

P. Andrew Karam

Statement of Motivation

I have spent most of my adult life working in radiation safety and, the majority of that time has been spent serving in the government at various levels and serving the profession of health physics. I have enjoyed serving as the IRPA Website Manager for the last several years and I would be honored to continue serving IRPA as Publications Director and to help IRPA expand its communications and outreach to members, Associate Societies, and the public.



Summary of Experience: I have 40 years of radiation safety experience, beginning with eight years of service in the US Navy's nuclear power program in the 1980s. Since then, I have developed a broad experience in radiation safety, having worked as a regulator, Radiation Safety Officer for an academic and medical radiation safety program, as a consultant in private practice, and as a member of the faculty at the Rochester Institute of Technology. In the last decade I have focused on issues related to radiological and nuclear terrorism, including helping to develop and operate a radiological interdiction system for the New York City Police Department and helping to write radiological and nuclear emergency response plans for the New York City government.

After leaving the Navy, I attended school at the Ohio State University where I earned a BA and MS in Geological Sciences and a PhD in Environmental Science; my thesis and dissertation projects involved modeling the manner in which natural background radiation levels have changed over the history of the Earth. In all I have authored nearly 40 peer-reviewed publications and recently finished writing a book on radiological and nuclear terrorism that will be published by Springer in 2021. I am also board-certified by the American Board of Health Physics and is a Fellow of the Health Physics Society.

In addition to his paid work, Andrew has participated in a number of missions on behalf of the Health Physics Society, the IAEA, and Interpol in addition to serving on committees for the National Academies of Science, the NCRP, HPS, and serving as IRPA's website manager for the last several years. He also works extensively with emergency responders to teach them various aspects of radiation safety as it applies to radiological and nuclear interdiction and response. Along these lines he has recorded a number of podcasts for the International Association for Bomb Technicians and Investigators and is writing a series of companion articles for their trade magazine.

P. Andrew Karam

Education

- 2001, PhD Environmental Science, The Ohio State University
- 1998, MS Geological Sciences, The Ohio State University
- 1993, BA Geological Sciences, The Ohio State University

Work history

- 2017 – present, Mirion Technologies, Homeland Security Scientific Advisor
- 2013-2017, New York City Police Department, Director of Radiological Operations
- 2009-2013, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Radiological Operations Manager
- 2003-2009, Karam Consulting, Owner
- 1998-2003, University of Rochester, Radiation Safety Officer
- 1995-1998, Ohio State University Office of Radiation Safety, Health Physicist
- 1992-1995, R&R International Inc, Manager of Radiological Services
- 1990-1992, Ohio Department of Health, Health Physicist
- 1981-1989, US Navy, Machinist Mate, Engineering Laboratory Technician

Awards and Recognition

- Fellow, Health Physics Society, 2019
- US Patent # US9958553B2, "Radiation Survey Process", 2017
- G. William Morgan Award and Lecture, Health Physics Society, 2009
- Health Physics Society Board of Directors, 2002-2005
- American Board of Health Physics, CHP Exam Panel of Examiners, 1997-2002
- Comprehensive certification in Health Physics, 1995
- US Navy, Navy Achievement Medal, 1988