



February 5, 2019

1777 F Street NW, Washington, DC 20006

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**Fighting the Next War: Military Defense Against Biological Weapons**

**OBJECTIVE**

Provide the Blue Ribbon Study Panel on Biodefense with a better understanding of Department of Defense (DOD) concerns about biological weapons, and DOD responsibilities and requirements for biodefense.

**SCHEDULE**

**10:00 am – 10:15 am**    **Opening Remarks**

**10:15 am – 11:15 am**    **Congressional Perspective**

*Sitting Member of Congress discuss current and emerging biological threats, technologies, and programs that they must consider when authorizing DOD activities; oversight and legislation to address biodefense; and their views on military support of civilian authorities.*

**Representative James Langevin (D-RI)**

Chair, Subcommittee on Intelligence, Emerging Threats and Capabilities, Committee on Armed Services, U.S. House of Representatives

**11:15 am – 11:30 am**    **Break**

**11:30 am – 12:15 pm**    **Panel One: Defense Policy and Requirements to Combat Biological Threats**

*Federal official will address nation-state and terrorist biological programs of concern to DOD, force protection requirements, the need to refresh DOD biodefense policy, and the need to determine what activating the National Command Authority will entail if large-scale events overcome the Nation.*

**Derek (Dirk) Maurer, JD (US Marine Corps Reserves – Retired)**

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction, and former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Crisis Management and Mission Assurance, Department of Defense

**12:15 pm – 1:15 pm**    **Lunch and Video – Bioterrorism, Pandemics, and Preparing for the Future (part 3)**

*Video of the Blue Ribbon Study Panel on Biodefense discussing the biological threat and U.S. government responsibilities to keep America safe. Max Brooks moderates the discussion.*

**1:15 pm – 2:15 pm      Panel Two – DOD Biodefense Science, Technology, Research, and Development**

*Federal officials discuss current programs, needs for additional targeted funding, the value of interacting with non-military research entities, and difficulties associated with balancing national security interests against the need to contribute to the body of scientific knowledge.*

**D. Christian Hassell, PhD**

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Chemical and Biological Defense, Department of Defense; former Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation Laboratory

**Justin Sanchez, PhD, ME**

Director, Biological Technologies Office, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, Department of Defense

**2:15 pm – 2:25 pm      Break**

**2:25 pm – 3:25 pm      Panel Three – Civilian Perspectives on Defense Policy and Partnership**

*Former Federal officials and private sector experts provide their perspective from outside of the military on DOD policy and research efforts to address large-scale biological attacks and events.*

**Dan Gerstein, PhD, MS, MMAS, MSOR (Colonel, US Army – retired)**

Senior Policy Researcher, RAND Corporation; former Deputy Under Secretary, Science and Technology Directorate, Department of Homeland Security

**Debra D. Schnelle, MS (Lieutenant Colonel, US Army – retired)**

Co-owner and Chief Operating Officer, Trifecta Solutions; former Senior Medical Planner for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Defense, U.S. Army; former U.S. delegate to the NATO Nuclear Biological and Chemical Medical Working Group

**3:25 pm – 3:30 pm      Closing Remarks and Adjourn**