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**GEORGIA ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS HONORS  
JAMES LEON RAY, MD, FAAFP**

James Leon Ray, MD, FAAFP, of Swainsboro, received the 2011 Georgia Family Physician of the Year Award from the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians (GAFP) on November 11th. This prestigious award is given to family physicians who have been leaders in professional affairs, along with making an outstanding contribution to the profession or the community.

Dr. James Leon Ray has practiced medicine in Swainsboro for more than 36 years. Dr. Ray has filled many roles in service to the community including serving as Chair of Emanuel County's Board of Health for over 30 years. Dr. Ray also served as the medical director for three nursing homes, a home health agency, and a hospice.

Dr. Ray was instrumental in the opening of the Substance Abuse Detoxification Center in Swainsboro. He recognized the need for this facility and has served as its medical director for the past 20 years.

Dr. Ray is passionate about family medicine and has served as a mentor to medical students and residents for over thirty years. His mentoring has influenced countless medical students to pursue family medicine and practice in Georgia.

The Family Physician of the Year Award is GAFP's highest honor to bestow.

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*Established in 1947, the GAFP is a member chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians. GAFP strives to promote the specialty of family medicine through the education of and service to Family Physician in Georgia. Boasting a membership of 2,500 family physicians, family medicine residents, and medical students, the organization supports those who aspire to achieve excellence and who are committed to delivering it. For more information, please visit us on the web at [www.gafp.org](http://www.gafp.org) or call (404) 321-7445*