Greetings Fellow Junior Officers,

Volunteers are the heart of JOAG. Our strength is the result of the time and effort provided by those dedicated to serve and to further the mission of JOAG and the U.S. Public Health Service.

If you want to become an active part of JOAG, now is the time to let us know. This document outlines the mission and purpose for each JOAG committee. We have volunteer and potential leadership opportunities on all ten of our committees. If you have experience, passion, and a willingness to share, we hope that you will consider participating on a JOAG committee.

To learn more about our committees, please review the Call for Volunteers and feel free to contact the Committee Chair/Co-Chairs for additional information.

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Thank you in advance for your dedication and service to JOAG, the U.S. Public Health Service, and the Nation. I look forward to working with you all.

Please contact the Chair of the Committee directly if you are interested in getting involved.

Awards Committee

*Mission:* To facilitate the awards process and recognize junior officers for their accomplishments and commitment to the mission of the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS).

*Co-Chair:* LCDR Liatte Krueger; liatte.krueger@fda.hhs.gov
*Co-Chair:* LCDR Adora Ndu; adora.ndu@fda.hhs.gov

The JOAG Awards Committee is looking for motivated officers to serve on the committee during the 2012-2013 operational year. Primarily, the awards committee is responsible for soliciting, reviewing and selecting the recipients of the Junior Officer of the Year, JOAG Excellence and VADM Richard Carmona Inspiration Awards. Additionally, the committee is involved in several other projects and initiatives. This committee is absolutely driven by its members, with many projects and discussion topics generated by committee members. This is a great opportunity for you to get involved with a committee where your voice can be heard and your impact felt. If you are a junior officer and you would like to be involved with this committee, please contact the Awards Committee Co-Chairs.

**First Meeting of the 2012-2013 Operational Year:**
Monday, November 5th at 1200 hrs ET
Dial-in# (712) 432-0111; Passcode: 492-866#

COF Planning Committee

*Mission:* To oversee JOAG activities and facilitate junior officer involvement at the annual COF Symposium.

*Chair:* LCDR Latonia Ford; latonia.ford@fda.hhs.gov

The next COF Symposium takes place the week of May 20-23, 2013 in Phoenix, AZ. The group is working on several exciting activities this year. These activities include, but are not limited to, the formal JOAG meeting, Meet & Greet, Professional Development Workshop, social activities, JOAG booth set up and staffing, and junior officer staffing of COF activities. In addition, other activities include updating the committee webpage and establishing closer ties to the national COA. Junior officers are welcome to volunteer for the COF Planning Committee at any time throughout the year. For more information
about volunteer opportunities, please email the COF Conference planning Committee Chair and call into the first meeting and plan to call into the first meeting

**First Meeting of the 2012-2013 Operational Year:**
**Thursday, October 25, 2012 at 1400 hrs ET**  
Dial-in# 712-775-7300; Passcode: 270-391#

**Communications and Publications Committee**

**Mission:** To facilitate the dissemination of Corps-related information to junior officers.

**Co-Chair:** LCDR Gene Gunn; [gene.gunn@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:gene.gunn@fda.hhs.gov)  
**Co-Chair:** LCDR William Lanier; [william.lanier@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:william.lanier@fda.hhs.gov)

The Communications and Publications Committee (CPC) has the primary responsibility of providing junior officers with pertinent information in a timely and efficient manner. The CPC was initially established to maintain JOAG's website. While this continues to be an important task, the committee is also responsible for increasing the visibility of JOAG, the Corps, and PHS in general through officer submissions to a variety of publications, including the *JOAG Journal* and *With Pride and Distinction*. Officers interested in volunteering for the Communications and Publications Committee should contact the Co-Chairs.

**First Meeting of the 2012-2013 Operational Year:**
**Wednesday, October 17th, 1400 hrs ET**  
Dial-in# (712) 775-7200; Passcode: 420-864#

**Development Committee**

**Mission:** To develop, manage and promote activities related to JOAG merchandise.

**Co-Chair:** LCDR Kate Sawyer; [kate.sawyer@foh.hhs.gov](mailto:kate.sawyer@foh.hhs.gov)  
**Co-Chair:** LT Kazuhiro Okumura; [kazuhiro.okumura@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:kazuhiro.okumura@fsis.usda.gov)

The Development Committee is a liaison group to the Commissioned Officers Foundation (COF). The Committee works with COF to plan, promote, and implement development activities that benefit public health professionals, including USPHS junior officers. We are looking for volunteers to help develop new ideas, as well as plan and carry out these activities. The Committee coordinates the JOAG Booth at the annual COF Symposium. All activities undertaken by this Committee are under the auspices of COF and all proceeds from development activities go COF for officer professional development activities. In previous years, most of the merchandise has focused on fostering esprit de corps. However, we are always looking for new ideas and would love to hear from you about becoming a member of this Committee. For more information, please contact either of the Development Committee Co-chairs.
First Meeting of the 2012-2013 Operational Year:
Friday, November 16th at 1400 hrs ET
Dial-in#: (712) 775-7300; Passcode: 255-253#

Membership Committee

Mission: To increase JOAG general membership, assist general members of JOAG who wish to apply to become a voting member of JOAG, and to facilitate the selection process for JOAG voting members.

Co-Chair: LCDR Lori Snidow; lori-snidow@cherokee.org
Co-Chair: LT Chandra Jolley; chandra.jolley@foh.hhs.gov

The JOAG Membership Committee is looking for a few enthusiastic officers for the 2012-2013 operational year. The Membership Committee is responsible for recruiting and facilitating the selection process for new JOAG voting members each year, as well as increasing JOAG's general membership. Interest in becoming a voting member of JOAG does NOT preclude you from participating in the committee.

During the coming year, we will focus on increasing the effectiveness of our current subcommittees and working toward getting more junior officers involved with JOAG than ever before, which will allow JOAG to more effectively address the ever evolving needs of junior officers in the Commissioned Corps. We're always looking to develop fresh ideas that will help us meet our mission. Come be a part of a group where your ideas will be heard! If you are interested in or have questions about this Committee, please contact the Membership Committee Chairs.

First Meeting of the 2012-2013 Operational Year:
Wednesday, October 10th at 1300-1400 hrs ET
Dial-in# (712) 451-6175; Passcode: 674-654#

Public Health and Community Service Committee

Mission:
To enhance health and wellness of Junior Officers in the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and their communities by providing information and tools that promote health and wellness and by implementing and supporting community service activities that will promote public health, enhance the visibility of the USPHS and interaction with other uniformed services.

Chair: LCDR Mitchel Holliday; mholliday@bop.gov

The Public Health and Community Service Committee was restructured in 2012 to focus on providing and supporting community service activity opportunities developed by JOAG members and other organizations including those of other uniformed services
and to provide specific health and wellness resources for Corps officers. Its branches and their responsibilities include;

**Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) Subcommittee:** Is responsible for facilitating work-life-balance, increased esprit-de-corps, and quality of life for PHS officers and their families by providing easily accessible information on travel, recreation, and fitness opportunities afforded them.

**Uniformed Service Community Service Projects Subcommittee:** Responsible for coordinating community service activities in collaboration with other uniformed services to enhance visibility of the PHS, while building leadership and collaborative relationships among junior officers.

**National Prevention Strategy (NPS) Subcommittee:** Responsible for coordinating community service activities which directly support the initiatives outlined in the NPS and enhancing visibility of PHS in the community.

**Officer Health and Wellness Promotion Subcommittee:** Responsible for encouraging, promoting, and building on established healthy lifestyles in PHS officers and in the community by providing officers with the tools and resources they need to empower themselves and their peers.

If you would like to be involved with this Committee and volunteer on one of its subcommittees, please contact the Public Health and Community Service Committee Chair.

**First Meeting of the 2012-2013 Operational Year:**
Tuesday, October 9th at 1130 hrs ET
Dial-in# (712) 432-0111; Passcode: 605-726#

**Policy and Procedures Committee**

**Mission:** To establish guidelines, policies and operating procedures governing the Junior Officer Advisory Group.

**Chair:** LT Racquel Stephenson; iic3@cdc.gov

The Policy and Procedures Committee is responsible for developing and maintaining all guidelines, policies and procedures for JOAG. This includes the Bylaws, Strategic Plan, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), Charter and Code of Conduct. For the 2012-2013 operational year, the Policy and Procedures Committee will continue to work with committees to update their respective SOPs and begin updating the Strategic Plan. If you’re interested in being involved in shaping the future of JOAG, please consider joining the Policy and Procedures Committee. Interested Officers should contact the
Policy and Procedures Committee Chair.

**First Meeting of the 2012-2013 Operational Year:**
Thursday, October 4th, at 1400-1500 hrs ET
Dial-in# (712) 775-7300; Passcode: 939-713#

**Professional Development Committee**

**Mission:** To identify issues, provide advice and guidance, and propose solutions to foster and promote junior officers as professional, proud, and distinguished Commissioned Corps Officers.

**Co-Chair:** LCDR Elizabeth Garza; iwm8@cdc.gov  
**Co-Chair:** LCDR Heidi Hudson; cvv2@cdc.gov

The purpose of the Professional Development Committee is to aid and assist junior officers in the continued development and attainment of highest ideals of officership, leadership and ethical behavior.

The instrumental functions of the Professional Development Committee are to:

- Identify existing career enhancement opportunities for junior officers.
- Create new career enhancement opportunities for junior officers.
- Review and develop general program activities such as public information, education, and research relating to professional development.
- Examine issues or make recommendations on topics related to the professional development of junior officers.
- Establish and maintain liaison duties that promote cooperative relations with other groups.

The Professional Development Committee prides itself on the great opportunity to be identified with the transformational growth of the U.S. Public Health Service....don’t you want to be a part of it? You will be expected to meet with us once a month and bring forth creative thoughts and ideas, but most importantly, the desire to assist junior officers in getting to a higher plane. **We are specifically looking for officers to get involved in the following subcommittees: Mentoring, JOAG Journal, COTA/OBC Curriculum Development and Health Occupations Students of America Subcommittees.** For more information about joining this Committee, please contact the Professional Development Committee Chairs.

**First Meeting of the 2012-2013 Operational Year:**
Monday, October 15th at 1030 EST  
Dial-in# (712) 451-6175; Passcode: 911-718#

*Note: Our usual meeting time is the 2nd Monday of the month at 1030 EST.*
Recruitment and Retention Committee

**Mission:** To increase the number of junior officers in the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps.

**Co-Chair:** LCDR Krista Pihlaja; krista.pihlaja@ihs.gov  
**Co-Chair:** LT Samantha Spindel; samanatha.spindel@fda.hhs.gov

The JOAG Recruitment and Retention Committee is looking for officers interested in participating for the 2012-2013 operational year. Our objectives over the next year are to support and strengthen the initiatives of our nine subcommittees:

- Agency Training Programs Liaisons Subcommittee
- COSTEP Non-Select Recruitment Subcommittee
- COSTEP Connection Subcommittee
- Career Fair Information Subcommittee
- Recruitment and Retention (R&R) Publications Subcommittee
- Online Career Resources Subcommittee
- Recruitment and Retention (R&R) Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) Subcommittee
- Retention Subcommittee
- Transition Assistance Program (TAP) Subcommittee (with Public Health and Community Service Committee)

We work closely with the Division of Commissioned Corps Personnel and Readiness (DCCPR) to support their initiatives and to receive guidance and feedback on the pilot projects we create.

We are always open to any additional ideas from Committee members for new activities. The Recruitment and Retention Committee is driven by the spirit and ideas of its members and we hope to have you on board since we operate under the motto that “every officer is a recruiter.” For more information about joining this Committee, please contact the Recruitment and Retention Committee Chairs.

**First Meeting of the 2012-2013 Operational Year:**  
Wednesday, November 14th at 1200 hrs ET  
Dial-in# (712) 432-0111; Passcode: 633-865#

Welcoming Committee

**Mission:** To provide and disseminate information to newly commissioned junior officers.

**Chair:** LCDR Cathleen Shields; catslp@msn.com
The Welcoming Committee welcomes newly commissioned junior officers to JOAG by emailing each of them a welcoming letter, a JOAG brochure, the New Officer Guide, and an information fact sheet. This is often the first email that junior officers receive regarding JOAG and it is a valuable resource that provides information about JOAG as well as general information about the U.S. Public Health Service. The Committee is working on several exciting activities this year. Some of the activities include development of a JOAG poster to be displayed at the JOAG exhibit booth at the COF Symposium, working with the COF Planning Committee to organize the JOAG Social at the COF Symposium, updating the information fact sheet that is emailed to newly commissioned junior officers and attending the monthly Officer Basic Course (OBC) to disseminate JOAG materials. Junior officers are welcome to volunteer for the Welcoming Committee at any time throughout the year. For more information about volunteer opportunities, please contact the Welcoming Committee Chair.

**First Meeting of the 2012-2013 Operational Year:**
Friday, October 5th at 1400 hrs ET
Dial-in# (712) 432-0111; Passcode: 228-673#