

## **Education**

1999-2001      University of Connecticut      Farmington, CT

### **Master of Public Health, 2001.**

- Conferral of Degree December, 2001.

1992-1996      Southern Connecticut State University      New Haven, CT

### **Bachelor of Science; Public Health, 1996.**

- Dean's List
- President - SCSU Chapter of CPHA – 1995-1996.

## **Experience**

PepsiCo, Inc

### **Senior Manager, Global Food Defense**

March 2014 – Present

Duties / roles / activities:

- Leading PepsiCo's compliance with the Food Safety Modernization Act's Intentional Adulteration Rule
- Coordinating informal Food Defense Consortium to harmonize concepts and approaches to compliance with the FSMA IA Rule.
- Leading the Food Defense TRUST to ensure that threat intelligence information can be shared within and amongst food and agriculture system owners and operators in a timely manner.
- Collaborating across the Non-government, academia and industry owner/operator divide to ensure we're all talking the same language as it relates to intentional adulteration and food fraud risk reduction.

Food and Drug Administration

### **Senior Food Defense Analyst**

September 2008 – March 2014

Duties / roles / activities:

- Served as **CORE's Prevention Manager** on a 60-day detail (Jan – Feb, 2013), in which I provided leadership, direction, guidance to the excellent staff of Signals/Surveillance and Post-Response teams on daily basis. Efforts engaged in included environmental health assessments, intra/interagency communications, SOP development and evaluation, Continuity of Operations Planning; also provided daily direct reports to the deputy and Chief Medical Officer of CORE.
- Organized food defense education, awareness and collaboration opportunities both general and scientific – to industry and regulatory partners, via webinars, face to face mtgs and large annual conferences. Interfaced with greater than 3,000 stakeholders in FY '13.
- Managed a \$2.5m contract for Food Protection and Human Health, with IFT.
- Coordination of various tasks under the IFT contract, addressing education, training, exercises and emergency and risk communication.
- Supervision of ORISE fellows / Summer interns tasked with assisting the Food Defense Oversight Team (FDOT) with general activities and research for Food Defense.
- Oversight of numerous contractors related to the various tasks that are in place under the IFT Contract.
- Oversight and coordination of several grant programs with FDA's Division of Federal and State Relations.
- Project officer for the FDA's Food Related Emergency Exercise – Bundle (FREE-B)
- Evaluation and revision of the FREE-B as coordinated through a task order with the IFT.
- Provided training to FDA and non-FDA staff on the use, functionality and integration of FoodSHIELD.

Naugatuck Valley Health District (NVHD)

### **Public Health Preparedness Coordinator**

January 2004 – September 2008

Duties / roles / activities:

- Fulfill contractual requirements which were intended to bolster local public health infrastructure and capacities to prepare for, assist in the response to and mitigate the impacts of disasters / emergencies (such as pandemic influenza, bioterrorism) on a residential population of 125,000 residents of the 6 NVHD communities, as well as within the CT DEMHS regions 2 & 5.
  - Conducted assessments of local public health emergency response capabilities, including fire,
- Naugatuck Valley Health District (NVHD)**

### **Public Health Preparedness Coordinator (cont)**

EMS, hospitals, law enforcement, epidemiology, surveillance and risk communications.

- Revised / maintained the NVHD Public Health Emergency Operations Plan (PHEOP).
- Coordinated communications and equipment needs for local public health preparedness, including securing emergency communications equipment (HAM Radio) for the District
- Designed & generated clinic signage for 3 PODs within the NVHD, and 15 other LHDs in CT.
- Developed and hosted several tabletop / functional exercises, pertaining to general preparedness for public health professionals, staff, and residents of the District.
- Presented numerous preparedness lectures at various locations within the District intended to increase awareness among senior citizens, families and keepers of animals / pets to encourage persons to take responsibility for themselves, in the event of an emergency. Worked closely with local chapters of the American Red Cross in order to ensure community connectivity.
- Preceptor for 6 undergraduate students in the last 3 years, with the intention of providing them an experience in local public health, as well as assisting the District in achieving numerous community outreach opportunities that we could not have organized otherwise.
- Organized and facilitated a tabletop exercise addressing the unique needs of vulnerable populations during a severe weather event – greater than 50 persons in attendance.
- Researched, developed and trained the NVHD Medical Reserve Corps.

Nov. 2002 – January 2004 State of CT, Dept. of Public Health

Hartford, CT

Food Protection Program

### **Environmental Sanitarian II**

Duties / roles / activities:

- Researched and developed of bioterrorism and food security (food defense) guidance documents and informational conferences for local health jurisdictions and retail food service establishments, within the state of Connecticut.
- Prepared a vulnerability assessment survey, to assess retail food establishment operators' knowledge, attitudes and practices, pertaining to food security (food defense).
- Reviewed and evaluated policies, guidance documents and codes related to food service establishment regulation in Connecticut.
- Investigated and provided education to retail food establishment operators that had been involved in foodborne disease outbreaks.
- Responded to inquiries from local health officials and the public regarding food safety.
- Preparation of guidance documents pertaining to general public health emergencies and food safety, including power outages, flooding, disruption of a potable water supply.

Dec. 1999 – Nov. 2002 Newtown District Department of Health

Newtown, CT

### **Senior Environmental Health Sanitarian**

Duties / roles / activities:

- Review, approval and inspection of all phases of subsurface sewage disposal systems
- Food service establishment plan review and inspections.
- Organize and conduct semi-regular monthly meetings with staff.

Jan. 1997 – Dec. 1999 Naugatuck Valley Health District

Shelton, CT

### **Registered Sanitarian**

Duties / roles / activities:

- Well-rounded environmental health experience in enforcement of CT Public Health Code.
- Communicated thoughts and ideas to community, in gaining compliance with Connecticut Public Health Code and local food, sewage and other ordinances.
- Produced draft local regulations for nail salon licensure & inspection.

## **Related Experience**

July 1996 – January 1997 Naugatuck Valley Health District

Shelton, CT

August 1996 – January 1997 Pomperaug District Department of Health

Southbury, CT

Assistant to the Director of Health - student internships

## Related Courses

Public Health Emergency Preparedness 101, State of CT, DPH  
NIMS / ICS Courses Completed: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 & 800  
NERRTC (Texas A&M) Senior Officials (12/04) and Mayoral Institute (3/05) Workshops

## Certifications

Registered Sanitarian, State of Connecticut  
Certified Food Inspector, CT  
Phases I & II Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems, State of Connecticut  
Qualified Food Operator (QFO) Certified, 2002  
Certified Exterior International QFO Class Instructor  
ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800 compliant

## Professional Affiliations

National Environmental Health Assoc., Terrorism All Hazards Preparedness Tech. Section Co-chair, 2006-09  
Connecticut Environmental Health Association  
Connecticut Public Health Association  
Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross, Vice-Chairman / Chairman, Board of Directors; 2006-2010  
ASIS Food Defense and Agriculture Security Council  
Coordinator, Food Defense Consortium  
Facilitator, Food Defense TRUST

## Conferences /

## Events /

## Affiliations

**2004 National Environmental Health Association (NEHA), Anchorage Alaska**  
Specialized track for Terrorism - All Hazards Preparedness  
**2004 Advanced Practice Centers Conference, St. Louis, MO**  
Conference providing direction for Local Public Health Agency infrastructure development.  
**2005 TOPOFF 3: Burlington County, New Jersey**  
Volunteered as a role player, evaluator, greeter, exit interviewer at mass dispensing clinic exercise.  
**2005 – 2008 FDA Food Defense Workgroup Panel Member**  
Providing expert insights into the development of Food Defense related materials / educational tools.  
Participated in 3 hour national satellite broadcast, March 2006, on Food Defense.  
**2005 – 08 National Environmental Health Association (NEHA)**  
Terrorism / All-Hazards Preparedness Section Co-Chair  
**2006 NEHA Annual Educational Conference, San Antonio, TX**  
-*Terrorism / All Hazards Preparedness Technical Section Co-chair* for the session: >150 attendees daily.  
-Provided portion of keynote session addressing local public health preparedness and avian influenza concerns to approx 1000 attendees.  
**January, 2007** Provided *subject matter expert feedback* comments to the Environmental Health Target Capability component of the National Response Plan at the CDC.  
**2007 NEHA Annual Education Conference, Atlantic City, NJ**  
*Terrorism / All Hazards Preparedness Technical Section Co-chair* for the session: >150 attendees daily.  
**2007 – present Food and Agriculture Government Coordinating Council (GCC)**  
The goals of the GCC are to enhance and improve two-way communications, improving preparedness and define sector criticalities between local, state, federal entities and private sector counterparts.  
**2008 – 2011 Food and Agroterrorism Workshops:** organized by the FBI, these workshops have afforded a glimpse into the Federal level activities addressing food defense.  
**2008 – present FDA's Food Defense Oversight Team outreach:** Provide outreach and presentations to numerous audiences via webinar, conference call and face to face opportunities including Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO), Association of State and Territorial Health Officers (ASTHO), Great Lakes Border Health Initiative (GLBHI), Institute of Food Technologists (IFT), International Association of Food Protection (IAFP), National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO), National Association of Local Board of Health (NALBOH), National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) and various FDA – state partnership related projects.  
**2012 –** Partnership for Food Protection planning committee member  
**2012/13 -** Executive Planning committee for the Public Health Preparedness Summit.  
**2012/13 –** Executive Educational Advisory Committee planning member for the Food Safety Summit

## **Publications**

The Expanding Umbrella of Food Defense. August/September 2013.

<https://www.foodsafetymagazine.com/magazine-archive1/augustseptember-2013/the-expanding-umbrella-of-food-defense/>

## **Volunteer / Community Obligations**

Active member of Patapsco Middle School (Ellicott City, MD) and Mt. Hebron High School Parent Teacher Associations (PTA/PTSA)

Religious Education Teacher, St. Paul's Catholic Church; Ellicott City, MD, 2008-2013

Howard County Catechist (Religious Education Teacher) of the year (2015)

Project developer and volunteer for bug bingo for my daughter's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade end of year carnival. (2013)

Coordinator / project leader for the end of school year Beach Blast @ Patapsco Middle School (2013-present)

Chairman of the Shredded board, Mulch Sale 2020 – Mt. Hebron High School

