

## NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Clare Hawkins, M.D., sworn in as TAFP President-elect

AUSTIN, TEXAS — Clare Hawkins, M.D., of Houston, Texas, was sworn in as president-elect of the Texas Academy of Family Physicians during the 63rd Annual Session and Scientific Assembly in Austin. Dr. Hawkins assumed his duties July 14 at the annual Installation of Officers and Awards Lunch.

Dr. Hawkins is the program director of the San Jacinto Methodist Hospital Family Medicine Residency Program in Baytown, Texas. He is board-certified in family medicine and board-certified in palliative care, and holds a master's degree in Community Health Science.

Dr. Hawkins received his medical degree from the University of Manitoba, and completed residency at St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg, Canada, in 1986. He became a faculty member at St. Boniface shortly after residency and became program director there in 1994. In 1998 he relocated to Baytown to join the San Jacinto program. His special medical interests are COPD, asthma, obstetrics, pediatrics, and outpatient surgical procedures.

Family physicians like Dr. Hawkins are qualified to work in all major medical areas and trained to treat more than 90 percent of all cases they encounter. Family physicians care for patients of all ages.

As TAFP president-elect, Dr. Hawkins will train and prepare for his year as president in 2013-2014. He will serve as an advocate for family medicine, meeting with state legislators and other advocacy groups around Texas.

He will be accompanied by President Troy Fiesinger, M.D., of Sugar Land; Vice President Ajay Gupta, M.D., of Austin; Treasurer Dale Ragle, M.D., of Dallas; and Parliamentarian Tricia Elliott, M.D., of Galveston.

The Texas Academy of Family Physicians is the premier membership organization dedicated to uniting the family doctors of Texas through advocacy, education and member services, and empowering them to provide a medical home for patients of all ages. It has 33 local chapters and is a chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians. Visit www.tafp.org for more information.