

# Matthew S. Whisman, MPA, MED, MSCJ, CNP, CT

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## **Qualifications Summary:**

- Have collaborated and routinely communicate with Law Enforcement, different Government Agencies, and healthcare organizations
- Investigated, searched, and located families and individuals from cases turned over to my office
- Worked with families at some of the most difficult times in their lives
- Built relationships with community leaders, organizations, and stakeholders
- Organize and plan different educational programs in Death Education
- Adapt and lead an office that changes from day-to-day

## **Education:**

- **University of Kentucky** – 2012- Fall 2016
  - Majored in History
  - Minors in International Studies and Geography
  - Certificates in Peace Studies and International Understanding.
  - The Humanity Academy - Human Resources Training and Development
- **University of Louisville** – 2019-2021
  - Master's in Public Administration
- **Eastern Washington University** - 2022- 2023
  - Masters in Educational Leadership
- **University of North Alabama** - 2023-2024
  - Masters in Criminal Justice
- **New Mexico State University** 2024-Present
  - Masters in Public Health
- **Harvard University** - Religious Literacy Certificate: Traditions and Scriptures
- **Mid-America College of Funeral Services**- Thanatology Certificate

## **Certifications**

- Non-profit Leadership Alliance – Certified Non-Profit Professional (CNP)
- NAAP – Certified Dementia Communication Specialist (CDCS)
- AIHCP – Certified Funeral Associate – (C-FSA)
- ADEC – Certified Thanatologist (CT)
- University of Vermont – Certified End-of- Life Doula
- International Fellowship of Chaplains – Certified Chaplain

## **Academic Awards:**

Dean's List in 2015 and 2016

Phi Alpha Theta – History Honor Society

Omicron Delta Kappa – National Leadership Honor Society

Blue Key Honor Society – Service and Leadership

National Engaged Leader – National Society of Leadership and Success

Order of Merit for Service – Phi Sigma Theta  
Rowland Fellowship – University of Kentucky

**Work Experience:**

- **Deputy Coroner – Jefferson County Coroner Office 2024-Present**
  - Conduct Death Investigations
  - Locate Next-of-Kin
  - Work with other local government agencies and Law Enforcement groups
- **Catholic Charities of Louisville Indigent Burial Coordinator - 2021-2024**
  - Work with the Jefferson County Coroner's office to provide respectful and dignified end of life services for low to no income individuals in Jefferson County
  - Locate and notify Next-of-Kin
  - Create fundraising events and oversee development for long-term sustainability of the program.
  - Death Educator and Death Docent
- **Bellarmino University Office of Graduate Admission – 2021- 2022**
  - Oversee research for graduate programs for marketing and recruitment
  - Oversee the creation of Graduate Student Council
- **Nazareth Home Activities Director/Administrator 2020-2022**
  - Oversees the therapeutic and recreational activities for geriatric patients.
  - Assist in planning and execution of different groups and coordinate events
  - Certified Nursing Assistant
- **Home Caregiver 2017-2019**
  - Provided care for my grandfather as he gradually declined in health until his passing. Attended to finical matters, upkeep on his home, and provided care to him by keeping up with medicines and doctors' appointments.
- **Career Center Student Consultant - 2015-2017**
  - Help student apply for graduate school and jobs by helping with resume and cover letters
- **Director of Young at Heart a program of the Center for Community Outreach at UK 2015-2016**
  - Was responsible for coordinating volunteers from the University of Kentucky to help out in programs across Lexington that catered to the elderly population.
  - Served on the Board of Directors for the Center for Community Outreach
  - Volunteered and Assisted with the Nursing Home Ombudsman Friendly Visitor Program Volunteer where students spend an hour a week with a resident in a local nursing home.
- **Hand in Hand Ministries – Auxier, KY – 2012-2015**
  - Worked as a site leader by coordinating volunteers to help rebuild houses and repair damage from flood and tornados in Floyd, Johnson, Pike, and Magoffin Counties.
  - Helped run Food Pantry that provided food for the residents of Floyd County
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### **Volunteer Experience:**

- U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary – Louisville Flotilla
  - Environmental Safety Staff Officer Flotilla 4-2
  - National Commodore’s Achievement Award –Flotilla 4-1
- Civil Air Patrol/U.S. Air Force Auxiliary – Squadron 039
  - Captain – March 2021
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant – September 2019
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant – September 2016
  - Drug Reduction Officer
  - Public Affairs Officer
  - Assistant Testing Officer
  - Assistant Aerospace Officer
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- Selective Service System – Local Board Member
- Jefferson County Election Officer – 2022-Present
- Friends of St. Joseph Orphanage – Life Member
- Fraternal Order of Police – Member
- Knights of Columbus

### **Historical and Genealogical Associations**

- National Order of the Korean War – President
- National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution
- Military Order of Foreign Wars
- Military Order of the Loyal Legion – Life Member

### **Achievements**

- Father Oz Leap of Faith Award: The first receipt of this award for Outreach and Stewardship
- Commissioned a Kentucky Colonel by Governor Steve Beshear
- Certificate of Friendship - Governor Jim Justice of West Virginia
- Shining Armor Award from The Knights of Columbus
- Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Award
- Leadership Award from Alpha Phi Omega
- Outstanding Service to the Community from St. Xavier
- President’s Volunteer Service Award Gold, Silver, and Bronze
- Points of Light – Daily Points of Light
- The Congressional Award Medal – Bronze
- Silver Medal from Red Cross of San Marino
- Freeman – City of London

### **Auxiliary Awards**

- Civil Air Patrol – U.S. Air Force Auxiliary
  - Community Service Award Ribbon
  - Red Service Ribbon
  - Membership Award Ribbon

- Yeager Award in Aerospace
  - Leadership Award Ribbon
  - Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. Award
  - Grover Loening Aerospace Award
  - Air Force Organizational Excellence Award
- U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
    - Coast Guard Unit Commendation
    - Auxiliary Membership Award

#### Papers and Articles

- Contributor: “Proa a la Mar” Magazine & “Knightlife” Magazine
  - Article: Spanish Naval Influence on the American Revolution
  - Article: The Angel of Hull Massachusetts: A Glance at Captain Joshua James and the Development of Life Saving Societies
  - Article: One of the Final Few: Lieutenant Hiroo Onoda, One of Japan’s Last Holdouts
- “The Golden Age of Fraternalism: How Fraternal Organizations Redefined Themselves to Adapt to a Modern Society”