



**NAME: LCDR CHRISTOPHER JANIK**

**JOB TITLE: CONSUMER SAFETY OFFICER, OFFICE OF REGULATORY AFFAIRS (ORA)**

**AGENCY: U.S. FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA)**



**EDUCATION/DEGREES/CERTIFICATES/INSTITUTIONS:**

Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Christopher Janik received an Associate of Science in Mathematics and Science from Erie Community College in 1997. He went on to attend The Community College of the Air Force and received an Associate in Applied Science in Aviation Operations (1999) and Aircraft Maintenance Technology (2000). LCDR Janik also obtained a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (2000), completed an American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Accredited Nuclear Pharmacy Practice Residency (2001), and obtained a Doctor of Pharmacy Degree (2005) from the State University of New York at Buffalo. In 2014, LCDR Janik received a Master of Science in Emergency and Disaster Management from Trident International University. Currently, LCDR Janik is enrolled in the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Health Sciences Program at Trident University.

LCDR Janik has a broad range of professional certifications including Board of Pharmacy Specialties Certified Nuclear Pharmacist (BCNP), and other training in the areas of pharmacy-based immunization delivery, medication management therapy services, occupational safety, and emergency preparedness.

**CURRENT JOB DESCRIPTION:**

LCDR Janik is a Consumer Safety Officer with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA), New England District Office - Drugs Team in Hartford, Connecticut. He is responsible for conducting Good Manufacturing Processes (cGMP) inspections at domestic pharmaceutical firms including active pharmaceutical repackaging, sterile and non-sterile manufacturing, and pre-approval and adverse event reporting facilities. He also develops inspection procedures and investigates complaints of injury, illness, or death caused by an FDA regulated product. LCDR Janik advises industry, state and local officials, and consumers on enforcement policies and interpretations of regulations. He also conducts recall audit checks of class 1, 2, and 3 FDA recalls and collects product samples to ensure that the supply available to the public is free of chemical contaminants.

**QUALIFYING SKILLS FOR CURRENT POSITION:**

Prior to being commissioned in the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS), LCDR Janik served in the U.S. Air Force (USAF) for 18 years as a C-130 Flight Engineer. During his time with the USAF, he deployed worldwide to over 30 countries including over 210 combat missions. He also supervised, led, and instructed flight engineers and mentored junior personnel. After becoming a licensed pharmacist in 2000, and still serving with the USAF Reserve, he was employed with

Central Radiopharmaceutical Services as a staff nuclear pharmacist in Buffalo, New York until he commissioned with the USPHS in 2012. After the Officer Basic Course, LCDR Janik was assigned to the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) as Chief Pharmacist at Air Station Miami. He was responsible for pharmacy operations including the oversight, training, development, and supervision of pharmacy staff. He also served as a Senior Health Services Officer where he was charged with overseeing the day to day operations of a local medical/dental practice site. In 2013, LCDR Janik transferred to the USCG Academy Clinic in New London, Connecticut where he served as a Chief Pharmacist. He was responsible for supervising all pharmacy operations, overseeing staff, and advancing pharmacy practice initiatives. He also provided oversight for the vaccination program and served on the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee. In addition to these responsibilities, LCDR Janik served as Adjunct Faculty for the State University of New York at Buffalo, UCONN, University of Rhode Island and Nova Southern University Schools of Pharmacy.

Throughout LCDR Janik's USPHS career, he has had a broad range of unique professional experiences, significant training, and lectured and authored publications in the area of public health pharmacy practice and nuclear pharmacy. He has also been recognized for his remarkable work through numerous USAF, USCG, and USPHS awards.

#### **REASONS FOR CHOOSING THE USPHS AS A CAREER:**

LCDR Janik sought a way to continue to serve the nation as a uniformed service member and also to serve the public health mission as a pharmacist. Becoming a commissioned officer with the USPHS was the method to accomplish both of those desires. While practicing as a nuclear pharmacist for over 10 years, LCDR Janik became intimately aware of federal and state regulations governing the practice of nuclear pharmacy. Given this, he wished to further explore the regulatory side of the drug manufacturing and cGMP processes on a higher level. After serving with the USCG at two separate duty locations, the desire to explore the regulatory arena ultimately drew him to the FDA and the role of a Consumer Safety Officer.

#### **PREVIOUS AND CONCURRENT USPHS ASSIGNMENTS:**

Consumer Safety Officer, ORA, New England District Office - Drugs Team, FDA  
Regional Pharmacist, USCG Academy, New London, CT  
Regional Pharmacist, USCG Air Station Miami, FL

#### **MOST REWARDING USPHS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

One of LCDR Janik's most impactful USPHS experiences was upon his initial assignment to USCG Air Station Miami. The clinic had undergone a major building renovation necessitating a temporary closure of the pharmacy. In addition, the pharmacy officer position was held vacant for almost 3 months. LCDR Janik re-established pharmacy services by redesigning and maximizing the operating space, procuring new stocks of medications as almost all of the stock had expired or been returned during the closure, and opening the pharmacy just 2 weeks after he had reported for duty. In addition to serving active duty USCG members, USCG pharmacy locations that have a pharmacy officer assigned would also fill prescriptions for active duty dependents and retirees. The ability to serve those that served our country in their well-earned retirement, after not being able to have their prescriptions filled during the closure, was one of the most rewarding experiences of his assignment.

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS/ACTIVITIES:**

LCDR Janik is involved in a wide array of professional activities and associations that support the USPHS and promote the profession of pharmacy. He serves as the Vice President for the state of Connecticut, New England Region of the Commissioned Officers Association. He is also active in the Pharmacist Professional Advisory Committee (PharmPAC), Junior Officer Advisory Group (JOAG), American Pharmacists Association (APhA) House of Delegates alternate delegate, and is a member of the Regional Incident Support Team for the New England Region (RIST 1) as team safety officer and deputy team leader in training.

**SPECIAL NOTES OF INTEREST:**

LCDR Janik is both humble and proud to be able to continue to serve as a USPHS Commissioned Corps officer. There will always be significant risks to the people of the nation and the world both natural and man-made. In times of crisis, people look to uniformed professionals not only as a source of assistance, but also as a symbol that can give people the ability to cope during a disaster, and to rebuild their lives following an event. LCDR Janik has observed that uniformed service personnel provide a source of comfort for those people impacted by tragedy and that we can fill a void left by displaced medical professionals. He looks forward to a full career with the USPHS Commissioned Corps serving our country, leading the Corps, and contributing to the mission of ensuring we are a nation prepared.

*By CAPT Richardae Araojo  
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