CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEUROSURGERY POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (NEUROSURGERY PAC)

A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

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- NA, CAM, JDS, RFH (Vice-Chair), MS (Chair) are members of the Board of Directors of the NeurosurgeryPAC. ARM and KOO are affiliated with the American Association of Neurological Surgeons.
INTRODUCTION

- The political action committee (PAC) of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS), otherwise known as NeurosurgeryPAC, was formed in August 2005 to strengthen neurosurgical advocacy efforts.

- NeurosurgeryPAC has made non-partisan, direct campaign contributions to hundreds of candidates for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives.
METHODS

- Historical contribution data from 2005–2018 was obtained from NeurosurgeryPAC.

- Data analyzed by year and two-year election cycle included total amount raised, number of contributors, average donation, and percent participation.

- NeurosurgeryPAC contribution amounts for election cycles were compared to those of other physician PACs.
RESULTS

NeurosurgeryPAC Fundraising by Year/Cycle

- 2006 Cycle: $58,400
- 2008 Cycle: $248,015
- 2010 Cycle: $204,851
- 2012 Cycle: $251,075
- 2014 Cycle: $205,428
- 2016 Cycle: $157,946
- 2018 Cycle: $222,215

Odd Year

Even year
RESULTS

Hard Money Donors & Average Donation Per Cycle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Hard Money Donors</th>
<th>Average Donation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>$910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>$1,187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>$1,248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>$1,036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>$1,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>$1,354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>$1,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Average</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>$1,180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESULTS

- NeurosurgeryPAC has raised $2,953,870 since its inception in 2005, with an average of $210,991 per year.
  - Average annual donation amount is $796 per donor.
  - Number of unique contributors per cycle has varied from 316–504, with an average of 389 individuals per annum and a participation rate of 7.8%.

- Total amount raised in election years ($1,605,940) is 16.1% higher than that in non-election years ($1,347,930).

- Among 28 physician PACs, NeurosurgeryPAC has ranked as high as 13 and as low as 17 in total hard money contributions.
  - The orthopaedic, neurology, and general surgery PACs have ranked higher than neurosurgery.
  - The otolaryngology, spine, and plastic surgery PACs have ranked lower.
Donations have helped lawmakers who are supportive of policy issues important to neurosurgery including:

- Physician Reimbursement
- Medical Liability Reform
- Graduate Medical Education
Since its creation, NeurosurgeryPAC has collected a steady stream of donations to support political candidates.

A significant opportunity remains to increase the neurosurgeon participation rate in this vital organization.

It is truly through advocacy that we will be able to positively affect the future of neurological surgery in the United States.