



# Health Services Officer Category



## Medical Laboratory Science Professional Advisory Group (MLSPAG) Meeting Minutes

December 7, 2017

**Location:** Teleconference/Webinar

**Time:** 1400 – 1500, ET

**1-866-882-1054**

**Passcode: 206 64 64**

**MLSPAG Chair:**

LCDR David Young

**MLSPAG Executive Secretary:**

LCDR Thomas J. Maruna

### ATTENDEES:

#### Voting Members

CDR Toni Bledsoe	Present
CDR Renee Galloway	Present
CDR June Germain	Present
CDR Babatunde Oloyede	Present
LCDR Richard Bashay III	Present
LCDR Charles Boison	Present
LCDR Lisa Flores	Present
LCDR Camille Mitchell	Excused
LCDR Emmanuel Ndenga	Present

CAPT Todd Alspach	LCDR Tameika Kastner
CAPT Dana Nemeth	LCDR Pamela Ogonowski
CAPT Jennifer Malia	LCDR Lundy Patrick
CAPT Gina Woodlief	LCDR Docia Sampson
CDR Jeffery Christopher	LCDR Renee Smith
CDR Donald Ertel	LCDR Ryan Thrasher
CDR Cindy Flacks	LCDR Vladmir Tirado
CDR Robin Goodwin	LT Helen Chavez
CDR Julie Holifield	LT Angela Hatzenbuhler
CDR Cara Nichols	LT Noel Miraflor
CDR Karen Romancito	LT Yen Phan
LCDR Jessica Damon	LT Shercoda Shaw
LCDR Leah Ferrier	LT Danielle Tenett

**Enclosure:**

None

**AGENDA:**

1. [Roll Call](#)
  2. [Approval of October 2017 Minutes](#)
  3. [MLSPAG Chair Updates](#)
    - Pre-2004 MT(ASCP) certification
    - 2017 MLSPAG Accomplishments
    - 2018 MLSPAG Charge
    - Incoming MLSPAG Leadership
  4. [Questions/Concerns](#)
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**ROLL CALL:**

As noted above

**APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2017 MINUTES:**

The minutes from October 12, 2017, were approved by vote.

**MLSPAG CHAIR UPDATES:**

- Pre-2004 MT(ASCP) certification  
In April 2017, DCCPR approved the PAG's request to have officers who received their MT certification prior to January 1, 2004, obtain an indefinite expiration date on their certification.

In November, e-DOC function to upload licensure and certification became available.

With this new feature, DCCPR needs to update the expiration dates manually and have asked for the PAG Chair to disseminate the information below:

To streamline the process, DCCPR wants officers that need the 30 year expiration date granted to perform the following two steps:

First: submit your request to the PAG Chair and include the info listed:

- Rank
- First and last name
- PHS ID and EMPLID
- Copy of MT certification
- As the incoming 2018 MLSPAG Chair, CDR Oloyede has agreed to receive these requests immediately and his email is listed on the slide

Second step: upload the MT certification to the E-DOC upload.

If you do not inform the PAG Chair, DCCPR will not reconcile your records and your certification expiration date will not be updated.

Be advised that the following steps are only applicable to MTs who received their certification **prior to 2004 and are seeking the 30 year expiration date.**

DCCPR also made me aware that there were 10-15 of you who uploaded your MT certification via e-DOC prior to this guidance and since this guidance was not developed at that time, the PAG Chair reviewed the certifications with the licensure technician to ensure its accuracy and the 15 requests have been approved by DCCPR. The PAG is currently waiting for the licensure technician to update the expiration dates.

Starting January 1, 2018, please submit your request to CDR Oloyede for MTs who received their certification prior to 2004.

To clarify the indefinite expiration date is on the “MT(ASCP)” certification only; not MLS(ASCP).

DCCPR will update your certification expiration date with the year you are eligible for retirement after 30 years of active duty. The reason the # 30 is chosen is because the system needs an expiration date and indefinite is not a date. To make things easy for everyone, 30 years is chosen.

So if you entered active duty in 2002, your certification will expire in 2032.

Even if an officer decides that they want to stay for 25 years, the expiration date in their eOPF will list 30 years of active duty

- 2017 MLSPAG Accomplishments
  - ***Administrative Management Subcommittee:***
    - Reviewed five (5) voting member nomination packages
    - Reviewed and selected the 2018 MLSPAG Chair-Elect
  - ***Awards Subcommittee:***
    - Instrumental in organizing and reviewing of the MLS PAG Junior and Senior Officer(s) of the year Award nomination packet
      - CDR Jeff Christopher was selected as Senior MLS of the Year
      - LCDR Thomas Maruna was selected as Junior MLS of the Year
    - LCDR Ndenga also presented an award to the graduating medical doctors at Wake Forest University of School of Sciences
  - ***Communications Subcommittee:***
    - Created MLSPAG Facebook page with over 100 likes
    - Produced and disseminated three (3) MLSPAG newsletters for 2017

- ***Education, Training, & Mentorship Subcommittee:***
  - Created five (5) laboratory related case studies for continuing education
  - Coordinated the 2017 Medical Laboratory Professional Week's activities
    - Laboratory related games, trivia, and education.
  - Collated and disseminated six (6) refresher laboratory related presentations via the MLSPAG listserv
  - Created two articles for the HS PAC Mentoring News Summer 2017
- ***Policy Subcommittee:***
  - Reviewed the accreditation and continuing education requirements for all HSPAC's PAGs to make sure the MLSPAG activities aligned with other similar PAGs.
  - Verified that the Continuing Education events, general body meetings, and Technical Readiness events could be used by MLS officers to meet their re-certification requirements
  - Submitted an article to the newsletter
  - Conducted a review of ASCP and AMT eligibility requirements
  - Reviewed the MLSPAG appointment standards
- ***Recruitment Subcommittee:***
  - Reviewed, scored, and ranked 17 MLS applicants during the 2017 Open to Application period per DCCPR's charge
- ***Stakeholder and Community Engagement Subcommittee:***
  - Submitted an article highlighting USPHS MLS Officers and the important work we perform daily. Article will be published by ASCP on January 2018
- ***Technical Readiness Subcommittee:***
  - Hosted and presented a technical readiness webinar specifically for MLS Officers
    - Introduce MLS Officers to the laboratory cache used during deployments
- 2018 MLSPAG Charge

The PAC Voting members voted on the format of the new template last week at the end of August and the PAG Chair disseminated the new template to the PAG Subcommittees on September 8, 2017. The HSPAC Policy will be reviewing the PAGs' SOPs starting in 2018, so if you are a good writer, editor or have an interest in writing SOPs, please reach out to the Subcommittee Chairs to offer your assistance.

MLSPAG officers at the 2017 COA conference were grouped together and tasked to develop a strategic area for 2018.

What the group decided was that for 2018 the MLSPAG will develop and execute a laboratory cache orientation and training and this task will need to be completed by Dec 31, 2018.

- Incoming MLSPAG Leadership

- 2018-2020 MLSPAG Voting Members

- CDR Babatunde Oloyede
    - LCDR Jessica Damon
    - LCDR Lundy Patrick

- 2018 MLSPAG Chair-Elect

- LCDR Lisa Flores

## QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

Please contact LCDR David Young ([David.Young@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:David.Young@fda.hhs.gov)) or LCDR Thomas Maruna ([Thomas.Maruna@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Thomas.Maruna@fda.hhs.gov)) if there are any issues or concerns that you wish to discuss.

**END**