



2016 Award Presentations

February 19, Hilton Anaheim: California Ballroom A
Following the HPA Business Meeting (6:30 pm – 8:00 pm)

Stephen M. Levine, PT, DPT, MSHA, FAPTA

R. Charles Harker Policy Maker Award



This award is being presented posthumously.

Steve Levine was at the center of some of the most important developments in physical therapy practice and payment during the past 30 years. He was considered a leader in efforts to elevate the standards of physical therapist (PT) and physical therapist assistant (PTA) practice, including the elimination of unwarranted variation in clinical practice. A frequent advisor to the Medicare program, he was one of the nation's leading experts on the Resource Based Value Scale (RBRVS), at one point providing congressional testimony on the RBRVS.

Levine's involvement with APTA dated back to 1985, and included 11 years of service to the APTA Board of Directors, where he began as vice speaker of the House of Delegates before moving on to speaker. His position on the board led to involvement in many of the association's high-priority projects and initiatives, including the *Guide to Physical Therapist Practice* and the alternative payment system task force, which he chaired. Levine received a Lucy Blair Service award in 2011 and was named a Catherine Worthingham Fellow in 2014.

As executive vice president of compliance and consulting services for OpimisCorp and a founding partner of the Fearon & Levine consulting firm, Levine focused on practice management and payment policy in the outpatient rehabilitation setting. He received his degree in physical therapy from the University of Maryland at Baltimore, a master's degree in health administration from Virginia Commonwealth University, and his DPT degree from A.T. Still University of the Health Sciences.

Former APTA President Paul A. Rockar Jr, PT, DPT, MS, has said that Levine was "so much to so many: a tireless champion of the profession, a friend, a gentlemen, and a passionate leader." According to Rockar, Levine "helped to shape the profession of physical therapy as we know it today."

Reprinted from PTinMotion News, March 5, 2015.