



The 30th Annual
Food and Drug Administration
Promotion Ceremony
for the United States Public Health Service
Commissioned Corps

honoring those promoted in Promotion Year 2026
and Commemorating the 25th Anniversary of September 11, 2001

Friday, September 11, 2026
1:00 P.M. ET



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





Arrival of the 2026 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

Invocation

CAPT Dominic Frasca

Director, Division of Emergency Response
Office of Emergency Response

Introduction

CAPT Sukhminder K. Sandhu

Deputy Chief Scientist
Office of the Chief Scientist

LT Dylan McLellan (Adjutant)

Personnel Management Officer
Office of FDA Commissioned Corps

Commemoration of the 25th Anniversary of September 11th

USPHS Music Ensemble

Moment of Silence

CAPT Timothy Jiggins

Environmental Health Specialist
Office of Occupational Safety & Health

Welcome and Opening Remarks

ADM Brian Christine

Assistant Secretary for Health

RADM Paul Jung

Deputy Surgeon General

Michael Davis, M.D., Ph.D.

Director, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Call to Orders, Promotion, and Recognition of Officers

CAPT Sukhminder K. Sandhu

LT Dylan McLellan

Closing Remarks

RDML Richard P. Schobitz

Director, Commissioned Corps Headquarters



2026 PROMOTIONS

To Captain

Crisafi, Leah - Medical (CDER)	Jolley, Chandra - Nurse (CDER)
Kerns, Brook - Health Services (OC)	Kosko, Robert - Pharmacist (CDER)
Lafleur, Christopher - Pharmacist (CDER)	Nguyen, Bic - Pharmacist (CDER)
Nguyen, Maria - Nurse (CDER)	Perez, Cesar - Scientist (CDRH)
Polifko, Susan - Pharmacist (CDER)	Ramanadham, Mahesh - Pharmacist (CDER)
Rosbury-Williams, Tamara - Engineer (CDRH)	Solana-Sodeinde, Diana - Pharmacist (CDER)
Vu, Hong - Pharmacist (CDER)	Wheeler, Christopher - Pharmacist (CDER)

To Commander

Adeyemo, Folaremi - Pharmacist (CDER)	Bostic, Chelsea - Pharmacist (CDER)
Browning, Stephen - Engineer (CDRH)	Chang, Shin-Ye - Pharmacist (CDER)
Chin, Ikjae - Pharmacist (OII)	Cosenza, Christie - Dietitian (OII)
Diaz-Vargas, Ramses - Health Services (OC)	Halwani, Mouhamed - Health Services (OII)*
Hassan, Iram - Scientist (CDER)	Hunter, Chyla - Environmental Health (OII)
Jackson, John-Martin - Health Services (OII)*	Larson, Mark - Nurse (CTP)
Leong, Ruby - Pharmacist (CDER)*	Lu, Xiaowu - Scientist (CDER)
Lucas, Neali - Scientist (OC)	Mathew, Justin - Pharmacist (CDER)
Millner, Mary - Engineer (OII)	Mozeke, Abby - Nurse (OII)
Nguyen, Tuan - Health Services (CTP)	Olagundoye-Alawode, Abiola - Pharmacist (CDER)
Park, Sylvia - Pharmacist (CBER)	Shepherd, Jennifer - Pharmacist (CDER)
Slarsky, Leanna - Pharmacist (CDER)	Sohn, Ann - Pharmacist (CDER)
Stevens, Javonna - Pharmacist (CDER)	Szenderski, Kristen - Environmental Health (OII)
Tiwari, Ruby - Pharmacist (CDER)	Tran, Dustin - Pharmacist (OII)
Walker, Morgan - Pharmacist (CDER)	Wong, Jay - Pharmacist (OII)
Zellner, Renée - Nurse (CDER)	

* Below the Zone



To Lieutenant Commander

Altaf, Muhammad - Scientist (OC)*

Baah, Isaac - Health Services (OII)

Cataldo, Natalie - Environmental Health (HFP)

Chen, Lu - Pharmacist (OII)

Gibbs, Joshua - Veterinarian (CTP)

Park, Amie - Health Services (CDER)

Ramilo, Josh Renzo - Pharmacist (OII)

Randolph, Sascha - Health Services (CDER)

Surpris, Guy - Scientist (HFP)

Thorn, David - Scientist (CTP)

Toms, Seneca - Environmental Health (OII)*

Tran, Tuan - Health Services (OII)

Vidal, Jordan - Pharmacist (OII)

To Lieutenant

Cunningham, Shay - Health Services (OII)



2026 Promotion Ceremony Planning Committee

Office of FDA Commissioned Corps, Office of Operations

CAPT Brook Kerns, Director

CDR Courtney Davis, Deputy Director

Committee Leadership

LT Jessica Yoon, Chair

LCDR Amy Ramanadham, Co-Chair

Task Leads

Task Leads represent the teams of volunteers supporting each area of the program.

CAPT (ret.) Randy Anderson

CAPT Brad Cunningham

CDR Shannon Aldrich

CDR Nicholas Daniel

CDR Mavis Darkwah

CDR Sylvia Park

CDR Kristie Purdy

LCDR Danielle Russell

LT Dylan McLellan



History



Today — The USPHS Commissioned Corps continues to fulfil 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 (USPHS) Commissioned Corps.

The USPHS 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, USPHS 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 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.