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National Medical Association President attends White House Event on Health Care

October 6, 2009, Washington, DC...Dr. Willarda Edwards, President of the National Medical Association, along with three NMA members, Drs. Cheryl Holder of Opa Locka, Florida, Melvin Gerald, of Whiteville, North Carolina and Trudy R. Hall of Baltimore, Maryland attended a White House event yesterday for physicians in support of health care reform. Physician groups and their members were invited to the White House to hear from President Obama on reforming health care and how physicians can help in the process. Doctors representing all fifty states were in attendance at the event on Monday.

Edwards, along with eleven other leaders from other physician groups, had an opportunity to meet with President Obama in the Oval Office. "It was a real honor to represent the NMA and meet with the President to hear him emphasize the critical role physicians can play in health care reform," said Edwards.

Prior to meeting with President Obama, Edwards and other group leaders gathered in the Roosevelt Room of the White House and met with Nancy Ann DePearle, Director of White House Office on Health Reform and Tina Chen, Director of the Office of Public Engagement.

"The NMA appreciates the administration's efforts in reforming health care and we will work along side to ensure health reform becomes a reality for America," said Edwards.

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About the National Medical Association

Founded in 1895, the NMA is a nonprofit organization that is the nation's oldest and largest medical association representing the interests of more 30,000 African American physicians and their patients. The NMA advocates health care for policies that would assure equitable and quality health care for all.