



Contact: Jessica Gerstle, Director – 917.817.1816 – Info@theaccidentaladvocate.com

The Accidental Advocate Debuts in Theaters Nationwide
Inspirational Documentary Reignites Stem Cell Research Debate

NEW YORK, NY (January 6, 2009) -- At the dawn of a new administration – as critical decisions about healthcare and the future of medicine are about to be made – *The Accidental Advocate* reminds Americans how politics has thrown roadblocks in the path of science.

This January, *The Accidental Advocate* will transform movie theaters nationwide into town halls focusing on the controversial issue of embryonic stem cell research. Scientists believe that stem cells may one day get the paralyzed out of wheelchairs, cure the diabetic or unlock the secrets to cancer. This one-night-only event is in 15 cities, including Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Boston, St. Louis, Denver and San Francisco.

The Accidental Advocate profiles Dr. Claude Gerstle, a surgeon and athlete who suffered a tragic bicycle accident in 2003 that left him quadriplegic. The film is a wheelchair odyssey bringing him and his daughter Jessica, an award-winning television news producer, from the laboratories of the world's most eminent stem cell researchers all the way to Congress and the White House on their quest for a cure.

What starts as a medical question quickly evolves into a social and political education. Together they track down the thinkers, politicians, crusaders and naysayers in an effort to explore the hope, hype, passions and fears fueled by the stem cell debate. Appearances by Michael J. Fox, Hillary Clinton, Arnold Schwarzenegger and others political heavies round out a film that shows why and how embryonic stem cell research has become such a political football.

"The debate over research on embryonic stem cells can seem pretty abstract, so if you want to get a real feel for the effect of President Bush's ban... see if you can catch a screening of a documentary called *The Accidental Advocate*." - Sharon Begley, Newsweek

Premiered during the 2008 Republican and Democratic Conventions as part of the Impact Film Festival, it is essential viewing for those who desire real change. *The Accidental Advocate* has the power to influence policy and ultimately make a difference in the lives of more than 100 million Americans who stand to benefit from stem cell research.

For a complete list of theater locations and prices, please visit: www.theaccidentaladvocate.com.

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