



Orange County Government

NEWS RELEASE

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SUNY Orange Foundation to recognize County Commissioner of Health Dr. Eli Avila with Special Award for Leadership in Public Health

Goshen, N.Y. – Orange County Commissioner of Health Dr. Eli Avila, MD, JD, MPH, FCLM, DABLM will be recognized with a Special Award for Leadership in Public Health when the SUNY Orange Foundation hosts its 11th Annual Leadership Awards Ceremony at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 5th at Kaplan Hall on SUNY Orange’s Newburgh campus.

The award exemplifies outstanding service and leadership.

Avila will be honored at the event along with:

Leadership in Business: St. Luke’s Cornwall Hospital

Leadership in Community: Cornerstone Family Healthcare

Leadership in Education: Dr. Kenneth Steier MD, Dean, Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine

Leadership in Education: Jean Halpern, RN, SUNY Orange Nursing Department

Edward A. Diana Alumni Leadership Award: Dr. Pamela Maragliano-Muniz ’96, D.M.D

Avila was named Orange County’s ninth Commissioner of Health in May of 2013. As the County’s Chief Public Health Officer, Avila manages a \$67 million budget, while monitoring the health and welfare of approximately 380,000 residents. He oversees the Orange County Medical Reserves and serves as the Medical Director

for Orange County Emergency Medical Services. Avila holds an academic position as Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Institute of Public Health of the New York Medical College in Westchester County and has been appointed by the New York State Bar President to the Mass Disaster Response Committee of the New York State Bar Association.

Avila holds Fellow status and sits on the Board of Governors of the American College of Legal Medicine and Fellow status in the New York Academy of Medicine. During his public health career, Avila has co-authored and sponsored more than 18 health related laws. During the present legislative session, he has advised and collaborated in a bipartisan manner with both the New York Senate and Assembly on two pending bills.

The SUNY Orange Foundation was established as a non-profit corporation in 1987. The mission of the Foundation is to generate funds and build resources to enhance learning opportunities for students and the community. During the 2015-16 academic year, the Foundation expects to award more than \$320,000 in scholarships to help deserving SUNY Orange students.

For more information about this year's awards program, contact Dr. Russell Hammond, Executive Director of the SUNY Orange Foundation, at 341-4337.

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