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USAF Public Health Career Field News

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USAF Entomologist becomes Public Health Officer

Captain Craig Forcum



who is presently assigned to your USAFSAM, was recently selected for reclassification as a Public Health Officer. He is presently enrolled in an MPH program and will attend the 12 week PHO basic course at SAM in FY00.

Welcome Capt Forcum! I'm very excited about the vectorborne disease prevention expertise, the enthusiasm, and dedication you'll bring to the PH force!

Meet Capt Forcum:

Captain Craig H. Forcum is Director, Medical Entomology Branch, Department of Public Health, USAF School of Aerospace Medicine (USAFSAM), Brooks Air Force Base, Texas. He is responsible for directing all medical entomology training in the USAFSAM, providing instruction in over 40 topics for 12 Air Force Specialty Code-awarding and advanced courses, preparing USAF professionals to protect USAF, joint, and multinational forces against vector and vector-borne disease threats worldwide. Captain Forcum graduated from the University of Kentucky in 1990 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Entomology and a minor in Agronomy. In 1994, he earned a Master of Science degree in Entomology with a minor in Forestry from North Carolina State University, was commissioned a First Lieutenant in the Biomedical Sciences Corps, and was assigned to the Defense Pest Management Information Analysis Center (DPMIAC), Armed Forces Pest Management Board (AFPMB), Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Environmental Security, Washington, DC. In that assignment, he served as the DPMIAC point of contact for all USAF military and civilian pest management professionals worldwide,



providing real-time information on, and analysis of vector-borne diseases and militarily significant pests and their threats. He also edited and published the bimonthly DoD Pest Management Technical Information Bulletin and served as staff consultant and advisor to the AFPMB's Stored Products and Pesticides Committees. In 1996, he transferred to the USAFSAM, Brooks Air Force Base, Texas, to be Chief, Operational Entomology Curriculum, Medical Entomology Branch. In that assignment, he updated and improved teaching materials, and provided the highest quality instruction to basic and advanced students attending the USAFSAM. In February 1997, Captain Forcum was appointed to his current position. He is a Master Instructor in the USAFSAM and Course Director for the Operational Entomology Course – a USAF Surgeon General-mandated course. He was promoted to his current rank on 18 August 1996.

EDUCATION:

1990 Bachelor of Science in Entomology,
University of Kentucky

1994 Master of Science in Entomology,
North Carolina State University

1996 Academic Instructor School, Air
University

ASSIGNMENTS:

Aug 94 – Oct 96: Medical Entomologist and
AF Representative to DPMIAC, Wash DC

Oct 96 – Feb 98: Chief, Operational
Entomology Curriculum, USAFSAM/PH,
Brooks AFB TX

Feb 98 – Present: Director, Medical
Entomology Branch, USAFSAM/PH,
Brooks AFB TX

**MAJOR AWARDS AND
DECORATIONS:**

Joint Service Commendation Medal
Air Force Achievement Medal
National Defense Service Medal