



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

NEWS RELEASE

Contact
Jerry Farrell
301.731.9080
410.353.4513 (cell)

8201 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Landover, Maryland 20785 • (301) 731- 9080 • FAX (301) 731-9084

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>

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