



CAPT Kurt Kesteloot, MSE, MPH, PE, BCEE, CPH, ENV, SP

Board Position: Engineer Representative

CAPT Kurt Kesteloot serves as the Engineer Representative on the COA Board of Directors. He is the current Co-Chair for the Awards Committee.

CAPT Kesteloot has worked for the National Parks Service (NPS) since 2010 and currently serves as a supervisory public health consultant. He provides technical assistance to 62 National Park units in 13 states through assessments of water and wastewater facilities along with design and design review. CAPT Kesteloot assesses food facilities and provides guidance on many other public health related issues. He also supervises four USPHS officers and is the lead for NPS Engineering questions in the NPS Office of Public Health Field Services Branch. CAPT Kesteloot received his United States Public Health Service (USPHS) commission in 2004 and served with the Indian Health Service (IHS) from 2004 to 2010.

CAPT Kesteloot has received PHS awards for outstanding service including: one Outstanding Service Medal, one Commendation Medal, two Achievement Medals, USPHS Engineer of the Year, NPS Engineer of the Year, and NAIHS Engineer of the Year. He has also been honored with the Society of American Military Engineers Green Medal and Ian K. Burgess Outstanding Young PHS Commissioned Corps Engineer of the Year award.

Position Statement

CAPT Kurt Kesteloot, MSE, MPH, PE, BCEE, CPH, ENV, SP

Board Position: Engineer Officer (Applicant for 2024-2027)

Thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve on the Board of Directors for the Commissioned Officers Association (COA) for the United States Public Health Service (USPHS). I enjoyed working with the outreach committee and the awards committee to help inspire officers to join COA for all of the great benefits and help recognize the amazing work done by COA members. I have close to 24 years of service including my prior service time in the Minnesota Army National Guard. I think it is important that USPHS officers receive the same benefits as members of the military services. I appreciate the great work by COA to help USPHS officers receive similar benefits as military service members and would be honored to continue to serve on the COA board to help serve that mission.

I have enjoyed working with the fellow officers to help explain the great work done by COA. I also have attended a few meetings with MOAA to make sure they understand the great work done by COA. I enjoy attending the USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium, getting professional development hours, meeting with new and old USPHS officer colleagues, and working with vendors. I believe we need to have USPHS officers recognized by United Service Organizations (USO). I have been turned away and do not feel our officers should be treated this way. USPHS officers serve alongside military members and have to make similar sacrifices. Considering my experience serving as the Engineer Professional Advisory Committee (EPAC) chair in 2017 and many other years of leading committees and leadership positions with EPAC, National Park Service, COA, NSF, etc., I feel well prepared to help and continue to serve on the COA boards of directors.

Having a Masters degree in Public Health and Engineer, helps me understand the connection and importance of engineers in the USPHS. Additionally, my Senior Executive Fellows (SEF) training completed at Harvard in 2019 provided a great knowledge to help serve on the COA board. The SEF executive certificate provides training on: Leading Change, Leading People, Results Driven, Business Acumen, and Building Coalitions which are required to serve as a leader in the federal government. I feel prepared and would be grateful to represent USPHS engineers on the COA Board of Directors with Awards, Outreach, or any necessary subcommittee. I'm also interested in serving as chair.

Very Respectfully, CAPT Kurt Kesteloot