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**Dedicated to Promoting Optimal Eye Care for People of the Pacific Basin
through Service, Education, and Research**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – XXXX

Eugene Surgeon Helps Train Vietnamese Eye Doctors

Mark Packer, MD, of Drs Fine, Hoffman & Packer in Eugene, Oregon, traveled to Viet Nam last month to teach cataract surgery demonstrate surgical techniques to Vietnamese eye doctors.

Dr. Packer served as a volunteer faculty member for the Imperial City Eye Meeting (ICEM) in Hue, Viet Nam, sponsored by Hawaiian Eye Foundation in partnership with Hue Central Hospital.

The fourth biennial ICEM, the largest eye surgical training program in Southeast Asia, took place April 3rd to 6th, 2012. The meeting was attended by 350 eye doctors from throughout Viet Nam, who came to learn from 26 leading eye specialists from five countries. Attendees represented almost 25% of the approximately 1,500 ophthalmologists that serve Viet Nam's population of over 85 million.

ICEM's four-day program included training in treatment of cataract, corneal, and retinal disease; ocular reconstructive surgery; and glaucoma diagnosis and treatment. Daily lectures were simultaneously translated into Vietnamese. Concurrent wet-lab sessions offered individualized instruction in cataract surgery, operating under powerful microscopes on pigs' eyes.

The conference was supported by nine U.S. and Asian equipment, instrument, and pharmaceutical companies that exhibited and demonstrated their products and services.

The non-profit Hawaiian Eye Foundation, based in Honolulu, has sponsored eye care training programs in Southeast Asia since 2006, and for over 25 years has conducted humanitarian eye surgery expeditions to Pacific island nations, including Tonga, Fiji, Samoa, Palau, and Kiribati.

For more information, or to make a tax deductible contribution in support of the Foundation's sight-saving work, see www.hawaiianeyefoundation.org.

To interview Dr. Packer, please contact him at mpacker@finemd.com.

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