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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Delaware Sports Medicine Surgeon, Michael J. Axe, MD Receives AOSSM's Highest Award**

**BALTIMORE, MD** – Michael J. Axe, MD of First State Orthopaedics in Newark, Delaware was presented with the 2012 Robert E. Leach Mr. Sports Medicine award during the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine's (AOSSM) Annual Meeting in Baltimore, MD on Saturday, July 14th. This prestigious award is given annually to honor those who have made a significant contribution to the world of sports medicine and includes a \$5,000 donation to the winner's charity of choice. It is one of the top awards the Society presents each year. Dr. Axe is the 39th recipient of this distinguished award.



Dr. Axe received his bachelor of science in biology in 1975 from Bucknell University and then his MD from Thomas Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia in 1979. He followed this with an internship at Thomas Jefferson University and then his surgical residency in 1980 at the Medical Center of Delaware. He went on to do an orthopaedic residency at the University of Pittsburgh from 1981-1984 and then an orthopaedic sports medicine fellowship at the Hughston Clinic in Georgia in 1984. He also completed another orthopaedic trauma fellowship at Harborview Hospital in Seattle in 1985.

He currently serves as the Director for the All Sports Clinic of Delaware at First State Orthopaedics, where he is also a founding partner. Dr. Axe also has many roles at the University of Delaware, including clinical professor, medical director for the University of Delaware Sports Physical Therapy Residency Program and staff member for the Center for Biomedical Engineering Research. In addition, he is an active member of the teaching staff at the Medical Center of Delaware.

Dr. Axe enjoys serving and leading his local community and has been a medical director or consultant for numerous professional, college and high school teams in the area and volunteers with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Delaware.

During his more than 30 years in orthopaedics, Dr. Axe has received numerous awards, including:

- American Physical Therapy Association, Sports Physical Therapy Section's Jack Hughston Sports Physician Award (2007)
- Rose Excellence in Research Award for best published paper (2008)
- James R. Andrews Award for Excellence in Baseball Sports Medicine (2009)
- University of Delaware, Barbara Cossoy Service Award (1993)
- Goldey Beacom College Service Award (2000)
- Wilmington College Athletics Hall of Fame, Team Physician (2005)
- Bucknell University Athletics Hall of Fame, Football (2007)
- Medical Society of Delaware, President's Award (2008)

Additionally, Dr. Axe has been an extensive researcher throughout his career and written more than 85 articles for a variety of peer-reviewed journals and is a sought-after presenter at scientific conferences around the world.

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The American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (AOSSM) is a world leader in sports medicine education, research, communication and fellowship, and includes national and international orthopaedic sports medicine leaders. The Society works closely with many other sports medicine specialists, including athletic trainers, physical therapists, family physicians, and others to improve the identification, prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation of sports injuries. AOSSM is also a founding partner of the [STOP Sports Injuries](http://www.stopsportsinjuries.org) campaign to prevent overuse and traumatic injuries in kids. For more information on AOSSM or the STOP Sports Injuries campaign, visit [www.sportsmed.org](http://www.sportsmed.org) or [www.stopsportsinjuries.org](http://www.stopsportsinjuries.org)