



NAME: LIEUTENANT COMMANDER (LCDR)
JAMES P. CZARZASTY

JOB TITLE: CHIEF PHARMACIST

AGENCY: UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
(USCG)

EDUCATION/DEGREES/CERTIFICATES/INSTITUTIONS:

- Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (1993), University of Connecticut
- Master of Science in Management Information Systems (2001), Bowie State University
- Fellowship, Executive Information Systems/Chief Information Officer (2003), Air Force Institute of Technology/Headquarters US Air Force
- Certification, Information Systems Analyst (2001), Bowie State University
- Certification, Software Engineering Management (2004), Air Force Institute of Technology
- Certification, Software Lifecycle Management (2004), Air Force Institute of Technology

CURRENT JOB DESCRIPTION:

LCDR James Czarzasty serves as the Chief Pharmacist for the US Coast Guard Academy clinic in New London, Connecticut. He is responsible for an annual budget of over \$500,000 and has regional oversight of pharmacy operations at seven Coast Guard facilities in Connecticut, Rhode Island and New York. He ensures that daily operations are conducted in accordance with Coast Guard instructions and accepted standards for the practice of pharmacy. He also performs periodic review, revision, and issuance of the clinic's formulary to clinic providers. He is responsible for managing inventory and procurement through the Department of Defense Prime Vendor Program. In addition to being a supervisor to three Coast Guard Corpsmen, LCDR Czarzasty is held responsible for procurement, storage, and distribution of all medications used in the clinic including maintaining the clinic's emergency medications.

LCDR Czarzasty provides ongoing education for professional staff regarding therapeutic use of medications, pharmacy policies and procedures, and other pharmacy related issues. He reports on drug pharmaco-economic analyses that facilitates development of business plans for the clinic. He is responsible for the disposition of all controlled substances throughout the clinic and is the immunizations program consultant for one of the two primary accession points for the Coast Guard. LCDR Czarzasty also manages the maintenance and procurement of nuclear, chemical, and biological countermeasures for the clinic and his assigned collateral units.

QUALIFYING SKILLS FOR CURRENT POSITION:

LCDR Czarzasty worked as a civilian inpatient pharmacist prior to joining the United States Air Force (USAF) in 1996. During his nine years career in the Air Force, he served stateside and overseas in clinical, operational and staff assignments at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Arizona, Royal Air Force Lakenheath in Suffolk, England and finally at Headquarters Air Force in Washington, DC where he was a project manager assigned to Air Force's implementation team for the Department of Defense electronic medical record initiative. He deployed to the Republic of Mozambique for humanitarian aid operations in 2001 and has an extensive background in disaster response and Nuclear, Biological and Chemical countermeasures having served as the Patient Decontamination Team Chief and on the Disaster Control Group at multiple assignments.

REASONS FOR CHOOSING THE USPHS AS A CAREER:

After his service with the USAF, LCDR Czarzasty wanted to remain in federal uniformed service. The factors that made him choose the USPHS included the various opportunities with HHS and non-HHS agencies, diverse missions, and the focus on improving and promoting public health.

PREVIOUS USPHS ASSIGNMENTS:

LCDR Czarzasty began his career with the USPHS in 2005 with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). He worked as a Program Management Officer in the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research Office of Business Process Support in Silver Spring, MD. His main responsibilities included identifying and documenting potential information management projects and managing systems through their lifecycles. One of his major accomplishments was serving as the Business Project Manager for the Document Archiving, Reporting and Regulatory Tracking System which is the core FDA case management system for tracking pharmaceuticals through the approval process.

In 2007, LCDR Czarzasty joined the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Office of Preparedness and Emergency Operations in Washington, DC. As a Public Health Preparedness Logistics Officer, LCDR Czarzasty served in an advisory role to the Assistant Secretary during contingencies and major exercises. In addition to overseeing day to day logistics operations for HHS, he assisted in the transition of all NDMS assets for 105 teams from the Federal Emergency Management Agency back to HHS/ASPR. He directed logistics operations in support of multiple deployments as the Logistics Chief on the Emergency Management Group. LCDR Czarzasty was involved in site selection and forward deployment of federal medical assets in the Gulf Coast and the Caribbean areas. He worked on the development of the Incident Response Coordination Team (IRCT) training curriculum and was an instructor for the IRCT Course helping bring the IRCT from concept to operational status.

MOST REWARDING USPHS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

LCDR Czarzasty counts the deployment aspect of his USPHS career as his most rewarding experience. He enjoys serving at the field level, which includes direct patient care, and feels that one can make a positive difference in that setting. In the last few years, he has been deployed several times for Hurricane response, the California wildfires and in support of National Special Security Events in the National Capital Area as well as in support of field exercises and training activities including TOPOFF-4 and FTX Yankee.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS/ACTIVITIES:

LCDR Czarzasty belongs to the International Association of Emergency Managers, Commissioned Officers Association and the Health Information Management Systems Society. He was also the past Vice President of the Society of Air Force Pharmacy. He is an Adjunct Instructor in Pharmacy Practice for the University of Connecticut and the University of Rhode Island. He is the DHS representative to the Pharmacy Professional Advisory Committee and was a member of the USPHS Music Ensemble while assigned to the Washington D.C. area.

by LT Ibad Khan