Air Force Deputy Surgeon General for Operations, and Commander, Air Force Medical Service Center, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force. He retired from the Air Force in 1982.

During his service in the military, Wagner played an instrumental role in the Air Force's decision to allow Medical Service Corps officers to receive funding support for membership in professional society organizations such as ACHE.

Following his career in the Air Force, from 1982 to 1985 Wagner served as associate vice president for Hospital Operations and hospital administrator at the University of Texas System Cancer Center, M. D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute in Houston, and from 1985 to 1991 as vice president and CEO of Memorial Southwest Hospital in Houston. He then went on to serve as an internal consultant at Memorial Hermann Healthcare System in Houston, where he remained until 2004. He is currently a healthcare consultant in his privately-owned business.

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Wagner has been a member of many professional organizations and continues to serve in leadership roles for a number of them. He is a member and past chairman of the board of trustees, Texas Institute for Health Policy Research, Texas Hospital Association, and member, Advisory Board, Graduate Programs in Healthcare Administration at Texas A&M University, Baylor University and the Texas Women's University.

Wagner received an ACHE Service Award in 2008 and the Regent's Award in 2004. He has served on many ACHE committees and currently is on the Management Series Editorial Board and serves on the Regents Advisory Council.

He received his master's degree in hospital administration from Baylor University in Waco, Texas, and his bachelor's of science degree in physical therapy from the College of Physicians & Surgeons at Columbia University in New York, N.Y.

#### **American College of Healthcare Executives**

The American College of Healthcare Executives is an international professional society of more than 30,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE is known for its prestigious credentialing and educational programs and its annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership, which draws more than 4,500 participants each year. ACHE's established network of more than 80 chapters provides access to networking, education and career development at the local level. In addition, ACHE is known for its magazine, *Healthcare Executive*, and its journals, the *Journal of Healthcare Management* and *Frontiers of Health Services Management*, as well as groundbreaking research and career development and public policy programs. ACHE's publishing division, Health Administration Press, is one of the largest publishers of books and journals on all aspects of health services management in addition to textbooks for use in college and university courses. Through such efforts, ACHE works toward its goal of being the premier professional society for healthcare leaders by providing exceptional value to its members.

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