



NAME: CAPT DANA HALL

JOB TITLE: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

AGENCY: OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE (ASPR)

EDUCATION/DEGREES/CERTIFICATES/INSTITUTIONS:

Captain (CAPT) Dana Hall graduated with a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree from Northeastern University, Boston, MA, in 1991. In 2009, she completed a Master of Arts in Security Studies from the Naval Postgraduate School, Center for Homeland Defense and Security, in Monterey, CA. In addition, CAPT Hall has also completed public health coursework with the University of Washington, accomplished the Excellence in Government Fellowship for Leaders, and become proficient with quality and process improvement through completion of a Six Sigma training program.

CURRENT JOB DESCRIPTION:

Captain Hall serves as the Regional Administrator with the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), for Region VII. While CAPT Hall's office is located in Kansas City, Missouri, she is responsible for all Region VII states including Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri.

CAPT Hall serves as the principal consultant to State, Tribal, and local public health, medical, emergency management, and law enforcement officials in the development of comprehensive preparedness and response plans. She determines the regional priorities for preparedness and assesses the health and medical infrastructure to determine potential requests for Federal support. CAPT Hall works to build capacity at the local and regional level so that less Federal response is required during emergency response.

Her responsibilities include deploying with the Incident Response Coordination Team (IRCT) command structure to assess the resources and personnel needed to accomplish emergency response missions. She also conducts IRCT staff training and serves as an author for national-level response program plans. CAPT Hall often speaks at conferences on matters related to national security and public health.

QUALIFYING SKILLS FOR CURRENT POSITION:

CAPT Hall's experience in health systems administration, clinical pharmacy, and emergency response prepared her for the position of Regional Administrator with ASPR. Her extensive pharmacy experience includes working for 14 years in Alaska focusing on population health and Tribal medicine. She also managed grants and supervised the administration of village public health operations for the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation, in Bethel, Alaska.

REASONS FOR CHOOSING THE USPHS AS A CAREER:

CAPT Hall speaks of her PHS career as an adventure. She joined USPHS with the plan to continue her education as a physician. However, she discovered such a love for population health work that she expanded her education in that area. The ability to work with dynamic and passionate officers, who believe in public health and want to benefit others, is just one positive aspect of her career with the Commissioned Corps. CAPT Hall has enjoyed the ability to create a dynamic career based on her interests and expertise which she feels surpasses that of many more traditional jobs. The health care and retirement benefits of the Commissioned Corps provided an additional enticement.

PREVIOUS USPHS ASSIGNMENTS:

CAPT Hall held various positions at the Indian Health Service, Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation, in Bethel, Alaska. During her tenure at this isolated duty location, she worked first as a senior pharmacist (1992-1998) before becoming the Director of Community Health and Wellness (1999-2001) and finally the Health Systems Administrator (2001-2005). In Region VII, CAPT Hall worked with the Department of Homeland Security as the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS), Regional VII Emergency Coordinator (2006-2013).

MOST REWARDING USPHS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

CAPT Hall discussed her most rewarding PHS experience as that of working with fatality management during the following emergency response missions: Joplin, Missouri; Hurricane Katrina; and the Haiti earthquake. These fatality management teams work to conduct forensic investigations, facilitate identification, and release the body to the family. CAPT Hall notes that fatality management was “humbling” work, and led her to “further understand what kind of officer she was and wanted to be.”

OTHER PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS/ACTIVITIES:

CAPT Hall has many other professional interests that stem from her commitment to public health. She has served on the Commissioned Officers Association Board of Directors for 6 years and served as the Chair of the Legislation Committee. She has also been involved with programs that address hunger and literacy. CAPT Hall works actively with her local Meals on Wheels organization, and she performs fundraising for local library and pre-school programs.

CAPT Hall states “I like to be in direct contact with the work,” and she places “a huge focus on patient safety.” Recently, she served as the IRCT Commander, Medical Unit Lead, for the Flint Water Crisis Mission.

By LCDR Garrette Martin-Yeboah