



**U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE**  
**Pharmacist Professional Advisory Committee**  
**Department of Health and Human Services**

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**08 January 2009**  
**Surgeon General's Conference Room**  
**Parklawn Building**  
**1300-1430**

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**Members Present:**

**In Rockville:**

CDR Patricia Garvey (Chair), FDA-Rockville, MD  
CAPT Scott Giberson (Vice-Chair), IHS-Rockville, MD  
CDR Beth Fabian Fritsch, FDA-Rockville, MD

CDR Mary Kremzner, FDA-Rockville, MD

**Via Telephone:**

RADM Robert Pittman (CPO), IHS-Rockville, MD  
CAPT Lia Praela, CMS-Baltimore, MD  
CAPT Matthew Tarosky, FDA-Rockville, MD  
CDR Christine Chung, DHS-El Centro, CA  
CDR Jonathan Dando, IHS-Cherokee, NC  
CDR Richard DeCederfelt, NIH-Bethesda, MD  
CDR Jennifer Fan, SAMHSA-Rockville, MD  
CDR G. Brent Hobbs, IHS-Whiteriver, AZ  
CDR Josephine Lyght, HRSA-Rockville, MD  
CDR Michael Shiber, BOP-Washington, DC  
CDR Edward Stein, IHS-Phoenix, AZ

CDR Nate Yale, IHS-Gallup, NM  
LCDR Michael Crockett, BOP-Pollock, LA  
LCDR James Czarzasty, DHS-New London, CT  
LCDR Gregory Davis, OS-Rockville, MD (alternate  
for LCDR Joseph Zagame)  
LCDR Cynthia Gunderson, IHS-Fort Totten, ND  
LCDR Jeff Mallette, BOP-Pensacola, FL  
LCDR Violette Ganoë, (Ex-Officio), BOP-Bradford, PA  
LCDR Lori Hall (JOAG), CDC-Atlanta, GA  
LCDR Peter Diak (Executive Secretary), FDA-  
Silver Spring, MD

**Members Absent:**

LCDR Joseph Zagame, OS-Rockville, MD - excused; alternate present

**Guests:**

CAPT James Bresette, IHS-Rockville, MD  
CAPT Lillie Golson, FDA-Rockville, MD  
CAPT Jim Imholte, OS-Kansas City, MO  
CAPT Robert Steyert, FDA-Central Islip, NY  
CAPT Sharon Thoma, FDA-Minneapolis, MN  
CAPT Chris Watson, IHS-Rockville, MD  
CDR Christine Bina, FDA-Rockville, MD  
CDR Bradley Bishop, IHS-Tucson, AZ  
CDR Terrie Crescenzi, FDA-Rockville, MD  
CDR Michelle Dillahunt, FDA-Rockville, MD  
CDR Alison Dion, BOP-Glenville, WV  
CDR James Good, DHS-Tacoma, WA  
CDR Dana Hall, OS-Kansas City, MO  
CDR Tia Harper-Velazquez, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
CDR Kenneth Hill, HRSA-Seattle, WA  
CDR Denise Howell, FDA-San Pedro, CA  
CDR Koung Lee, FDA-Rockville, MD

CDR Larry Lim, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
CDR Mark McClain, FDA-Hartford, CT  
CDR David Money, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
CDR Patrick Romero, DHS-Opalocka, FL  
CDR Amy Rubin, IHS-Clinton, OK  
CDR James Saunders, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
CDR Stanley Shepperson, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
CDR Mark Strong, BOP-Leavenworth, KS  
CDR Jacqueline Thomas, CDC-Atlanta, GA  
CDR Deborah Thompson, DHS-Oakland, CA  
CDR Peter Vermilyea, IHS-Winslow, AZ  
CDR Teresa Watkins, FDA-Rockville, MD  
CDR Chi-Ann Wu, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Karen Abraham-Burrell, CMS-Baltimore, MD  
LCDR Bach Nhi Beasley, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
LCDR Vicky Borders-Hemphill, FDA- Silver  
Spring, MD

LCDR Dan Brum, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
LCDR Peter Chen, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Alisea Crowley, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Ida-Lina Diak, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
LCDR Debra Emerson, FDA-Stoneham, MA  
LCDR Jefferson Freedy, OS-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Jeff Haug, DHS-Pearsall, TX  
LCDR Christina Lee, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR William Meyers, BOP-Millington, TN  
LCDR Kristen Miller, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
LCDR Ryan Nguyen, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Keith Olin, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
LCDR Christine Oliver, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
LCDR Amy Osborn, BOP-Leavenworth, KS  
LCDR Sonny Saini, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
LCDR Ryan Schupbach, IHS-Claremore, OK  
LCDR Jeanne Skanchy, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Kendra Stewart, FDA-Silver Spring, MD

LCDR Emily Thakur, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Christina Thompson, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Thuyanh Vu, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Karen Williams, HRSA-Rockville, MD  
LCDR Jerry Zee, IHS-Omak, WA  
LT Beth Carr, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
LT Shannon Hill, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LT Glendolynn Johnson, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LT Julian Jolly, CDC-Atlanta, GA  
LT Shary Jones, CMS-Baltimore, MD  
LT Robert Kosko, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
LT Liatte Krueger, BOP-Rochester, MN  
LT Loan Nguyen, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LT Frank Verni, FDA-New York, NY  
LT Nicole Vesely, FDA-Rockville, MD  
LT Stephanie Victor, FDA-Silver Spring, MD  
LT Chris Wheeler, FDA-Silver Spring, MD

**\*\* New Procedures for PharmPAC Meetings:** Meetings are only 90 minutes long. The oral roll call for guests attending the meeting has been eliminated. Guests attending the meeting are requested to email their rank, name, agency, and location (city and state) to the PharmPAC Executive Secretary at [peter.diak@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:peter.diak@fda.hhs.gov) to validate attendance.

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**Call to Order: CAPT Scott Giberson ([scott.giberson@ihs.gov](mailto:scott.giberson@ihs.gov))**

- CAPT Scott Giberson called the January 2009 Pharmacist Professional Advisory Committee (PharmPAC) meeting to order
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**Acceptance of 04 Dec 2008 PharmPAC Meeting Minutes: CAPT Scott Giberson**

- Minutes from the 04 December 2008 PharmPAC meeting were accepted with no edits via motion from CAPT Scott Giberson with a second from CDR Brent Hobbs
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**CPO Report: RADM Robert Pittman**

- **Office of Force Readiness and Deployment (OFRD) Readiness Report**
  - OFRD will officially report on readiness on January 12, 2009
  - As of December 19, 2008 the pharmacy category was at 90.7% readiness
  - Please go to the OFRD website and check your readiness status
- **Potential Nominee for Surgeon General**
  - The Obama transition team has approached Dr. Sanjay Gupta, CNN's chief medical correspondent, about becoming the U.S. Surgeon General
  - Dr. Gupta is a member of the staff and faculty of the Department of Neurosurgery at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia
  - A formal announcement for the Surgeon General nomination is expected out soon
- **Junior Commissioned Officer Student Training and Extern Program (JRCOSTEP)**
  - During summer 2008, approximately 130 pharmacy students applied for the JRCOSTEP and the PHS programs were able to hire 36 pharmacy students (26 IHS, 6 FDA, 2 OS, 1 DHS, 1 NIH)
  - As of January 7, 2009, there are 59 pharmacy JRCOSTEP applicants

- Please contact Mr. Steve Hand at phone (240) 453-6072 or by email at [steven.hand@hhs.gov](mailto:steven.hand@hhs.gov), if you are interested and have the funding for a JRCOSTEP
- **PHS Pharmacist Detailed to DoD Pharmacoeconomic Center**
  - LT Marisol Martinez is the first PHS pharmacist to be detailed to serve at the Department of Defense Pharmacoeconomic Center in Fort Sam Houston, TX
  - Congratulations LT Martinez!

**Section Lead Comments:**

**Administration** → CDR Mary Kremzner ([Mary.kremzner@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Mary.kremzner@fda.hhs.gov)) / CDR Jennifer Fan ([Jennifer.Fan@SAMHSA.hhs.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Fan@SAMHSA.hhs.gov))

- **Awards – CDR Kremzner**
  - Nominations will be requested shortly for this year’s honor awards
  - Managerial Excellence Award – given to a mid-career pharmacist – an announcement for this award will be sent out by the PharmPAC separately
  - Student awards will also be given by the PharmPAC later in the year
  - More nominations are needed this year to make sure the awards are given to the most deserving candidates
- **Liaison Reports – CAPT Holt** (Please see attachment for entire report)
  - **American Pharmacists Association (APhA)** – The Federal Forum has expanded to two days from April 2-3, 2009. It is being held in conjunction with the APhA Annual Meeting from April 3–6, 2009 in San Antonio
  - **FDA Releases Study on Consumer Medication Information (CMI)** – FDA's study showed that 94% of patients were receiving written information when receiving their prescriptions but only 75% of these CMIs met the usefulness criteria
  - **Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP)** - AMCP has posted letters of support for two bills introduced earlier this year in Congress: the “Independent Drug Education and Outreach Act of 2008,” which would provide grants or contracts for prescription drug education and outreach programs for health care providers and their patients, and the “Comparative Effectiveness Research Act of 2008,” which would create an institute that would conduct specific research on the effectiveness of alternative health care treatments
  - **American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP)** – Published an article in the December 2008 Prevention magazine “Is Your Parent Over Medicated?”
  - **American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP)** - The University of Southern California School of Pharmacy is hosting a conference, Developing Partnerships between Schools of Pharmacy and Safety-Net Clinics, Feb. 12-13, 2009 in Los Angeles, CA

**Career Development** → CDR Michael Shiber ([MJShiber@bop.gov](mailto:MJShiber@bop.gov)) / CDR Nate Yale ([nate.yale@ihs.gov](mailto:nate.yale@ihs.gov))

- **Federal Occupation Clinic for Flu Vaccinations - CDR Shiber / LCDR Olin**
  - 51 pharmacists participated in the joint venture with FOH in giving influenza vaccinations at federal occupation clinics during 2008
  - Vaccination clinics were held in 15 different sites in 5 different states
  - Approximately 1,800 influenza vaccinations were given
  - Please send in post-site surveys to document participation and number of vaccinations given
  - Send LCDR Keith Olin an email if you want to set-up a FOH vaccination site
  - Participation in this vaccination program is an OFRD “training” not a deployment

- Pharmacists need to have the APhA vaccination training certificate or equivalence on file to participate
- Pharmacists must send their vaccination certificate to the PharmPAC (CDR Laura Pincock) and be registered with OFRD to be covered for liability reasons
- **Publication Workgroup – CDR Flowers / LCDR Borders-Hemphill**
  - Workgroup consist of 4 members all currently from the FDA but they are looking for more members from all agencies
  - Recently published an article on the opportunities of pharmacists in the FDA highlighting the Commissioned Corps
  - Future articles planned include new pregnancy labeling initiatives and emergency response to anthrax exposure
  - Contact a current member if you are interested in joining this working group
- **Mentorship Workgroup – LCDR Crockett**
  - 91 officers went thru the mentoring program last year
  - There is a great need for officers to serve as mentors
  - Encourage senior officers and senior O-4 officers with wide-ranging experience to participate in the mentoring training
  - A training for new mentors is being planned for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2009
- **Assimilation Update – CDR Shiber**
  - The 2009 Regular Corps Assimilation Boards have been temporarily suspended
  - Officers should continue to submit their applications to the Regular Corps under the current policy until 1 February 2009
  - For officers up for promotion to the Temporary Grade O-4, the application for assimilation meets the PY 2009 promotion benchmark
- **Readiness – CDR Yale / CDR Shiber**
  - Six officers have volunteered for the readiness workgroup
  - The goal for 2009 of reaching 90% readiness was already achieved by January 1, 2009
  - This is the first time that the pharmacy category achieved a 90% readiness status
  - The new goal for the end of the year is to achieve a 95% readiness status
  - An additional goal for the entire year is to maintain the 90% readiness status especially during times when readiness decreases (i.e. non-promotion times- spring and summer)
  - Email alerts come out periodically to alert officers when they no longer meet the requirements for readiness status
  - For any questions regarding what an officer needs to maintain basic readiness status, email CDR Nate Yale or CDR Shiber at [Nate.Yale@ihs.gov](mailto:Nate.Yale@ihs.gov) or [MJShiber@bop.gov](mailto:MJShiber@bop.gov)

**Recruitment** (see attachment) → LCDR Jeff Mallette ([jxmallette@bop.gov](mailto:jxmallette@bop.gov)) / LCDR Joe Zagame ([joseph.zagame@hhs.gov](mailto:joseph.zagame@hhs.gov))

- **University Point of Contact (UPOC) – LCDR Mallette / CDR Hobbs**
  - Officers are reminded to log in their activities on the website: [www.phspharmacist.org](http://www.phspharmacist.org)
  - UPOC is a vital tool in the recruiting of students early in their education
  - The goal is to have on campus recruiting activities at every pharmacy school
  - UPOC program is an excellent avenue for officers to get involved in recruiting and have their efforts recognized
  - The Dear Dean's Letter Project is underway and will soon be sending out emails to the 105 deans of the U.S. pharmacy schools
  - The letters will highlight the USPHS and include at least one point of contact
- **Pharmacy's Best Kept Secret – LCDR Mallette**
  - The 2009 adjustments have been made to reflect the yearly changes

- Thank you to CAPT Marshall, CDR Vermilyea, and CDR Patel for updating and posting this important document to the PharmPAC website
- **Associate Recruiter Program (ARP) - LCDR Mallette / CAPT Skerda**
  - The ARP will be completely reorganized in the Spring of 2009
  - All active associate recruiters will need to reapply
  - The new program will have a maximum of 20 associate recruiters per category and 2 leaders per category
  - The goal of the new ARP is to have it be more manageable and have accountability
  - The new AR will need to have more training, be more dedicated, and be familiar with policy and procedures
  - Officers not selected to be AR can become ambassadors and still have their recruiting efforts recognized
  - Active AR under the current program are reminded to make sure all their recruiting activities are being recorded in the database
  - Associate Recruiter Ribbons will be awarded by OCCO to the current AR prior to the reorganization of the ARP in the Spring
  - More information for the new Associate Recruiter Program will be posted shortly
- **HHS Referral Bonus Award Program – LCDR Mallette** (Please see attached document)
  - The PharmPAC sent a letter to Gina Cannon, supervisory program analyst
  - The PharmPAC’s position is that PHS officers should be included in the HHS Referral Bonus Award Program
- **Recruitment Document – LCDR Mallette**
  - Developing a document to be used for recruiting that lists all available pharmacy vacancies for PHS officers
  - It will be updated monthly and located on the PharmPAC website
  - An email will be sent out requesting for one PHS pharmacy officer from each agency, with access to their agency’s vacancy information, to join this working group

**Communication** → CDR Richard DeCederfelt ([rdecederfe@nih.gov](mailto:rdecederfe@nih.gov)) / CDR Josephine Lyght ([Jlyght@hrsa.gov](mailto:Jlyght@hrsa.gov))

- **Public Health Pharmacy Work Group (PHPWG) – CDR Lyght**
  - Published an article “Poison Prevention Outreach” in the COA’s Frontline newsletter
  - Five pharmacy officers gave presentations to elementary students in Virginia on injury prevention and childhood obesity
  - Future presentations will be given to middle school students on stopping smoking and don’t use alcohol
  - If interested in joining this work group, please contact CAPT Sharon Gershon
- **PLANT Profile - CDR Lyght**
  - New profile released on the listserv and the website

**JOAG Report** → LCDR Lori Hall ([lfe8@cdc.gov](mailto:lfe8@cdc.gov))

- **Requesting Nominations for Three Awards**
  - The **Junior Officer of the Year Award** recognizes a Junior Officer at temporary grade O-1 through O-4 in the United States Commissioned Corps that has made a significant contribution to the overall mission of the Public Health Service

- The **JOAG Excellence Award** recognizes a non-voting, active member of the JOAG for demonstrating outstanding, dedicated effort, and commitment to JOAG through active committee participation
- The **VADM Richard H. Carmona Inspiration Award** recognizes a retired or active duty Senior Officer at temporary grade O-5 or above who exemplifies outstanding leadership by example, mentorship and empowerment of junior officers, unwavering support of the Commissioned Corps and its mission, and overall inspiration and motivation to the PHS community
- Awards will be presented at the annual USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium
- Contact a JOAG member for a nomination form
- Nominations are due no later than **27 February 2009**

**PharmPAC Chair Report → CDR Patricia Garvey ([patricia.garvey@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:patricia.garvey@fda.hhs.gov))**

- CDR Garvey reiterated her goal of increasing attendance at PharmPAC meetings
- CDR Garvey thanked CDR Dando and the 29 volunteers for their thorough review and detailed presentation of the results from the Pharmacy Assessment Survey sent out last year
- CAPT Giberson will lead an effort to better communicate the changes the PharmPAC makes as it addresses the recommendations of CDR Dando's review of the Pharmacy Assessment Survey
  - A goal is to make everyone aware that the meetings are now only **90 minutes** long
- The PharmPAC provided responses on three documents this month (please see the attached responses)
  - **PharmPAC Insignia and Devices Policy Response**
  - **PharmPAC Uniforms and Appearance Policy Response**
  - **PharmPAC Response to 2009 COER**
  - Any questions or comments on the PharmPAC responses can be addressed during the open forum or email comments to CDR Garvey
- CDR Garvey thanked the Public Health Pharmacy Work Group (PHPWG) for their committed efforts in educating the community on public health issues and promoting the PHS

**Open Forum → CDR Patricia Garvey ([patricia.garvey@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:patricia.garvey@fda.hhs.gov))**

- A request was made for the PharmPAC website to have old documents removed and be updated
  - CDR Garvey and CAPT Giberson request that anyone who notices a problem with the PharmPAC website contact them by email
  - The Section leads can also fix the problem but please also carbon copy CDR Garvey and CAPT Giberson so they are aware of any problems with the website
- Question: Are the welcome packages still being sent to new officers?
  - Answer: Yes, the Communication section is still sending out the welcome packages to new officers

**Old/New Business → CDR Patricia Garvey ([patricia.garvey@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:patricia.garvey@fda.hhs.gov))**

- **Development of a Pharmacy School at USUHS**
  - CDR Ed Stein is leading the working group
  - The goals of the working group are to address the feasibility, the need, the stakeholders, the alternatives, and the costs involved in developing a pharmacy school at USUHS



**Attachments:**

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- 1. Chief Pharmacy Officer Report**
- 2. PharmPAC Comments HHS Referral Bonus Award Program**
- 3. PharmPAC Insignia and Devices Policy Response**
- 4. PharmPAC Response to 2009 COER**
- 5. PharmPAC Uniforms and Appearance Policy Response**
- 6. Recruitment Section Report**
- 7. Liaison Officers Report**
- 8. FDA Report**
- 9. HRSA Report**
- 10. JOAG Report**