



# Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service

## **CAPT Karen Munoz, R.N., B.S.N., M.S.**

Field Representative



Captain Karen Munoz serves as a Nurse Consultant in the Division of Modeling and Analytics at the Center for Program Integrity (CPI) at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in Baltimore, MD. In this capacity, CAPT Munoz is engaged in developing algorithms that help to detect inappropriate or fraudulent claims submitted by health care providers. She is also a subject matter expert involved in projects aimed at detecting and measuring fraud in Home Health Care.

CAPT Munoz is a well-recognized leader of the USPHS Music Ensemble's DC Ceremonial Band. In this, and in previous leadership roles in the Ensemble, she has been the chief coordinator of each of the Music Ensemble concerts at the COF Scientific and Training Symposium since 2010, and of the Music Ensemble concerts at the National WWII Memorial. CAPT Munoz is also the creator of the Music Ensemble's annual "PHS Calendar", which has

now been published for three years. The PHS Calendar is a collection of photographs that promote awareness and pride in the USPHS. Proceeds from the calendar support the USPHS Music Ensemble.

Before serving at CMS, CAPT Munoz worked at the Office of Prescription Drug Promotion at FDA, reviewing labeling and promotional materials. From 2009 – 2011, she served with the highly visible USDA Food Safety Mobile (Food Safety Discovery Zone) as a Public Affairs Specialist in Beltsville, MD. Her first six years of service to the Commissioned Corps were as a Nurse with the Division of Immigration Health Services (now the ICE Health Service Corps) in El Paso, Texas, which is also her home-town.

CAPT Munoz attended the University of Texas at El Paso, and although she is a nurse, she also has a background in public relations, marketing, and fundraising. Prior to becoming a PHS Officer, she worked at the Visiting Nurse Association in El Paso, Texas, as their Marketing Director, and later as their Development Director. At that organization, CAPT Munoz was responsible for organizing major fundraisers, grant writing, and managing donor relations.

The events of Sept 11, 2001 deeply affected her and inspired her to look for a way to serve her country, as her brother and father had. (Karen's father was a WWII Army veteran, and her brother was a Marine who served in the Gulf War.) That is when she started to scour the internet for ways to serve her country, and she discovered the US Public Health Service. CAPT Munoz also serves on the DC Advisory Board of the Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF). She is a proud grandmother of three, and enjoys music, nature, and building esprit-de-corps within USPHS.

As of July 21, 2017