

The Public's Health and the Law in the 21st Century

5th Annual Partnership Conference

Concurrent Session

Law at the Intersection of Civilian and Military Public Health Practice

Tuesday, June 13, 2006

4:00-5:30 pm

Moderator: RADM Robert C. Williams, PE, DEE, Assistant Surgeon General, Chief of Staff, Office of the Surgeon General, U.S. Public Health Service, Washington, DC

Panel: John Casciotti, JD, Associate Deputy General Counsel (Health Affairs), Office of the General Counsel, Department of Defense, Washington, DC

Col. Cynthia Ryan, National Guard Legal Advisor, NORAD USNORTHCOM/JA, Peterson AFB, Colorado Springs, CO

Dean Sienko, MD, Medical Director, Ingham County Health Department, Lansing, MI; BGEN, Commander, 804th Medical Brigade, USAR, MI

Session Purpose:

An estimated 3 million civilian and uniformed personnel serve in the U.S. military, including many who at any given time live or work on military bases and other facilities in the United States. Military organizations comprise human and materiel resources involved in the delivery of public health and emergency services, many of which routinely or potentially can provide benefits to the U.S. civilian population. The hurricane disasters of 2005 prompted intense review of the role of the military during domestic public health emergencies. In addition, military personnel having needs for public health services which are available both on base and in the community continually move back and forth between both settings. Finally, members of the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service, a branch of the Uniformed Services, also provide services during emergencies when issues arise regarding licensing and credentialing across multiple jurisdictions.

Learning Objectives:

By the close of this session, conference participants will be able to:

- Describe the Department of Defense's basic legal authorities and framework for public health services affecting military personnel on bases and in surrounding communities;
- Outline issues of law relating to whether and how civilian and military authorities have overlapping responsibilities for public health issues affecting both civilian and military populations, such as communicable disease transmission and environmental health; and
- Explain the evolving legal framework and related issues encompassing the roles of the uniformed

services during domestic public health emergencies.

Session Convener:

Public Health Law Program, CDC