

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. W. Scott Peterson Honored for Contributions to Saving Sight

Kensington, MD, February 18, 2009— Dr. W. Scott Peterson will be honored by the Washington, DC area based International Eye Foundation (IEF) at the annual *Promotion of Peace and Vision Awards* reception to be held at Gadsby's Tavern Museum in Alexandria, Virginia on March 15, 2009.

The Executive Committee of the International Eye Foundation selected Dr. Peterson to receive the 2008 *Promotion of Peace and Vision Award* for an Ophthalmologist.

The *Promotion of Peace and Vision Awards* were created by the Board of Directors in 1997 to recognize individuals who, through their active involvement and support, have demonstrated extraordinary commitment to IEF's mission of restoring sight and preventing blindness. The Awards are dedicated to the vision expressed by IEF founder Dr. John Harry King, Jr. "...*the promotion of peace through the prevention of blindness.*"

Highly respected in the ophthalmic community, Dr. Peterson is dedicated to the expansion of eye care services to those who are underserved. He has volunteered at the Hopital Albert Schweitzer in Haiti, and is very active in his community as well as nationally, serving on numerous boards, societies and trusts. Dr. Peterson is a founder and the medical director of OptiCare, one of Connecticut's largest eye care providers. He is the author of a number of scientific papers in ophthalmology and the history of medicine, and is also the author of a book on the poetry of William Carlos Williams. Dr. Peterson lives in Middlebury, CT, with his wife Jean. Currently serving as IEF's Senior Medical Director, Dr. Peterson has been instrumental in securing several grants to support IEF programs.

The International Eye Foundation, based in Kensington, MD, a suburb of Washington, DC, prevents blindness and restores sight in the developing world. Founded in 1961 and in "official relations" with the World Health Organization, IEF programs focus on clinical and surgical eye care services, childhood blindness, 'river blindness' control, and expanding the availability of ophthalmic instruments, supplies and equipment. IEF's major initiative focuses on management and sustainability of eye care institutions to improve the quality, efficiency, and availability of eye care worldwide.

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