

APHL | BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023-2024

President

TIM SOUTHERN, PhD, D(ABMM)

laboratory director, South Dakota Public Health Laboratory

Dr. Tim Southern has served as the director of the South Dakota Public Health Laboratory in Pierre since 2016. The laboratory provides medical microbiology, environmental chemistry, and forensic chemistry testing services for the state. Dr. Southern has worked closely with partners and stakeholders to build a flexible, responsive laboratory testing program to meet statewide public health needs. As director, he has been an outspoken advocate for workforce development, financial sustainability, and infrastructure revitalization. He has served on the APHL LSS Committee and the American Society for Microbiology Personnel Standards and Workforce Subcommittee. Prior to his work in South Dakota, Dr. Southern was an ASM-CPEP Clinical Microbiology Fellow at the Nebraska Public Health Laboratory and University of Nebraska Medical Center where he studied molecular diagnostics for Ebola virus disease. He also completed postdoctoral fellowships at the National Institutes of Health, Rocky Mountain Laboratory where he studied chlamydia pathogenesis, and at the University of Georgia where he studied molecular parasitology. Dr. Southern earned his masters and doctoral degrees at East Tennessee State University and is certified by the American Board of Medical Microbiology.



President-elect

MEGAN CRUMPLER, PhD, HCLD(ABB)

director, Orange County Public Health Laboratory

Megan Crumpler received her Bachelor's degree in Microbiology and Cell Science from the University of Florida, Gainesville, FL. She obtained her PhD in Microbiology and Immunology from the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) in Richmond, VA where she studied immune evasion techniques of Cytomegalovirus in guinea pigs. She successfully completed the doctoral program in 2008 and went on to do a one-year post-doctoral fellowship at VCU in the Infectious Disease Division where she studied gut inflammatory markers released in HIV-infected patients.

In 2009, she moved to California and assumed a Supervising Public Health Microbiologist (PHM) position at the Riverside County Public Health Laboratory. In May 2014, following completion of her laboratory director training and board certification by the American Board of Bioanalysis as a High-Complexity Clinical Laboratory Director, she was promoted to Laboratory Director.

In April 2017, Megan accepted the Laboratory Director position at the Orange County Public Health Laboratory. Dr. Crumpler is an active member of CAPHLD and is currently serving her second 2-year term as CAPHLD's Secretary-Treasurer. She is co-chair of CAPHLD's Program Planning Committee, a member of the PHL Regulations Subcommittee and CAPHLD's representative to the CA Department of Public Health's Reportable Diseases Subcommittee. She has also served as President of CAPHLD, co-chair of the Public Health Microbiologist Training Committee, and as a member of the LabAspire Committee. Megan has served on APHL's Nominations Committee, Program Planning Committee, and as chair of the STD Subcommittee. She has served as board liaison to the Infectious Disease, Environmental Health, and Laboratory Systems and Standards Committees.



Secretary-Treasurer

Godfred Masinde, PhD, MBA, HCLD(ABB)

laboratory director, San Francisco Public Health Laboratory

Dr. Masinde is presently the Public Health Laboratory Director for City and County of San Francisco Public Health Laboratory, San Francisco, California. He currently serves on three APHL committees; Finance, Global Health, and Nominations committees, which has allowed him to understand the critical services APHL provides both locally and internationally and its finances. He is also serving as the President of California Association of Public Health Laboratory Directors (CAPHLD) that brings together all the 29 local Public Health Laboratories in California to speak with one voice. Also, he has served in several positions:

Supervising Public Health Microbiologist, NSYM County Public Health Laboratory, Fairfield, CA; Public Health Microbiologist (Supervising), San Bernardino County Public Health Lab. San Bernardino, CA; Bioterrorism Coordinator, San Bernardino County Public Health Lab. San Bernardino, CA; Technical Support Specialist, Thermo Fisher, Carlsbad, CA; Associate Director, Long Beach Genetics, Rancho Dominguez, CA; Production Manager Eurogentec Inc., North America, San Diego, CA and Assistant Research Professor and Senior Scientist at Veterans Hospital in Loma Linda and Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA. He is board-certified by American Board of Bioanalysis (ABB) and holds.; BS (Zoology) and MS (Medical Parasitology/Immunology) from University of Nairobi-Kenya, a PhD in

Medical/Molecular Parasitology from Tulane University, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine in New Orleans, LA, and MBA (Marketing) from Baker College in Flint, Michigan. He has authored and co-authored publications in peer reviewed journals. Currently he is a member of the Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Abbott Advisory board. He also holds the following certifications: Public Health Microbiologist (State of California), High Complexity Laboratory Director (ABB), Molecular Biologist (ASCP), Microbiologist (ASCP), Clinical Microbiology Specialist (State of CA).



Past President

Daphne Ware, PhD

director, Mississippi Public Health Laboratory Division

Daphne Ware currently serves as the Director of the Mississippi Public Health Laboratory. After joining the Mississippi Public Health Laboratory in 2005, she served in various roles throughout the laboratory and has gained extensive experience overseeing laboratories regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid. She earned a PhD in Microbiology from the University of Mississippi with a focus in bacterial pathogenicity and a BS in Biology and Chemistry from the University of Southern Mississippi. Daphne is certified in Clinical Chemistry by the National Registry of Certified Chemists and by the American Society for Clinical Pathology in Molecular Biology.

Dr. Ware has also served on the APHL Board of Directors as the Secretary-Treasurer. She has been a member of the APHL Finance Committee and has served as the APHL liaison for the Advisory Council for Elimination of Tuberculosis. She has also served on the CDC TB Cooperative Agreement Laboratory Component Funding Formula Workgroups and was a member of the APHL Public Health Emerging Leader Second Cohort.



Public Health Institutional Local Member Representative

Deborah Severson

Laboratory director, Fairfax County Health Department Laboratory

Deborah Severson currently serves as Director of Laboratory Services for the Fairfax County Health Department and has over 25 years' experience working in both clinical and environmental laboratory settings. Deborah is a medical technologist who began her career in a hospital setting as a bench technologist prior to being promoted to the supervisor of the microbiology laboratory. Deborah joined the Fairfax County Health Department Laboratory as a Public Health Technologist in 2002 performing drinking water analyses in the environmental laboratory and was promoted to Environmental Supervisor in 2004. She held this position until assuming her current position as Director of Laboratory Services in 2012. As Director, Deborah is responsible for the local public health laboratory's overall technical and administrative operations.

During her tenure as Director of Laboratory Services, the Fairfax County Health Department Laboratory has experienced substantial growth, adding nine new positions and expanding the testing menu. She developed and implemented a career ladder for Public Health Laboratory Scientists to include both non-competitive and competitive pathways for salary increases and promotions. Recognizing the importance of the highly technical and vital services that the public health laboratory provides, she has focused the last several years on building a work environment that fosters quality culture and positivity in and amongst her teams. She advocates internally for the necessary resources to focus on Quality Management, working on difficult HR issue, managing budgets and facilities, and participating in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives, broadening her perspectives on implicit bias in science and society.



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Public Health Institutional Local Member Representative

Leslie Wolf, PhD, HCLD(ABB)

Laboratory technical director, Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness

After completing a BS in Microbiology at the University of Kentucky and a PhD in Immunology & Microbiology at the University of Colorado, I did a basic research post-doctoral fellowship at North Carolina State University in Raleigh. That, in turn, is where I learned about the APHL/CDC Emerging Infectious Diseases Post-doctoral Fellowship at the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health. I fell in love with public health laboratory work during this two-year fellowship, and subsequently served as Public Health Scientist, Assistant Public Health Laboratory Director and finally Public Health Laboratory Director. I continue to be thankful for my excellent training in public health in North Carolina.

My training and work experience in North Carolina prepared me to serve as contract CLIA Laboratory Director for a small private laboratory (2012-2016), and for the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness since July 2013. In December 2016, I also became Laboratory Director and Clinical Assistant Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine at the University of Louisville, splitting my time between the two laboratories. In April 2019, I began serving as an Adjunct instructor for the University of Louisville School of Public Health and Information Sciences, teaching an undergraduate microbiology course of public health majors.



Public Health Associate Institutional Member Representative

Pamela Higgins, PhD

bureau director, PA Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Laboratories

Dr. Pamela J. Higgins is the Director of the Bureau of Laboratories for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. She has over 30 years of professional experience in biochemistry, molecular biology, and various analytical chemical fields (radiochemistry, organics, and flow injection analysis). Dr. Higgins has been involved with environmental regulatory and emergency response testing activities and management for over 11 years and is the current APHL liaison to the ICLN radiochemistry workgroup and the NARR. She contributes her experience and scientific knowledge to support initiatives of two PA Commonwealth interagency task forces focused on PFAS and Harmful Algal Blooms and participates in the Data Integrity Workgroup for the Chesapeake Bay Program. With adjunct faculty appointments at Harrisburg University for Science and Technology and Lebanon Valley College, Dr. Higgins strives to encourage her undergraduate students to work in governmental laboratories by incorporating case studies related to environmental agency activities into her courses. She is a strong advocate for analytical workforce development and safety, supporting laboratory funding and resources, and working with additional partners to improve public health through quality laboratory science and operations.



Public Health Institutional State Member Representative

Michael A. Pentella, PhD, D(ABMM)

director, State Hygienic Laboratory, University of Iowa

Michael Pentella, MS, D(ABMM), SM(ASCP), CIC received his BS in Microbiology from the Ohio State University, MS from the Thomas Jefferson University, and PhD from the University of South Florida. He is a Diplomat of the American Board of Medical Microbiology. He has over 40 years of public health and clinical laboratory experience at national, state, and local levels. He has held faculty positions at Thomas Jefferson University, the University of Central Florida, the University of South Florida, and the University of Iowa. His primary interests are in biosafety, biodefense, foodborne pathogens, and emerging infectious diseases. He has published over 50 articles and 15 book chapters.



Public Health Institutional State Member Representative

Sharon Massingale, PhD, HCLD/CC(ABB)

laboratory director, Alabama Department of Public Health, Bureau of Clinical Laboratories

Dr. Massingale received her B.S. in Zoology/Chemistry from Alabama A&M University; M.S. in Biology from Tuskegee University; and Ph.D. in Microbiology from Auburn University. She is the current director of the Alabama Department of Public Health Public Health Laboratory where she has served since 2009. Prior to this appointment, she served for six months as the Laboratory Assistant Director. Before her administrative role, Dr. Massingale technical roles included Molecular Diagnostic Specialist, Laboratory Senior Microbiologist, and Microbiologist. Her initial responsibilities were establishing the biological LRN and PulseNet programs and managing the associated grants. Throughout this time, relationships were established with hospital laboratories agreeing to serve as sentinel for both the bioterrorism and influenza testing program as she traveled throughout the state soliciting their participation. She helped initiate the Annual Alabama Sentinel Laboratory Conference in 2005 which was held every year until the COVID-19 shut-down in 2020. She has led the laboratory through SARS, MERS, Influenza Pandemic, Ebola, and now COVID-19. Under her leadership, the laboratory is seeking ISO 17025 accreditation.

Dr. Massingale is an active member of APHL where she has served on Laboratory System and Standards and the Workforce Development Committees. She also served on several workgroups associated with these committees. In 2009, Dr. Massingale was selected to APHL's Emerging Leaders Cohort 2. She has served on APHL's Nominating, Awards, and Annual Meeting Planning Committees.

Dr. Massingale is American Association of Bioanalysts Board Certified as a High Complexity Laboratory Director with a specialty in microbiology and holds a second certification as a Clinical Consultant. She is also the Southern Regional Representative for the Environmental Biology and Public Health Section. Dr. Massingale was appointed to the Alabama State University Biological Science Advisory Board in 2012, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Clinical Laboratory Science Advisory Board in 2016 and the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Advisory Committee for the 2016-2020 session.

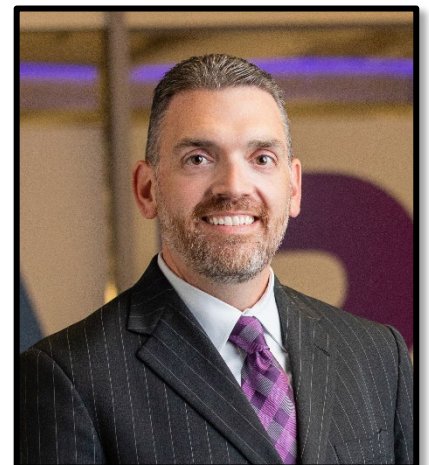


Public Health Institutional State Member Representative

Scott Shone, PhD, HCLD(ABB)

laboratory director, North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health

Scott Shone, PhD, HCLD(ABB), is the Director of the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health. He received his bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey; his Doctorate in Molecular Microbiology and Immunology from The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; and is a board-certified high-complexity clinical laboratory director from the American Association of Bioanalysts. Dr. Shone spent 12 years at the New Jersey Department of Health as an Emerging Infectious Diseases Post-Doctoral Research Fellow from the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL), as a Research Scientist in the Biothreat Response Unit, and, ultimately, as the director of the newborn screening laboratory. During his tenure, the newborn screening program expanded its screening panel, upgraded the laboratory's information management system, installed and validated multiple pieces of new equipment, expanded molecular testing, increased efficiency and reduced costs through implementation of LEAN processes, and maintained essential services during multiple states of emergency. During this time, Dr. Shone also served as the inaugural chair of the Steering Committee for APHL's Newborn Screening Technical Assistance and Evaluation Program (NewSTEPs), was a member of the APHL Newborn Screening and Genetics in Public Health Committee and received the APHL Emerging Leader Award. More recently, as a senior research public health analyst at RTI International, he directed clinical



laboratory services for Early Check, a statewide voluntary expanded newborn screening program. In his current role with the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health, Dr. Shone leads a team of over 230 administrative and technical staff for the successful delivery of clinical and environmental laboratory services in the state. In addition to his state service, Dr. Shone is a member on the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) Expert Panel on Newborn Screening, a member of the editorial board for the International Journal of Neonatal Screening, and an appointed member of the federal Secretary of Health and Human Services' Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children.

Ex-Officio

SCOTT J. BECKER, MS

chief executive officer, Association of Public Health Laboratories

Scott Becker has served as the chief executive officer for the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) since 1997. As the association's chief staff officer, Scott is responsible for programmatic and fiscal operations, liaison with APHL members and partners, and policy development. Under his leadership, APHL has doubled its staff, tripled its programs and more than quadrupled its budget. In 1999, he was recognized as one of the nation's top association executives under 40.

Prior to joining APHL, Scott served as deputy executive director for the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH). During a sabbatical from ASPH, he directed a WHO project to integrate HIV/AIDS into health profession curricula. He holds BS and MS degrees in business and non-profit management, respectively, from the University of Maryland.

The chief executive officer also serves as ex-officio, non-voting member of the Executive Committee.

