



The 29th Annual
Food and Drug Administration
Promotion Ceremony
for the United States Public Health Service
Commissioned Corps

honoring those promoted in Promotion Year 2025

Friday, January 23, 2026
1:00 P.M. EST



FDA White Oak Campus
Great Room Auditorium
10903 New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, Maryland



Arrival of the 2025 USPHS Promotees Arrival of the Official Party

Presentation of the Colors and the National Anthem

***USPHS Surgeon General's Honor Guard
USPHS Music Ensemble***

Public Health Service March

USPHS Music Ensemble

Introduction

RADM Kis Robertson Hale

***Director, Office of Laboratory Operations and Applied Science,
Human Foods Program***

LCDR Amy Ramanadham (Adjutant)

***Staff Director, Drug Safety Operations
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research***

Welcome/Opening Remarks

Sara Brenner, M.D., M.P.H

Principal Deputy Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration

ADM Brian Christine

Assistant Secretary for Health

Call to Orders/Promotion and Recognition of Officers

RADM Kis Robertson Hale

LCDR Amy Ramanadham

Closing Remarks

RDML Richard P. Schobitz

Director, Commissioned Corps Headquarters



2025 Promotions

To Captain:

Barrairs, Rod-Jimil (CBER)	Health Services Officer
Tran, Trang (CDER)	Pharmacist
Wally, Jeremy (OII)	Scientist

To Commander:

Adams, Jennifer (OII)	Health Services Officer
Addo, Adlaide (CDER)	Nurse
Allen, Joseph (CDER)	Pharmacist
Bailey, Daveta (OII)	Environmental Health Officer
Benasutti, Bradley (OII)	Environmental Health Officer
Bonzagni, Neil (OII)	Scientist
Brennan, Timothy (CBER)	Medical Officer
Cheng-Dobson, Jennifer (OII)	Health Services Officer
Cho, Chung (HFP)	Health Services Officer
D'Alessandro, Domenic (CDER)	Pharmacist
Devera, Benigno (OII)	Engineer
Dyer, Jacob (CDRH)	Engineer
Edelson-Mammel, Sharon (CTP)	Health Services Officer
Edwards, Elizabeth (CDER)	Scientist
Fisher, Evan (CDER)	Medical Officer
Lal, Renu (CDER)	Pharmacist
Leshin, Jonathan (CVM)	Scientist
Nakagawa, Lisa (OII)	Environmental Health Officer
Penn, Rumany (CDER)	Pharmacist
Trendel, Gretchen (OII)	Nurse
Volkman, Kelsey (OII)	Environmental Health Officer
Wiyor, Hanniebey (CDRH)	Engineer
Wu, Richard (CBER)	Medical Officer



To Lieutenant Commander:

Aboagye, Samuel (OII)	Environmental Health Officer
Amegadje, Koffi (OC)	Pharmacist
Banmeke, Olubukola (OII)	Scientist
Carr, Charles (CTP)	Pharmacist
Chan, Katharine (OII)	Pharmacist
Dodd, Derek (OII)	Nurse
Lampsey, Catherine (OII)	Nurse
Lee, Rebekah (CDER)	Pharmacist
Leo, Jia (CDER)	Scientist
Luapula, Lloyd (OII)	Environmental Health Officer
Mann, Conner (OII)	Pharmacist
Pham, Francis (OC)	Engineer
Roberts, Alexis (HFP)	Dietitian
Townsend, Janesa (OII)*	Environmental Health Officer
Valenzuela, Sara (OII)	Nurse

To Lieutenant:

Burton, Christina (OII)	Health Services Officer
Chowdhury, Rahat (OII)	Engineer
Zanetsie, Claude Noel (OII)	Engineer



2025 Promotion Ceremony Planning Committee

Office of FDA Commissioned Corps, Office of Operations

CDR Brook Kerns, Director

CDR Courtney Davis, Deputy Director

Leads

CDR Kristie Purdy and LT Jessica Yoon

Subcommittee Chairs

CAPT (ret.) Randy Anderson

LCDR Alexa Deptola

CAPT Brad Cunningham

LCDR Michael Gu

CDR Shannon Aldrich

LCDR Amy Ramanadham

CDR Mavis Darkwah

LT Lillian Smith



History

Today - The USPHS Commissioned Corps continues to fulfill its mission to protect, promote and advance our nation's health and safety under the leadership of the Assistant Secretary of Health and the U.S. Surgeon General.

2008 - The Department of Defense and the Department of Health and Human Services establishes the DoD-USPHS Partnership for Psychological Health, enabling USPHS Commissioned Corps officers to provide behavioral health services to military members and their families.

2005 - More than 2,400 officers provide disaster relief to the Gulf Region amidst Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma.

1986 - Surgeon General Dr. C. Everett Koop writes "Understanding AIDS," a USPHS Commissioned Corps brochure that is sent to all 107 million households in the U.S., the largest public health mailing ever at the time.

1964 - Surgeon General Dr. Luther Terry releases a landmark report on smoking-related lung cancer and bronchitis, the first report detailing the connection between tobacco and chronic disease.

1944 - The U.S. Public Health Service Act of 1944 broadens USPHS Commissioned Corps' scope and paves the way for nurses, scientists, dietitians, physical therapists and sanitarians to join. By 1945, the USPHS Commissioned Corps quadruples its numbers from 625 to nearly 3,000.

1902 - Congress broadens the reach of the USPHS Commissioned Corps. In addition to their disease prevention duties, officers are now authorized to research human diseases, water sanitation, water supplies and sewage disposal.

1889 - Congress establishes the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps within the Marine Hospital Service, organizing officers along military lines with titles and pay corresponding to Army and Navy grades.

1878 - The Marine Hospital Service plays a pivotal role in thwarting the spread of global epidemic diseases like smallpox and yellow fever in the United States.

1871 - John Maynard Woodworth, the first supervising surgeon, adopts a military model for his medical staff, assigning a cadre of mobile, uniformed physicians to various marine hospitals.

1870 - The Marine Hospital Service centralizes hospital administration under the leadership of the supervising surgeon, a role that is known today as the surgeon general.

1801 - The network expands as more marine hospitals are established in the major port cities from Boston to New Orleans.

1798 - John Adams signs into law the Act for the Relief of Sick and Disabled Seamen, which triggers the creation of the marine hospitals along major American waterways.

The Public Health Service March

***The mission of our Service
is known the world around,***

***In research and in treatment
no equal can be found.***

***In the silent war against disease
no truce is ever seen,***

***We serve on the land, air and the sea
for humanity,***

The Public Health Service team!

***Copyright, 1978
George King III***



***Special thanks to the families, friends, and
colleagues of our newly promoted officers.
Without your unwavering support, we would
not be here today celebrating one of the most
significant events in an officer's career.***



**U.S. FOOD & DRUG
ADMINISTRATION**



United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

For more than 200 years, men and women have served on the front lines of our nations' public health in what is today called the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. The Commissioned Corps traces its beginnings back to the U.S. Marine Hospital Service protecting against the spread of disease from sailors returning from foreign ports and maintaining the health of immigrants entering the country.

Currently, Commissioned Corps officers are involved in health care delivery to underserved and vulnerable populations, disease control and prevention, biomedical research, food and drug regulation, mental health and drug abuse services, and response efforts for natural and man-made disasters as an essential component of the largest public health program in the world.

In the Public Health Service seal, the caduceus refers to the importance of the Service's mission to the conduct of maritime trade. The anchor not only represents the maritime nature of the Service's original mission, but also, in being fouled with the wrapped chain around the stock and flukes, indicates a ship on which there is a mariner ill or in distress.

The USPHS flag, consisting of a blue PHS seal on yellow background, evolved from the yellow quarantine flag used by the Service on quarantine vessels and stations and the blue representing its maritime history.