



Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service

NEWS RELEASE

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Emergency Response, Responder Health and Safety

Public Health Officers Association Makes Contribution to Emergency Responder Health and Safety

Landover, MD., July 13, 2009 — The Commissioned Officers Association of the US Public Health Service (COA) is making their contribution to the ongoing discussion of emergency responder health and safety by facilitating the participation of Captain Robert J. Tosatto, Director, Medical Reserve Corps, Office of Force Readiness & Deployment, US Public Health Service, Office of the Surgeon General of the United States in a one hour online program, Responder Preparedness: Issues, Policies and Preparations to be presented on LEAPS.TV, a 100% Internet-based channel, on **Wednesday, July 22, 2009** at 4:00 pm US ET. The live broadcast will be followed by four weeks of on-demand 24x7 reruns, all at no cost to the viewer.

Captain Tosatto will be a guest on the program which will be moderated by Judith Weshinsky-Price, Manager, Amarillo Emergency Communications. Other guests include Candace Burrell, Community Preparedness Program Manager, FEMA Region IV/CERT, Gary Niki, Senior Associate, Safety & Security, WMD/Terrorism Program, American Red Cross National Headquarters Disaster Services and Debbie Vance, Director, Gordon County (GA) E9-1-1. Captain Jerry Farrell, USN (Ret), Executive Director of COA points out “this program represents one of the great examples of collaboration. We contributed Captain Tosatto, who brings an unparalleled breadth and depth of knowledge to the program and we will all learn from Captain Tosatto and the experiences of the American Red Cross, FEMA and 911. This is a rare opportunity for these agencies to communicate directly on a very important, and rarely addressed issue: responder safety.”

Additional program details: http://www.leaps.tv/programdetail.php?program_code=200907221600

LEAPS.TV: <http://www.leaps.tv>

LEAPS.TV Complete Programming List: <http://www.leaps.tv/LEAPSTVguide.php>

Commissioned Officers Association of the US Public Health Service: <http://www.coausphs.org>



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Public Health, Law Enforcement and Public Safety, Emergency Response

Public Health Officers Association Bridges Gap Between Public Health and Law Enforcement, Public Safety Emergency Response

Landover, MD., July 13, 2009 — Many members of the law enforcement and public safety community in the United States are completely unaware of the substantial public health resources and rapid deployment capabilities available to them. Most emergency response is local, especially in the critical first 12 to 36 hours, but the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) has resources poised to assist in emergency response and to relieve the physical and emotional suffering of both regular citizens and emergency responders. Captain Jerry Farrell, USN (Ret), Executive Director of the Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service (COA) comments, “If they haven’t been involved in a major catastrophe before how would local law enforcement know what resources are available? The point is that they just wouldn’t, but we had to fix that.” In order to bridge the information gap the COA teamed with the Surgeon General’s Office of Force Readiness & Deployment and the Law Enforcement And Public Safety channel (LEAPS.TV). The result is a ninety minute Internet-based program entitled “Public Health Resources for Law Enforcement And Public Safety”, to be broadcast on LEAPS.TV, a 100% Internet-based channel, on **Tuesday, August 11, 2009** at 4:00 pm US ET and followed by four weeks of on-demand 24x7 reruns, all at no cost to the viewer, after which time the program will be archived on the COA web site

The first sixty minutes of the program will provide a comprehensive briefing on the six core service areas around which the US Public Health Service is organized and the resources each team can bring to bear in case of a domestic emergency. The overall program will be moderated by Rear Admiral David Rutstein, Director, Office of Force Readiness & Deployment, US Public Health Service and will feature briefing segments presented by leaders of the six response teams who each have on the ground deployment experience, some with many deployments to their credit. Captain Farrell added. “We are pleased that this will not be only a one-way presentation. The USPHS presenters will be able to have a 30 minute interactive forum with their law enforcement and public safety counterparts as well as the informal keyboard chat and interaction that our COA attendees will have with their counterparts in the community throughout the entire program.”

Additional program details: http://www.leaps.tv/programdetail.php?program_code=200908111600

LEAPS.TV: <http://www.leaps.tv>

LEAPS.TV Complete Programming List: <http://www.leaps.tv/LEAPSTVguide.php>

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