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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 12, 2009**

**COUNTY HEALTH COMMISSIONER NAMED TO NATIONAL & STATE COMMITTEES**

Westchester County Health Commissioner Dr. Joshua Lipsman has been selected as a member of the American Medical Association's Advisory Committee on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Issues and has been named Chair of the Preventive Medicine and Family Health Committee for the Medical Society of the State of New York.

Dr. Lipsman will serve on the AMA's Advisory Committee on GLBT Issues for a two-year term from June 2009 to June 2011 and will chair the Medical Society of the State of New York's Preventive Medicine and Family Health Committee through the end of 2010.

"I am delighted and honored to serve on both of these committees," said Dr. Lipsman. "I look forward to working with these groups to improve the health of all New Yorkers and to addressing health issues for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals nationwide. In addition to my personal dedication to both of these causes, I find these appointments doubly rewarding because they illustrate that the field of medicine recognizes the importance and value of local public health expertise."

Dr. Lipsman is certified by the American Board of Preventive Medicine in Public Health and General Preventive Medicine. Prior to his appointment by county Executive Andy Spano to be Westchester County Health Commissioner in May, 2000, Dr. Lipsman was Executive Director of the Gay Men's Health Crisis in Manhattan and prior to that, for seven and a half years he led the Alexandria, Virginia Department of Health. Earlier, he served as medical director and administrator of the city's system of public health clinics in Houston, Texas, and as a staff physician and community health director on the Pine Ridge Indian reservation in South Dakota.

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Dr. Lipsman received his M.D. degree from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, and completed a family medicine residency at the St. Paul-Ramsey Medical Center in Minnesota. He also holds a J.D. from Pace Law School and an M.P.H. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, School of Public Health.

The American Medical Association, founded in 1847, is the largest medical association in America. The AMA's mission is to promote the art and science of medicine and the betterment of public health. For more than 160 years, the AMA's work has remained focused on its founding principles of advancing the science of medicine, improving the standards for medical education, developing a program of medical ethics, and improving the health of the public.

The Medical Society of the State of New York is an organization of approximately 30,000 licensed physicians, medical residents, and medical students in New York State. The organization is committed to representing the medical profession as a whole and advocating health related rights, responsibilities and issues. The group strives to promote and maintain high standards in medical education and in the practice of medicine in an effort to ensure that quality medical care is available to the public.