William G. Anderson, DO, Honored with
National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners’ Santucci Award

NEWS RELEASE
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Philadelphia, PA, December 19, 2016 – William G. Anderson, DO, a distinguished osteopathic physician and surgeon, educator, hospital administrator, and a well-known civil rights leader and speaker, was awarded the Santucci Award, the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners’ (NBOME) highest honor, on December 9, 2016.

Dr. Anderson, a professor of surgery and Senior Advisor to the Dean at the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, holds the distinction of being the first African American on the American Osteopathic Association Board of Trustees and served as the President of the American Osteopathic Association in 1994 and 1995. He also served as Associate Dean of the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine and as Clinical Professor of Osteopathic Surgery at Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Anderson was an active member of the NBOME Board of Directors from 2003 through 2014 and was member of its Executive Committee from 2007 to 2010.

Born in Americus, Georgia in 1927, Dr. Anderson attended Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine. In Albany, Georgia, he was prevented from treating patients because of segregationist policies in 1957. In response, he founded and became the first president of the Albany Movement, which worked to register African American voters and devised ways to end racial segregation. With this achievement, Dr. Anderson became a pioneer in the Civil Rights Movement and was a personal friend and colleague of Dr. Martin Luther King. A member of the Physicians for Social Responsibility, he is a speaker on osteopathic medicine and civil rights topics. In 2014, the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine’s award-winning civil rights lecture series was renamed as the “Dr. William G. Anderson Lecture Series: Slavery to Freedom.”

In presenting the award to Dr. Anderson, NBOME Board Chair Gary L. Slick, DO, MA, Chief Academic Officer and Director of Medical Education at the Oklahoma State University Medical Center, said, “The Santucci Award is awarded to an individual for his or her sustained outstanding contributions to the mission of the NBOME… protecting the public by providing the means to assess competencies for osteopathic medicine and related health care professions. It is with great appreciation and honor that we acknowledge Dr. Anderson’s contributions to the NBOME, its mission, and indeed the profession at large.”

The NBOME is the leading assessment organization for the osteopathic medical profession. NBOME’s COMLEX-USA examination series is a requirement for graduation from colleges of osteopathic medicine and provides the pathway to licensure for osteopathic physicians in the United States and numerous international jurisdictions.

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