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Contact: Michele Sharp
Director of Communications and Public Affairs
(203) 317-1098
Sharp@chime.org

Connecticut Hospital Association to Recognize St. Vincent's Medical Center's Albert DiMeo, MD, as a 2013 Healthcare Hero

WALLINGFORD – At its 95th Annual Meeting on June 25, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) will recognize Albert DiMeo, MD, Chief of Minimally Invasive and Robotic Surgery, St. Vincent's Medical Center in Bridgeport, as a 2013 Healthcare Hero. Dr. Dimeo was nominated for this award by Chief Medical Officer and Senior Vice President Lawrence Schek, MD, FACC.

Earlier this year, Dr. DiMeo had a very sick patient who required double valve replacement surgery. He operated on the same day that the blizzard, *Nemo*, came full force to coastal Connecticut. When his work was complete, Dr. DiMeo walked to his home in neighboring Fairfield because the blizzard made vehicular travel impossible.

However, at 1:00 a.m., he was notified that his patient had taken a turn for the worse. He walked back from his home to the hospital during the worst part of the blizzard. He arrived at the hospital in time to rush his very ill patient back to the OR to stop a life threatening bleed, which is a known complication of this type of extensive cardiac surgery. In doing so, he saved the patient's life.

No stranger to these types of acts of bravery, Dr. DiMeo also came in to the hospital during the height of superstorm *Sandy* to repair a patient's esophageal tear, saving her life.

As a leader in using new and exciting technologies, Dr. Dimeo has pioneered innovative and cutting-edge minimally invasive procedures and robotic bypass surgery at St. Vincent's Medical Center. He has also done the same with cancer patients in need of lung removal.

Dr. DiMeo's track record of bravery, dedication to his patients, and leadership in Cardiothoracic, Robotic, and Minimally invasive surgery make him a Healthcare Hero for which Connecticut can be proud.

CHA's Healthcare Heroes award was developed in 2002 to celebrate the invaluable contributions of healthcare workers, both to their field and to the community at large. Now in its 12th year, the presentation of the Healthcare Heroes awards has become a highlight of CHA's Annual Meeting.



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About CHA

The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut's hospitals since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut's hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, community health, diversity, and hospital reimbursement.