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HATTIESBURG PHYSICIAN NAMED MISSISSIPPI'S NEW FAMILY PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR

RIDGELAND – Jeremy B. Wells, MD, of Hattiesburg, was honored as **New Physician of the Year 2018** by the Mississippi Academy of Family Physicians (MAFP) at its Annual Meeting in July.

This is the first year the award has been presented by the MAFP Awards Committee, comprised of family physicians who are past winners of the MAFP Family Physician of the Year award. Individuals who earn the New Physician award must be less than seven years post-residency. They must be community leaders who prioritize patients in their care and make a contribution to the family medicine profession.

Since 2015, Dr. Wells has served as a sports medicine physician at Hattiesburg Clinic, where he is active in sports coverage and team physician duties.

A native of Raleigh, Miss., Dr. Wells graduated from Raleigh High School and the University of Mississippi, where he was part of the Sally McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College. After completing medical school at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) in 2011, he stayed at UMMC for his 3-year family medicine residency. After residency, Dr. Wells completed a 1-year fellowship in primary care sports medicine at UMMC.

MISSION: Dedicated to advancing the specialty of Family Medicine and improving the health of all people in Mississippi.

Dr. Wells distinguished himself from the earliest part of his career by his passion for medical student and resident education. The Family Medicine Department at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) presented him with the Gary W. Jeffcoats Teaching Award for 2012-13 while he was a family medicine resident. Dr. Wells also served as chief resident his final year of residency.

Continuing his love of teaching others, Dr. Wells serves on the clinical faculty of both William Carey College of Osteopathic Medicine and the UMMC Family Medicine department.

Dr. Wells has been involved in the MAFP since his time as a medical student. He is credited with conceiving the *Future in Family Medicine Spring Fling*, an annual MAFP event for residents and students that recently celebrated its sixth year. Dr. Wells helps plan each year's event and has served numerous times as a presenter on sports medicine topics.

As vice president of the MAFP Foundation, Dr. Wells is part of the academy's fund raising arm that raises thousands each year for family medicine education and training to promote wellness of all Mississippians. Additionally, he serves as one of MAFP's orientation leaders for newly-elected student and resident board members.

Wells and his wife, Chelsea, live in Hattiesburg with their 1-year-old daughter, Katsie.

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The MAFP has over 1,100 members consisting of physicians, residents and medical students. The MAFP is dedicated to advancing the specialty of Family Medicine and improving the health of all people in Mississippi. The vision of the MAFP is for every person in Mississippi to have access and availability to a well-trained family physician to manage their medical care.