



Commissioned Corps BULLETIN

Division of Commissioned Personnel • Program Support Center, DHHS

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June 2000

Surgeon General's Column

"Excellence is a way of life and living associated with high aims and lofty goals."

I made the above statement during my swearing-in ceremony more than 2 years ago. Little did I know then the commitment commissioned corps officers would make to improve their health by adopting healthy lifestyles. That commitment represents a dedication to excellence. When we take care of ourselves, it shows the serious nature with which we regard our own health and, perhaps, equally as important, gets reflected in our care for the health of the Nation.

Our Healthy Lifestyles Program focuses on increasing physical activity and improving nutrition—two key factors in healthy living. It also includes smoking cessation for those who smoke. The Program will be instrumental in moving us toward a healthier Corps. We hope every member of the Corps will become involved in this program, but we believe that all officers, especially senior officers, must not only serve as providers of health information, but they also must show personal involvement as role models in transforming our Service into a healthier, more vigorous commissioned corps.

There is good reason to participate in this program. The many benefits of maintaining a healthy lifestyle are well documented in myriad reports, studies, and other materials. Physical activity alone can improve the quality of life, including increasing energy levels, mental acuity, and sexual stamina, and enhancing sleep habits, and it can reduce hip fractures in the elderly. We recommend at least 30 minutes of physical activity a day, at least

5 days a week, along with a healthy diet consisting of grains and at least five servings of fruits and vegetables a day.

The risks of not maintaining a healthy lifestyle are also well documented. The second leading preventable cause of death in this country is attributed to dietary factors and physical inactivity. We are talking about more than 300,000 deaths each year! Physical inactivity can result in heart disease, stroke, diabetes, colon cancer, overweight, and obesity.

Many people have bought into the myth that it is just too hard to adopt healthy behaviors. Some of those comments were repeated in the Fitness/Nutrition Survey we issued this past January to assess where Corps members were with regard to their health. Many people expressed a definite interest in improving their overall health, but they also indicated some difficulty with fitting physical activity into their daily schedules and their desire for a work culture that allowed time during the day to be physically active. Other popular concepts were from those who were interested in having an extended workday if it allowed time during the workday for physical activity using workplace gym facilities. Some suggested the need for a yearly fitness test for Corps officers. I even got an invitation to come to Tuba City Indian Health Service to hike the Grand Canyon! Comments on the nutrition side included making nutritional information or consultants available to all Federal office buildings and adding healthier items to the vending machines, including bottled water. A subsequent survey will be issued in a few months to assess how well we are doing.

Phase I

The Program is divided into three phases, the first of which was just completed. It involved implementing the Presidential Sports Award Program and distributing the "Get Fit with Five" brochures, which were distributed in January. I am pleased with the level of enthusiasm and support that has been exhibited and am confident that we are off to a good start. But we have much more to accomplish.

Phase II

Let me emphasize that the goal of the Healthy Lifestyles Program is not simply to pass an annual test. Tests, which are usually only good for seasons, work well in some situations. But in this instance, we are seeking a spirit of excellence rather than a pass/fail mentality. What we hope to develop is a fitness-based lifestyle and to create a culture of awareness stressing overall fitness.

But we realize this culture will not occur naturally. So the next phase of the Healthy Lifestyles Program, which is just getting underway, consists of organizing

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Surgeon General's Column

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local Wellness Committees to provide population-based intervention programs that are aimed at targeting those who need more assistance in achieving a healthy lifestyle. These local programs are open to all and are designed to promote personal responsibility and to strengthen commitment. Officers interested in information and assistance on starting or modifying local Wellness Programs, or coordinating with other entities, should contact the Office of the Surgeon General's Healthy Lifestyles Program Coordinator, CDR Mike Flyzik, at phone 301-443-4000 or e-mail address mflyzik@osophs.dhhs.gov

Maintaining a healthy lifestyle goes beyond good nutrition and physical activity as was pointed out in the new Healthy People 2010 initiative, which was launched in January. This initiative is the Nation's health promotion / disease prevention agenda for the next decade, and it serves as the framework for our Healthy Lifestyles Program. It has two goals: to increase the years and quality of healthy life and to eliminate disparities in health based on race and ethnicity. The initiative names 10 Leading Health Indicators; 5 of them relate to lifestyle. In addition to physical activity and overweight and obesity (which takes into account nutrition), we include substance abuse, responsible sexual behavior, and tobacco use.

The timing of our Program with the Healthy People initiative is not only fortuitous, it is immense, considering Healthy People 2010 is also the United States' contribution to the World Health Organization's "Health for All" strategy. That makes us a part of a global effort to improve health not just throughout the Nation, but throughout the world.

Phase III

Our long-term goal in Phase III is a comprehensive Wellness Program addressing Healthy People's 10 Leading Health Indicators—five lifestyle indicators and five health systems indicators. Healthy People's systematic approach to health improvement is an excellent model for a Wellness Program of the Uniformed Service responsible for promoting and protecting the Nation's health. For more information on Healthy People, log onto www.health.gov/healthypeople

The responsibility for building a healthier Corps rests with all of us. As we salute the Corps' already impressive achievements, we forge ahead toward an excellent future in developing ourselves into an even more progressive and vital part of our Nation's public health team.

ADM David Satcher
Assistant Secretary for Health
and Surgeon General



2000 Annual COERs

The 2000 Annual Commissioned Officers' Effectiveness Report (COER) was distributed in late May and was due from the officer to his or her immediate Supervisor/Rating Official no later than *June 2, 2000*. The following summary of the established deadlines is provided as a convenient reminder.

COERs are due:

- to the Reviewing Official by *June 16, 2000*;
- to the Agency/Operating Division/Program Commissioned Corps Liaison by *July 14, 2000*; and

- to the Division of Commissioned Personnel by *July 28, 2000*.

A memorandum signed by the Secretary concerning commissioned corps personnel practices, requires that managers understand and fulfill their obligations concerning Corps performance management. Therefore, a well-documented COER must be completed for each commissioned officer, and the Secretary is holding each Operating Division Head responsible for full compliance.



Commissioned Officer Training Academy

Commissioned Officer Training Academy's History Section Requests Photographs

The Division of Commissioned Personnel's Commissioned Officer Training Academy (COTA) has established a History Section. The History Section would like to gather photographs of Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Corps officers either on duty or off duty. Photos with views of officers on duty in uniform along with flags or site names in the photo are particularly being sought.

It is helpful if materials are in digital format and are sent electronically or mailed directly to the COTA at the addresses below. Photos submitted on paper or slides will be scanned (digitalize) as needed. Submitted photographs will not be returned; they will be retained by the History Section.

There will be many uses for these photographs. The immediate use is to enhance the presentations of the Basic Officer Training Course, Supervisors/Administrators Training Course, and focused/mini classes as well as being used for recruitment efforts.

A picture is worth a thousand words, but please include a few brief sentences to identify the photo. Please provide the following:

- photograph (in any format, digital or paper; digital preferred)
- date or approximate date the photo was taken
- name(s) of individual(s) in the photo
- brief narrative identifying the event
- the name of the officer sending the photo and his/her PHS serial number

Please submit to:

Division of Commissioned Personnel
ATTN: CAPT Frank Behan (COTA)
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 4A-18
Rockville, MD 20857-0001
E-mail: fbehan@psc.gov (or)
dtaylor@psc.gov



Division of Commissioned Personnel Realignment

by RADM R. Michael Davidson

The Division of Commissioned Personnel (DCP) is progressing through a realignment this summer which will contribute to the growth and expansion of the commissioned corps. DCP will shift its mission from a personnel processing center to a human resource provider. We will place heavy emphasis on the recruitment, placement, and retention of officers in positions which contribute to public health and national security.

In last month's *Commissioned Corps Bulletin* we looked at "The State of the Commissioned Corps," comparing the year 2000 to the year 1991. Many of our readers have written or called DCP and noted positive trends in diversity, both in ethnicity and gender. They also expressed concern about the shrinking size of the Corps, especially in the lower ranks. They asked if the fall in numbers is due to fewer applicants or less hiring or more retiring. All good questions. The answers are complicated.

The Corps, like much of the Federal workforce, is aging. We have many more senior officers than junior officers. We are retiring in higher numbers. In 1999, 466 officers retired. The average over the past 10 years is around 200 retirements per year. In the 1970's we hired about 1,000 new officers per year. In 1999, we hired 364 new officers. These and other factors have resulted in a net loss of 750 officers since the mid 1990's. Separations of officers with less than 3 years of service are increasing rapidly.

These are cause for concern, not alarm. Although the causes of this decline are varied and complex, the intervention plans need not be. We need to hire more

people and keep those with a public health mindset around for a while.

DCP is realigning with these issues in mind. Those parts of the Officer Development Branch (ODB), Personnel Services Branch (PSB), and Medical Affairs Branch (MAB) that deal with new applicants and officer transfers will form the new Recruitment and Assignment Branch (RAB). RAB will place officers into jobs, not into the applicant pool.

Parts of ODB and PSB will form the new Officer Support Branch (OSB). The OSB will focus on retention through service and support. The new Commissioned Officer Training Academy will be housed in OSB, providing basic training and leadership skills throughout officers' careers. Promotion and assimilation will be managed in OSB as well.

MAB will continue to manage our health care entitlements. Information Services Branch (ISB) will build new data tools to meet the needs of officers and program managers. Compensation Branch (CB) will continue its long history of excellent payroll services.

The ODB and PSB branch names will be retired, but the *people* will still be here in DCP, finding new ways to provide better service, to increase recruiting success, and to retain the best and brightest commissioned officers to serve our Nation.

Watch the DCP web site - <http://dcp.psc.gov> - for the details as they unfold this summer. Names, phone numbers, duties, and functions will all be posted there on the 'Services and Telephone Directory' page and in the 'New' area.

Food and Drug Administration to Hold Annual Promotion Ceremony on June 30, 2000

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will hold its 5th Annual Commissioned Corps Promotion Ceremony on Friday, June 30, 2000, at 1:30 p.m. at the Bethesda Marriott Hotel, 5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, Maryland. The ceremony will honor those officers who are being recognized for their accomplishments by promotion in rank during the 2000 promotion year cycle.

This year FDA Commissioner Jane Henney, M.D. will officiate as the individual placing the new rank on the shoulders of each of the deserving officers. RADM Marlene Haffner will be the Master of Ceremonies.

Everyone is invited to attend. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP by June 15, 2000, to CAPT Cynthia Pond by e-mail at Cpond@oc.fda.gov

Call for Nominations for the Health Services Professional Advisory Committee

The Health Services Professional Advisory Committee (HS-PAC) provides advice to the Surgeon General and the Chief Professional Officer on professional and personnel issues related to the Health Services category.

Selections, which are based on the nominee's commitment to public health activities and specified criteria in the HS-PAC Charter (e.g., organizational, discipline, gender, minority representation) are made by the HS-PAC and are approved by the Surgeon General.

HS-PAC members are expected to obtain the necessary travel funds to attend six scheduled meetings per year in Rockville, Maryland, (with permission of the HS-PAC Chair, teleconferencing can be arranged for two of these meetings) and to participate in HS-PAC activities. Appointments will be made for a 3-year term, beginning January 1, 2001.

Please request that a self-nomination form (which includes a space for supervisory approval) be faxed to you by using the Faxback feature of *CorpsLine*. You can reach *CorpsLine* at 301-443-6843. Listen to the menu and choose the option, "To retrieve documents through Faxback," and request document number **6530**.

Complete the self-nomination form and send it along with a current curriculum vitae and a cover letter describing how your specific experience and expertise will benefit the HS-PAC. The completed package must be submitted to the following address by **July 30, 2000**:

LCDR Anne Perry
Chair, Membership
Subcommittee, HS-PAC
Health Services Division
Federal Correctional Institution
Butner, NC 27509
Phone: 919-575-4541, ext. 3501

Office of the Surgeon General

Scientist Category

This article describes the distinguished history of the Scientist category and introduces some of its notable contributions to the missions of the Public Health Service (PHS) and the commissioned corps.

The origins of the Scientist category can be traced back to early noncommissioned scientists at the Laboratory of Hygiene (later named the National Institutes of Health (NIH)). In 1902, discussions took place to convert the Division Directors at the Lab who held the title of "Professor" into commissioned officers. These Divisions included basic sciences such as Chemistry, Pharmacology, and Zoology. Not until the 1930 Parker Bill was signed into law was provision made for commissioning scientist officers into the PHS Commissioned Corps. In 1945, the Scientist category was established and a number of civil service scientists converted to the Corps. The Scientist Professional Advisory Committee (SciPAC) was chartered in 1983.

Today there are approximately 260 Scientist officers in the commissioned corps. These officers have a doctoral degree in a health-related field, where the degree requirements included successful completion of independent and original research. Scientist officers have diverse professional backgrounds and a proud history of research, service, and leadership at all levels in the Department of Health and Human Services. A sampling of the contributions of individual Scientist officers can be found in a special section on the Scientist category home page – <http://scipac.nih.gov/scientist/contributions.html>

Scientist officers have also excelled in supporting the policies and initiatives of the Office of the Surgeon General and in advancing the commissioned corps. The following describes a few notable category initiatives over the past decade:

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the PHS Commissioned Corps in 1989, the category organized a Centennial Science Symposium at NIH. VADM C. Everett Koop, then the Surgeon General, opened the program and the general chairperson for the symposium was the Chief Scientist Officer, CAPT Richard P. Chiacchierini. Topics of the seven scien-

tific sessions were drug and alcohol abuse, depression, AIDS, the human genome, cancer prevention, and bacterial vaccines. The symposium also included a session on training for future commissioned officers. For details, visit the SciPAC web site (address above).

In conjunction with other PACs, the SciPAC has organized symposia for the benefit of all members of the PHS. These symposia include the 1997 Conference on Mentor Training, the 1998 Leadership Symposium, and numerous orientations in the field. In 1998, Scientist officers produced and distributed the PHS Bicentennial Calendar to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the PHS. Scientist officers have supported the Corps by filling key leadership positions in the Commissioned Officers Association (COA), Reserve Officers Association, and Association of Military Surgeons of the United States.

The SciPAC has worked with the Health Services PAC to arrange military flights to the annual COA meetings. These flights enable many officers to attend the meetings who would not attend otherwise because of limited travel funds.

The category is active in helping to define the future of the Corps. To this end, Scientist officers co-chaired the 1996 and 1999 workgroups that provided recommendations to the Surgeon General on the national and international public health role of the Corps in the 21st century. The SciPAC is leading a recruitment effort with the schools of public health. This involves meeting with students and informing them of the outstanding career opportunities the PHS Commissioned Corps offers. Officers in every category have enthusiastically assisted with this effort and the response from students has been very positive.

Despite its small size, the Scientist category has a strong tradition of promoting and furthering the mission of the PHS. The credit for this history of service belongs to the many junior and senior officers in the category who go above and beyond, and give of their time and energy to work with the SciPAC and the Chief Scientist Officer. This article is dedicated to them. □

Commissioned Corps Readiness Force

CCRF Response at IMF/ World Bank Meetings

The Commissioned Corps Readiness Force (CCRF) was activated in April for the response surrounding the International Monetary Fund (IMF) / World Bank meetings in Washington, D.C. The following officers were deployed to provide force protection medical support for the United States Secret Service during the meetings and subsequent protests: CAPT Herbert Neal Collins, CDR Bonita S. Pyler, and LCDR Roberta P. Lavin. CCRF would like to offer our gratitude to these officers and their supporting Operating Divisions/Programs for a job well done.

CCRF Web Site

Please remember that CCRF members are responsible for keeping their data current. This is particularly important for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training. Each CCRF member must make certain that the database accurately reflects a current status for CPR training. Currency in CPR is a mandatory requirement for assignment to a ready roster.

All CCRF members should remember to visit the CCRF web site frequently to check for news and to update any changes to personal information – <http://oep.osophs.dhhs.gov/ccrf>

Any commissioned officer interested in applying for membership in CCRF may do so online at the CCRF web site. Simply click on 'Apply' and follow the online instructions.

All members should also subscribe to the CCRF Listserv in order to receive the most up-to-date CCRF news messages via e-mail. To do so, click on 'Listserv' from the CCRF Home Page. The CCRF Command Staff may be reached by e-mail at – ccrf@osophs.dhhs.gov □

Musical Talent Survey

The Scientist Professional Advisory Committee (SciPAC) proposed to the Office of the Surgeon General (OSG) and the Chief Professional Officers (CPOs) the idea of forming a Corps-wide musical group (or groups) to perform at formal and informal functions such as the Dining Out and the Commissioned Officers Association (COA) meetings. The OSG and CPOs enthusiastically supported the proposal and authorized the SciPAC to conduct a survey to determine the availability of officers and their musical skills.

At a minimum, the musical group would lead in the singing of the Public Health Service (PHS) March and the National Anthem. The establishment of an instrumental group is a desired objective. As the group becomes established and recognized, it may elect to undertake more customized or broader musical programs. While this idea may appear challenging, if it is successful then in a small way the PHS Commissioned Corps will become more similar to its sister Services who have excellent musical groups.

Officers with musical talent who are in field locations are very important for performances at local events (e.g., COA meetings, Surgeon General or flag officer visits). Field musicians will be invited and welcome to join the District of Columbia (D.C.) group when attending a D.C. function and vice versa.

If you have no musical talent there is no need to respond. However, if you have suggestions or comments to make, please do so. If you have musical talents, please respond only if you have a desire and willingness to be an active participant to make this a resounding success. Interested officers should provide answers to the survey questions below by **July 14, 2000**:

Survey Questions-

- What is your name, phone number, e-mail address, and location (city and State)?
- What is your musical talent (singing, musical instrument(s), teaching/directing, etc.)?
- Other comments and suggestions.

Please send responses via e-mail to CAPT John J. Bartko, USPHS (Ret.), at jjbartko@erols.com

Hispanic Officers Advisory Committee – Call for Nominations

The Hispanic Officers Advisory Committee (HOAC) is accepting nominations for membership by all interested Public Health Service Commissioned Corps officers and Department of Health and Human Services civil service personnel.

If you are interested, request that a blank self-nomination form (which includes a space for supervisory approval and a space to request being considered for work on a subcommittee rather than being a committee member) be faxed to you by using the Faxback feature of *CorpsLine*. You can reach *CorpsLine* at 301-443-6843. Listen to the menu and choose the second option, "To retrieve documents through Faxback," and request document number **6537**.

Complete the self-nomination form and include a typed, short (up to two paragraphs) biographical sketch. Submit the complete package either by mail or by fax by the close of business on **June 30, 2000**, to the following address:

LCDR Boris Aponte
 Rockwall II Bldg., Suite 800
 5600 Fishers Lane
 Rockville, MD 20857-0001
 Phone: 301-443-2290
 Fax: 301-443-5592



Vacancy Announcement for Non-Federal Position – Director, Miami-Dade County Health Department

Florida's Secretary of Health has asked the Surgeon General's assistance in identifying an experienced, dynamic leader for the position of Director, Miami-Dade County Health Department. Perhaps a retiring Corps officer would be interested in applying. For information, please contact Dr. Robert G. Brooks, Secretary, Department of Health, 2020 Capital Circle, SE, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1700.



Retirements - May

Title/Name *OPDIV/Program*

MEDICAL

REAR ADMIRAL (UPPER)
 Jeffrey P. Koplan CDC
REAR ADMIRAL (LOWER)
 Darrel A. Regier NIH
CAPTAIN
 Vilis E. Kilpe HCFA
 Paul C. Turkeltaub FDA
 Gregory D. Gessay IHS
 Daniel L. Alkon NIH

DENTAL

CAPTAIN
 Eric D. Rehorst IHS
COMMANDER
 Jorge L. Figueroa HRSA
 Paul A. Buonviri IHS
 Delmar K. Kelley IHS

NURSE

COMMANDER
 Teresa R. Rosenlund IHS

ENGINEER

CAPTAIN
 John E. Osborn EPA

SCIENTIST

COMMANDER
 Charles A. Wells NIH

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

CAPTAIN
 Thomas C. Fahres HRSA
 Richard M. Bryan NIH

PHARMACY

CAPTAIN
 Gary J. Buehler FDA
 Robert J. Tonelli FDA

HEALTH SERVICES

CAPTAIN
 Roland M. McPhearson, Jr. FDA
 Henry J. Wirth, III IHS
 Edwin L. Sensintaffar EPA



The Script Heard 'Round the World'



HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala (center) congratulates Division of Immigration Health Services (left to right) Director CAPT Eugene Migliaccio, CDR Carlos Quinones, LT Gustavo Cadavid, and CAPT Ada Rivera.

"I know this is scary, but it will be over soon," she said. "We are not taking you to Cuba. We are taking you to your papa." These words, spoken by an Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) agent to 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez, were carefully scripted for the agent by doctors with the Division of Immigration Health Services (DIHS). These words depict the role of the Public Health Service (PHS) and characterize the heart and soul of Operation Reunion.

"The health and mental well being of little Elian Gonzalez were preeminently important in this mission," said CAPT Gene Migliaccio, Director, DIHS. "Every action placed Elian's needs first and foremost." A team of PHS officers assigned to the INS provided guidance and support to the INS about the care Elian might need under every possible scenario; from peaceful to difficult and in light of the trauma and distress he had been under since Thanksgiving Day when he lost his mother at sea and was adrift for 3 days.

"Our first challenge was providing adequate comfort and reassurance to Elian while removing him from the Miami house where he was held isolated from his father," said CAPT Ada Rivera, Medical Director, DIHS, who directed the medical support team. LT Gustavo Cadavid, a psychiatrist with the Division, counseled the INS agent who, in the predawn hours of April 22, carried Elian from the house and accompanied him to Andrews Air Force Base (AFB), outside Washington, D.C.

"We also prepared for every possibility, including injuries among the INS officers

who rescued Elian or any physical conditions that might have rendered the boy unfit for air travel," said CDR Carlos Quinones, a qualified flight surgeon and physician with the Division. "My job was to ensure that Elian was fit to fly and to administer to anyone who may have been injured in the operation. He was alert and quite healthy when he arrived at Homestead AFB, Florida." CDR Quinones gave him a thorough physical exam and determined he was fit, although there was a whole team standing by to take the boy to Washington by land and sea if he had not been able to fly.

Once Elian's entourage boarded the plane, responsibility for Elian was transferred to the PHS officers. "By that time," said LT Cadavid, "Elian appeared to feel quite safe with the INS agent, and he held close to her. We talked to Elian through her. Everyone on the flight spoke in Spanish, even if we were not speaking to Elian, in order to reinforce his level of comfort. We did not administer any medication to Elian; it was not necessary. He was calm." Shortly after he boarded, he asked about his Miami relatives and cried quietly for about 10 minutes when he learned they would not be joining us. He fell asleep and slept peacefully for about 45 minutes. When he awoke, he was more animated and at home with the care givers. We talked about the plane. He played with some of the toys we brought onboard for him. "Squeezing something like Playdough is a proven stress reliever for children," said LT Cadavid. "We tried to equip the toy box with toys that would be

both interesting and helpful in managing his stress tolerance." The care of Elian was so important to the Department of Justice, the INS, and DIHS, that two of the six seats on the Lear Jet that brought Elian to Andrews AFB were designated for CDR Quinones and LT Cadavid who oversaw Elian's well being during the flight.

Elian spoke to his father by cell phone during the flight and searched the runway to catch sight of him as the plane taxied to a stop. When Elian first saw his father on the runway, his whole face lit up, and as the plane turned, Elian continued to strain to maintain sight of him. Meanwhile, Juan Miguel Gonzalez boarded the plane and was there beside his son, after 5 months. Time stood still throughout the entire plane. The immediate bond between Elian and Juan Miguel was evident. Everyone on board the plane was close to tears. Juan Miguel thanked both physicians as he told them he thought he would never see his son again.

LT Cadavid, CDR Quinones, and CAPT Migliaccio accompanied Elian and his father to their temporary home at Andrews AFB. There they said goodbye to an extraordinary patient. Both doctors were emotionally moved by their contact with Elian and his father and by the part the Division played in assuring Elian's health and well being leading up to the reunion.

These officers in the PHS Commissioned Corps are assigned to the INS through the Health Resources and Services Administration's Bureau of Primary Health Care. DIHS, in which they serve, provides global disease prevention through primary healthcare to INS detainees. The Division operates eleven health clinics and oversees managed healthcare to detainees housed in local jails throughout the United States.

"All of us with Justice tried our very best to avoid having to regain custody of this remarkable little boy, who had already suffered so much, in this way," said Attorney General Janet Reno. "The Immigration Health Services Division and other mental healthcare professionals gave us remarkable guidance and support in this operation." Secretary of Health and Human Services, Donna E. Shalala, invited the PHS officers involved with Operation Reunion to her office to express her gratitude for a successful mission. Secretary Shalala congratulated these PHS officers for their professionalism and leadership.

□

Vacancy Announcements

The following vacancies are provided as representative of opportunities currently available to Public Health Service Commissioned Corps officers. If you have questions pertaining to the announcements listed below, please call the contact listed.

Any Operating Division/Program wishing to list a vacancy in this column should send a written request to: Division of Commissioned Personnel, ATTN: Vacancy Announcements Project Officer, Room 4A-18, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857-0001—or phone: 301-594-3458 or 301-594-3360 (toll-free at 1-877-INFO-DCP, listen to the prompts, select option #1, dial 43360) or Fax: 301-443-7069.

Category/OPDIV

Description of Position

MEDICAL

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE—
Wind River, WY

Medical Officer
Contact: CDR William Calder 307-332-7300
Grades: O-3/O-4/O-5

Seeking board certified/board eligible family physician to join seven physician group for nonobstetrics clinic practice with admission privileges to private hospital. Position available July 2000.

DENTAL

BUREAU OF PRISONS—
Fort Worth, TX

Staff Dental Officer
Contact: CDR A. Upchurch 817-782-4506
Grade: O-4

Clinical dentist; either DDS or DMD.

NURSE

PROGRAM SUPPORT CENTER—
Rockville, MD

Patient Care Coordinator
Contact: CDR Ana Marie Balingit-Wines (or)
CDR Jeff (Marty) Skelton 1-800-594-6425, option 2
Grades: O-3/O-4/O-5

This position is located in the Beneficiary Medical Program (BMP) section of the Medical Affairs Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel. BMP is responsible for collaborating with other agencies such as the Department of Defense to provide healthcare access to officers in the Public Health Service (PHS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). BMP's Patient Care Coordinators (PCC) are essential in the coordination, management, and payment of healthcare for PHS and NOAA officers, and they are integral in being the first line of information regarding medical sick leave and fitness for duty criteria. PCCs also assist in reviewing form SF-88, "Report of Medical Examination," and form SF-93, "Report of Medical History," which are included in the medical portion of the application for appointment to the commissioned corps. There are opportunities in this position to develop skills in communication, computer, and managed care. Qualifications include a bachelor's degree in nursing, prior military experience, and recent experience in a clinical setting. The closing date is June 12, 2000.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS—
Las Vegas, NV

Physician Assistant, Certified Nurse, or Nurse Practitioner
Contact: LCDR Susan Fritz 702-644-5001, ext. 303
Grades: O-2/O-3/O-4

Provide primary healthcare to approximately 600 adult incarcerated male offenders in an outpatient setting at the Federal Prison Camp, Nellis. Specific duties include managing assigned patient case load, urgent care skills, performing minor surgical procedures, and providing wellness classes.

DCP WEB SITE ADDRESS—

<http://dcp.psc.gov>

DCP Toll-Free Phone Number—

1-877-INFO DCP
(or 1-877-463-6327)

Subscribe to Listserv to Receive
Email Messages from DCP—
listserv@list.psc.dhhs.gov

Reminder

When applying for a position, it is inappropriate to submit your application in a postage paid Federal government envelope. It is also important to note that a number of Agencies/Operating Divisions/Programs will not accept applications that are submitted in this manner.

Call for Nominations for the 2000/2001 Dietitian of the Year Award

The Dietitian/Nutritionist Professional Advisory Committee (D/N PAC) is now accepting nominations for the 2000/2001 Public Health Service (PHS) Dietitian of the Year Award.

To be eligible, the nominee must be a PHS dietitian/nutritionist (civil service or commissioned corps) who has been employed by the Federal government for a minimum of 3 years during his or her current tour; Corps officers must be in the Dietetics category; and all nominees must be listed as Registered Dietitians with the American Dietetic Association's Commission on Dietetic Registration. The emphasis for nomination should be on sustained outstanding performance, a superior contribution to the field of dietetics, and evidence of dedication to the principles of the PHS mission.

The award consists of an engraved plaque presented to the awardee at the D/N PAC meeting held in conjunction with the 2001 Annual Meeting of the American Dietetic Association or another appropriate professional meeting.

Please visit the D/N PAC web site – <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/diet/dietpac.html> – for more specific details regarding the selection criteria and instructions for completion of a nomination.

The Chairperson, D/N PAC, must receive all nominations by the close of business on **July 14, 2000**. Send nominations to:

CDR Marilyn Welschenbach
Chairperson, D/NPAC
FDA/CDER/HFD 358
Woodmont II, Room 3009
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857-0001

For Your Information

The Soldiers', Sailors', Marines' and Airmen's Club, a hotel located in Mid-Town Manhattan, New York City, is a not-for-profit organization providing lodgings exclusively for the Uniformed Services of the United States. If you desire more information, the Club's phone number is 212-683-4353, or visit the Club's web site at www.ssmclub.org

CDR Tammy Brown Receives Dietitian of the Year Award

On April 13, 2000, CAPT Donald Morgan, Commissioned Corps Personnel Coordinator of the Alaska Area Native Health Service, (representing the Chief Dietitian Officer, CAPT Pamela Brye) presented the Dietitian of the Year Award to CDR Tammy Brown. The award was presented during the First Annual Commissioned Officers Association's Educational Meeting held at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage.

CDR Brown was selected as this year's recipient for her outstanding leadership and commitment in developing a comprehensive diabetes program and bringing high effectiveness in health promotion and disease prevention benefitting the American Indians on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation.

Since November 1997, CDR Brown has been working with the Indian Health Service's (IHS) Alaska Diabetes Program

at the Alaska Native Medical Center. She began her career as a commissioned corps officer in 1991 as a nutrition specialist at the Uintah and Ouray Reservation for IHS. Soon afterward, she was assigned the Acting Diabetes Program Director position. She previously worked with headstart and is currently involved with the Senior Meal Program, Bureau of Indian Affairs' Jail Food Service, Redpine Alcohol Treatment Center, Thunder Ridge Residential Youth Center, Women, Infants, and Children Program, and the Food Distribution Program. CDR Brown was instrumental in the planning and implementation of nutrition projects such as bringing the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program to the reservation and working with the Utah State University Dietetics Department to develop a 6-week summer youth project called "Food, Fun, and Fitness" which is now in its eighth year. □

Federal Bureau of Prisons Seeking Assistant Health Services Administrators

Thanks to the response to the article appearing in the March issue of the *Commissioned Corps Bulletin*, the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) has filled many of its Health Services Administrator positions (O-6 billets) at many of the BOP institutions. Of course, with normal turnover, there will be a continuing future need for officers to fill these positions.

However, the greatest need now is for Assistant Health Services Administrators (O-5 billets) at BOP facilities throughout the United States. The Assis-

tant positions are an excellent step in the career ladder leading to selection for higher-graded Administrator billets.

Officers interested in being considered for any of these positions should contact Ms. Jan Sorenson, Assistant National Health Systems Administrator, in the BOP Central Office in Washington, DC, at 202-307-2867 ext. 162, or 1-800-800-2676 ext. 162, or e-mail address - jsorenson@bop.gov. When contacting Ms. Sorenson, be sure to indicate the geographic area(s) in which you are most interested. □

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Program Support Center
Human Resources Service
Division of Commissioned Personnel, Room 4A-15
Rockville MD 20857-0001

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use \$300

DATED MATERIAL



NIH Shipping Officer's Phone Number— 301-496-1595

Public Health Service Commissioned Corps officers in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area utilize the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Central Travel Section when shipping household goods authorized by a personnel order.

The NIH Shipping Officer can be reached at phone number 301-496-1595. The NIH Shipping Officer's fax number is 301-496-4509. □

Recent Deaths

The deaths of the following retired officers were reported to the Division of Commissioned Personnel:

<i>Title/Name</i>	<i>Date</i>
MEDICAL	
CAPT Lawrence R. Rose	04/04/00
DENTIST	
CAPT Leo Trusewitsch	05/01/00
THERAPY	
CAPT Elizabeth M. Finke	03/30/00

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