OC Health Official Honored for Global Leadership

(Santa Ana, CA) — Dr. Samuel Stratton, Medical Director for the Health Care Agency’s Emergency Medical Services division, has been honored with the 2013 Award for Global Leadership in Emergency Public Health from the World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine (WADEM).

The award is presented every two years by the organization for distinguished global leadership in advancing the science of emergency public health and improving humanitarian relief efforts. Past honorees include Dr. Chen Zhu, China’s Minister of Health, in 2011, and Nan Buzard, head of internal disaster response for the American Red Cross, in 2009.

Health Care Agency Director Mark Refowitz praised Dr. Stratton for his leadership in Orange County and beyond. “Congratulations are definitely deserved in recognition of his great work and passion to save lives,” Refowitz said.

In addition to his critical role for Orange County, Dr. Stratton is a Professor in the UCLA School of Public Health and is a faculty member of the UCLA Center for Public Health and Disasters. He practices Emergency Medicine at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, where he is Clinical Professor of Medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine. He also is the Editor-in-Chief of Prehospital and Disaster Medicine.

Dr. Stratton, who lives in Huntington Beach, has worked for the Health Care Agency since November 2006. He received his Medical Degree from the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, and completed his residency in Internal Medicine at the University of California, Irvine. Dr. Stratton received a Masters in Public Health from UCLA in 1999 and is board-certified in both Emergency Medicine and Internal Medicine.

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