

Mass Fatalities Conference
July 18-19, 2007
Phoenix, Arizona

“Developing a comprehensive and compassionate response”

Speaker Biography

Craig Mallak

Captain Craig Mallak, Medical Corps, US Navy, serves as the US Armed Forces Medical Examiner with the responsibility of providing comprehensive death investigation services to the US Military and other federal agencies. He is responsible for providing oversight for the DoD Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory and the Mortality Surveillance Division. He was appointed to a four-year term by the ASD (HA) as the Armed Forces Medical Examiner in June 2002 and reappointed for an additional four years in June 2006.

Captain Mallak attended Michigan State University, graduating with a degree in Criminalistics in 1982. He then received his law and medical degrees from Creighton University, graduating in 1989. He completed his internship at Naval Hospital Oakland in 1990 and was assigned as a General Medical Officer with the 3rd Force Service Support Group in Okinawa, Japan and at Cubi Point in the Philippines. Following his tour with the Marines, he completed his residency in anatomic and clinical pathology at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. Following residency Captain Mallak completed his forensic pathology fellowship at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in 1997. He is board-certified in anatomic, clinical, and forensic pathology. He also holds privileges as a practicing attorney in the State of Nebraska.

Following fellowship, Captain Mallak was assigned as the Regional Armed Forces Medical Examiner at Naval Hospital Okinawa, Japan where he was responsible for death investigations throughout the pacific area of operations. During this tour he was deployed to Kosovo in 1999 to assist the FBI with war crimes investigations. He also served as the Director of Ancillary Services for the hospital throughout this tour.

After his tour in Okinawa, he was assigned to Naval Personnel Command where he served as detailer for the nonsurgical specialist physicians in the US Navy. In this role he was responsible for assisting with career progression of Navy doctors and assigning physicians to duty stations throughout the US and around the world.

Since 2002, the Armed Forces Medical Examiners Office has been responsible for assisting in the investigation of the loss of the Space Shuttle Columbia, investigating US deaths from Iraq and Afghanistan, and identifying several high profile terrorists such as Saddam Hussein and his sons Uday and Qusay. The office has also been involved in investigation of the deaths of detainees. In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, the office has provided DNA expertise to assist with the identification of victims of this storm. Captain Mallak serves on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Medical Examiners and the College of American Pathologists Forensic Pathology Committee. He is also a fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

Captain Mallak's personal decorations include three Meritorious Service Medals, three Joint Commendations Medals and the Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal. He is married to the former Sue Catherine McDonald, who is a teacher at St. Johns' Regional Catholic School in Frederick, Maryland.