



**Sound Physicians CEO and President, Robert Bessler, M.D.,  
Named Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2011 Pacific  
Northwest Award Winner**

**Tacoma, WA – June 14, 2011** – [Sound Physicians](#), today announced that its CEO and President, Robert Bessler, M.D., received the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2011 Pacific Northwest Award in the Service category. According to Ernst & Young LLP, the award recognizes outstanding entrepreneurs who demonstrate excellence and extraordinary success in such areas as innovation and personal commitment to their businesses and communities. Dr. Bessler was selected by an independent panel of judges, and the award was presented at a gala event at Seattle’s Sheraton Hotel June 10.

“It’s an honor to win this award and receive this recognition on behalf of Sound Physicians,” said Robert Bessler, M.D., CEO of Sound Physicians. “This award underscores the dedication and contributions of our entire team of physicians, nurses and support colleagues as they work to innovate and drive performance in the inpatient setting.”

Dr. Bessler founded Sound Physicians in 2001. Today, the organization is a leading provider of hospitalist services with more than 45 acute care partners and more than 30 skilled nursing and long-term acute care partners. Sound Physicians’ performance management focus is based on a partnership with healthcare providers to measurably improve patient outcomes and strengthen the performance of the hospitals it serves. Sound Physicians accomplishes this through its exceptional team of hospitalist physician and leaders, implementation of key clinical processes combined with a proprietary technology workflow solution and physician training.

The Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards Program celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. Past award winners have included Howard Schultz of Starbucks Coffee Company, Arthur M. Blank of AMB Group, LLC (Home Depot, Atlanta Falcons), Pierre Omidyar of eBay, Inc., Ruth Fertel of Ruth’s Chris Steak House, Inc., Tom Adams of Rosetta Stone Inc., Matt Szulik of Red Hat, Inc., and Joseph Swedish, former CEO of Colorado’s Centura Health (now CEO at Trinity Health).

As a Pacific Northwest award winner, Dr. Bessler is now eligible for consideration for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year 2011 National Award. Award winners in several national categories, as well as the overall Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year National Award winner, will be announced at the annual awards gala in Palm Springs, California, on Nov. 12, 2011. The awards are the culminating event of the Ernst & Young Strategic Growth Forum®, the nation’s most prestigious gathering of high-growth, market-leading companies, which will be held Nov. 9-13, 2011.

**Sponsors**

Founded and produced by Ernst & Young LLP, the Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards are pleased to have the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation as a national sponsor. In the Pacific Northwest,

regional sponsors include Union Bank, ADP, The Big Picture, Seattle Business and Scherzer International.

### **About Sound Physicians**

Sound Physicians is a leading hospitalist organization focused on driving improvements in quality, satisfaction and efficiency of inpatient health care delivery. To learn more visit: [www.soundphysicians.com](http://www.soundphysicians.com).

### **About Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year<sup>®</sup>**

Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year<sup>®</sup> is the world's most prestigious business award for entrepreneurs. The unique award makes a difference through the way it encourages entrepreneurial activity among those with potential, and recognizes the contribution of people who inspire others with their vision, leadership and achievement. As the first and only truly global award of its kind, Entrepreneur Of The Year celebrates those who are building and leading successful, growing and dynamic businesses, recognizing them through regional, national and global awards programs in more than 140 cities in more than 50 countries.

### **About the Ernst & Young**

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