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**Kelly John, DPM, MHA Named Fellow of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons**

ROCKFORD, IL March 17, 2010 ... **Kelly John, DPM, MHA**, of Rockford Orthopedic Associates, has been named a Fellow of the American College of foot and Ankle Surgeons (ACFAS), joining an elite group of physicians.

The ACFAS reserves Fellow membership status for foot and ankle surgeons who earn board certification for the American Board of Podiatric Surgery (ABPS). In addition to being board certified in foot surgery, John completed additional advance certification in foot surgery & reconstructive rearfoot/ankle surgery in June of 2009.

John's path to board certification and ACFAS Fellow membership began when she earned her bachelor's degree in health sciences from College of St. Benedict in St. Joseph, Minnesota. John was then accepted into Des Moines University - College of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery where she completed her doctoral training in podiatry. Following a four year surgical residency at Yale School of Medicine in New Haven, Connecticut, John passed the ABPS' rigorous written examination to become board qualified. As a board certified foot and ankle surgeon, John met the requirements for ACFAS Associate membership. She continued on her journey toward board certification by submitting patient cases to the ABPS. This process can last as long as seven years. After the certifying board's detailed review of these cases, John finally sat for her oral examination in Chicago in June 2009. After passing the oral exams, John achieved board certification in foot surgery & reconstructive rearfoot/ankle surgery.

"Dr. John's patients are being treated by a foot and ankle surgeon who has dedicated years of her education, training and experience to achieving this prestigious Fellow membership status," says Michael S. Lee, DPM, FACFAS, president of the ACFAS.

The ACFAS is a professional society of more than 6200 foot and ankle surgeons. Founded in 1942, the College's mission is to promote research and provide continuing education for the foot and ankle surgical specialty, and to educate the general public on foot health and conditions of the foot and ankle through its consumer website, [FootHealthFacts.org](http://FootHealthFacts.org).

Foot and ankle surgeons provide comprehensive medical and surgical care for a wide variety of foot and ankle conditions including common to complex disorders and injuries that affect people of all ages. ACFAS members are uniquely qualified to detect the early stages of diseases that exhibit warning signs in the lower extremities, such as diabetes, arthritis and cardiovascular disease, and manage foot conditions which may pose an on-going threat to a patient's overall health.

Rockford Orthopedic Associates, Ltd. serves the Northern Illinois region in multi-specialty orthopedics and offers a full range of orthopedic care including the specialties of podiatry, physical medicine and rehabilitation, and rheumatology. Rockford Orthopedic offers the ancillary services of physical therapy, MRI, workers compensation and an out patient surgery center. #