Dear all:

Below is a summary of MAG’s activities over the last few weeks. As always, please feel free to pass this update onto others. My previous updates can be found at http://www.mag.org/resources/executive-directors-message.

**MAG Foundation and Think About It Campaign**
Great news. We have had an anonymous donor recently pledge to match all new donations up to $10,000 for the 100 Mile Endurance Race Trey Reese and I are doing for the Think About It Campaign. Trey and I will each run 100 miles and have to complete our run within 30 hours. Please see the following for the announcement on the anonymous donor - http://www.mag.org/news/articles/tai-run-match. Please consider a donation, which can be made online at http://www.mag.org/news/articles/run-promo. To date, we have raised over $22,000.

**Recovery Audit Contractors**
MAG President, Manoj Shah, MD, sent a letter requesting CMS address a backlog of RAC claims. CMS has responded with a summary of the concerns being addressed. Please go to http://www.mag.org/news/articles/backlog-appeal for more information.

**US Supreme Court Decision**
Recently, the US Supreme Court found that the North Carolina Board of Dentistry suppressed competition by not allowing non dentists the authority to whiten teeth. The Court found the “state action” doctrine exemption for antitrust did not apply. The ruling may have a significant impact on professional licensing boards across the country. More information can be found at http://www.mag.org/news/articles/reg-boards. Organized medicine is assessing the ruling and we will have more information forthcoming.

**Tort Reform**
We have recently sent Congressman Tom Price, MD, a letter thanking him for his work on the SGR and asking him to include the Provider Shield Act in the SGR bill. The Provider Shield Act is a law we passed in Georgia in 2013 that states that private and public payer policies cannot be used to determine the standard of care. This piece of legislation would protect physicians and all healthcare providers from potential causes of action as a result of new federal payment policies. For more information, please go to http://www.mag.org/news/articles/shah-price-sgr.
ICD-10
We continue our advocacy, along with the AMA and others, in asking for a delay in ICD-10. More information can be found at http://www.mag.org/news/articles/icd10-final.

Donald

Donald J. Palmisano, Jr.
Executive Director/CEO
Medical Association of Georgia
1849 The Exchange
Suite 200
Atlanta, Georgia 30339
678-303-9290 (Phone)
678-303-3732 (Fax)
404-312-9030 (Mobile)

The leading voice for the medical profession in Georgia...every physician in every specialty.

Click to help MAG's CEO raise $25K to reduce Rx drug abuse when he runs 100 miles on March 28-29