



December 28, 2023

To: Medical State Society of New York (MSSNY) Council
Dr. Paul Pipia, President, MSSNY
Mr. William Latreille, Speaker of the House of Delegates
Mr. Carlos L. Zapata, Vice-Speaker of the House of Delegates
Mr. Troy Oeschner, Executive Vice President, MSSNY
Ms. Valerie Cammisso, Vice President, Membership, MSSNY
Ms. Brenda Van Nest, Director, Membership Development, MSSNY
Ms. Robyn Cangemi, Administrative Assistant, MSSNY

Cc: Monroe County Medical Society Leadership: Dr. Hemant Kalia, President, Dr. Janine Fogarty, President-Elect, Dr. Mathew Devine, DO, Immediate Past-President

From: Lucia Castillejo, CEO, MCMS

Re: **Dr. Michael Privitera: Request for Life Member Exception**

The Monroe County Medical Society (MCMS) would like to formally request a life membership exception for Dr. Michael Privitera. He joined MSSNY and MCMS in 1986 and was a member for over ten (10) consecutive years at that time. He had a break from membership while being an employed physician while putting three (3) children through college but rejoined again to be just shy of the 10-year consecutive year requirement at retirement to be eligible (by MSSNY policy) for Life Membership. He served in a MSSNY Leadership position as Past Chair, MSSNY Task Force on Physician Stress and Burnout (2015-2019) and has remained on the MSSNY Wellness and Resilience Committee as Chair Emeritus since then. He continues to serve the MCMS and MSSNY in multiple capacities. Dr. Privitera's contributions to MCMS are many - below are some examples:

- 1) **Physician Wellness:** MCMS: Dr. Privitera has served as the Co-Chair and primary force behind leading our Wellness Committee for the past several years; and at MSSNY: committee member for Physician Resiliency Committee
- 2) **Patient Clinician Alliance (PCA):** a key member to the development of the new PCA, Dr. Privitera's leadership and clinical background are critical to executing this new and innovative program that brings the voices of physicians and patients to the forefront to drive much needed systemic change in healthcare.
- 3) **MCMS Board of Directors:** Dr. Privitera serves as an active, engaged member who provides consistent insight and guidance on the Board of Directors.
- 4) **MCMS Community Health Consortium (CHC) Member:** formerly the Quality Collaborative (QC), Dr. Privitera's insight and input continues to propel the CHC forward.

MCMS is indebted to Dr. Privitera for his long-term commitment to the organization and the significant amount of time he continues to generously give every week. His level of commitment and dedication to MCMS and physician wellbeing is outstanding – even in his retirement days.

Since he needed to step down from a coaching/consulting position with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement Workplace Change Collaborative due to health issues, he will not be able to justify future retired physician membership dues (under the current policy) as he and his wife live on a limited income in retirement. MCMS does not want to risk losing Dr. Privitera's membership; his wisdom and experience not only helps the MCMS but also the physicians that are still working and in the fray of a poor healthcare system.

Please consider granting Dr. Privitera an exception for life membership. Thank you.