

CONNECTICUT ORTHOPAEDIC SOCIETY BESTOWS HIGHEST HONOR TO MICHAEL ARONOW, MD

The Connecticut Orthopaedic Society honored orthopaedic foot and ankle surgeon, Michael Aronow, MD with the 2023 Orthopaedist of the Year Award at the Society's Annual Meeting on May 12, 2023, at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, CT. The Orthopaedist of the Year Award is the highest honor bestowed by the Society in recognition of distinguished service, commitment, and dedication.

Dr. Aronow, a Past President of the Society, was nominated and selected to receive the award recognizing his many achievements and for his commitment and contributions to the medical profession, the Society, and patients.

In presenting the award, Outgoing President, Tarik Kardestuncer, MD, noted his tireless advocacy work ensuring patient safety. For close to two decades, Dr. Aronow has championed patient safety relating to scope of practice issues including his leadership and work to mediate a safe scope of practice change for podiatry which remains a gold standard for other state societies. Dr. Aronow's advocacy work goes beyond scope of practice, taking time from his practice to meet with legislators, present testimony at hearings and meet with regulators and government representatives in support of key legislation to help his orthopaedic colleagues and ensure the safety of patients. On a national level, Dr. Aronow also lends his experience and expertise advocating for federal AAOS legislative initiatives in Washington, D.C., and has walked countless miles on Capitol Hill advocating for orthopaedic surgeons and patients.

As a past president of the Society, he raised the visibility and credibility of the Society by dedicating his efforts in obtaining 100% American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons(AAOS) PAC statewide participation, a standard the Society maintains thanks to his foresight and leadership. Dr. Aronow was recognized nationally for his efforts with the first ever AAOS PAC Hall of Famer award.

In addition to his advocacy work, Dr. Aronow's work as President of the Society during the Covid-19 pandemic was also lauded by Dr. Kardestuncer expressing Connecticut's orthopaedic community's appreciation for his steady guidance and stewardship during uncertain times, always leading the Society with a strong, gracious, and consistent manner.

Dr. Michael Aronow received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School in Massachusetts and completed his Orthopaedic Residency and Research and Sports Medicine Fellowships at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center, with an Advanced Foot and Ankle Surgery Fellowship at the University of Washington Medical Center, Seattle, Washington. He is a foot and ankle surgeon with Orthopaedic Associates of Hartford and serves as a Clinical Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at UConn School of Medicine.