News Release

The American Trauma Society Celebrates Fiftieth Anniversary of Incorporation

June 27, 2018 (Falls Church, Va.) – Since 1968, the American Trauma Society (ATS) has advocated for better trauma systems, provided education for trauma professionals, played an important role in injury prevention, and supported trauma survivors and their families. This year, the organization is celebrating the anniversary of its incorporation. Secretary of State of the State of Delaware Michael Harkins received the Certificate of Incorporation of the American Trauma Society on June 27, 1968.

“Since 1968, the ATS has been eliminating injury and improving trauma care in this country,” said Executive Director Sue Prentiss. “The society plans to continue its role as a resource for trauma professionals, survivors and their families, legislators, and the public.”

The ATS was founded after a white paper, “Accidental Death and Disability: The Neglected Disease of Modern Society,” called for the establishment of a national trauma association in 1966. Since then, the society has advocated for legislative action to improve trauma care and prevent injury. It successfully advocated to pass the EMS Act in 1973, establish the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in 1986, and pass the Trauma Systems Development Act in 1990.

In 1988, the ATS successfully advocated for May to be designated as National Trauma Awareness Month and as part of that effort has published injury prevention materials every May for 30 years. In 2008, the society founded their program for injured patients and their families, the Trauma Survivors Network (TSN). Each year since its inception the TSN recognizes trauma survivors and their families with Trauma Survivors Day. The ATS provides courses and networking for all trauma professionals.

“This anniversary is not just a celebration of what the ATS has accomplished, but also a chance to visualize its future,” stated Dr. Christopher Michetti, president of the ATS Board of Directors. “The ATS will continue its role as a champion of injury prevention, improved trauma systems, and empowerment of trauma survivors.”
To help the ATS celebrate its fiftieth anniversary of incorporation on June 27, 2018, visit: https://www.amtrauma.org/page/fiftiethanniversary

The American Trauma Society is a 501c3 organization with more than 1800 individual and institutional members, representing all 50 United States.

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