Each year, the ACC Presidential Citation is awarded to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the field of cardiology and/or the broader field of medicine. This year, the Presidential Citation recognizes Dr. Robert Califf for his unwavering commitment to promoting and protecting public health and reducing the burden of cardiovascular disease.

An accomplished cardiologist, researcher and clinical trials expert, Dr. Califf has been a driving force in the fight against heart disease and other chronic diseases throughout his career. Currently serving his second appointment as Commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Dr. Califf has a long and impressive history of prioritizing science and evidence-based policymaking in the best interests of patients and the public.

Prior to rejoining the FDA, Dr. Califf was head of medical strategy and senior advisor at Alphabet Inc., contributing to strategy and policy for its health subsidiaries Verily Life Sciences and Google Health. He joined Alphabet in 2019, after serving as a professor of medicine and vice chancellor for clinical and translational research at Duke University. He also served as director of the Duke Translational Medicine Institute and founding director of the Duke Clinical Research Institute.

"It is a true privilege to be able to honor Dr. Califf’s unparalleled leadership and vision with the Presidential Citation," said ACC President B. Hadley Wilson, MD, FACC. "A true problem-solver, champion of innovation and a steadfast advocate of improving heart health for all, the world needs more individuals like him as we work to successfully address the formidable public health challenges that have emerged in the last few decades."

B. Hadley Wilson, MD, FACC