



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Emergency Medicine Foundation and AFFIRM Announce Dr. Tamara O’Neal Memorial Research Award in Firearm Injury Research Mentorship Grant Request for Proposal**

**January 27, 2021** - The Emergency Medicine Foundation and AFFIRM are proud to announce the opening of the Request for Proposal period for the Dr. Tamara O’Neal Memorial Research Award for the funding period of July 2021 through June 2022.

Dr. Tamara O’Neal (1980-2018) was an Emergency Medicine physician dedicated to the mentorship and advancement of underrepresented communities. Dr. O’Neal was a leader within her community, working closely with her church and mentoring the future generation of physicians of color. In 2018, she was shot and killed by her ex-fiancé in the parking lot of Mercy Hospital in Chicago after leaving work.

This grant aims to support underrepresented academic physicians and scientists who, like Dr. O’Neal, have chosen to dedicate their lives to supporting and enhancing underserved urban communities. The recipient of this award will receive \$40,000 in grant funding to support a specific research project addressing the population that Dr. O’Neal cared deeply about serving. The applicant’s department or institution will be required to support 20% of the awardee’s full-time effort.

The AFFIRM Tamara O’Neal Memorial Mentorship Grant is designed to facilitate the academic career of female academic emergency physicians and public health researchers of color through:

1. Funding of research projects relevant to the core of the grant
2. Provision of departmental support for the awardee’s time (e.g., through the reduction in clinical shifts or other obligations)
3. Provision of mentorship through AFFIRM to facilitate academic growth and development for a woman of color with a career path in research directed towards addressing the disproportionate presence of firearm injury in underserved urban communities

Applicants must identify as female, and be a member of a group underrepresented in medicine (URM), defined as those underrepresented racial and ethnic populations in the



medical profession relative to their numbers in the general population (defined as African American/Black, Alaskan/Hawaiian Native, Hispanic American, and Native American). Applicants must have an MPH, MD, DO, or Ph.D., with a faculty appointment in a department or division of emergency medicine.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.emfoundation.org/globalassets/general/pdfs/2021-2022/dr.-tamara-oneal-memorial-research-award.pdf>

**About AFFIRM:**

AFFIRM is the nation's leading non-profit fully dedicated to ending the American firearm injury epidemic using the public health approach. We are a nonpartisan network of healthcare professionals, public health experts, and researchers who aim to prevent firearm injury through research, innovation, and evidence-based practice. We are gun owners and non-gun owners committed to reducing the rate of firearm injuries and deaths. Since our founding in 2017, AFFIRM enables and funds transformative, high-impact innovations to reduce firearm injury in the United States. For more information, please visit [www.affirmresearch.org](http://www.affirmresearch.org).

**About The Emergency Medicine Foundation:**

The Emergency Medicine Foundation (EMF, <https://www.emfoundation.org/>) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization founded in 1972 by visionary leaders of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). EMF supports scientifically rigorous research and education that improves the care of the acutely ill and injured. To date, EMF has awarded more than \$16 million in research grants to advance emergency medicine science and health policy.

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