

## The Panelists

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**Larry Knafo** is First Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications and Deputy Chief Information Officer for New York City. Larry has had a career inside and outside of government in New York City, working at the Health and Hospitals Corporation, the New York City Fire Department, the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management and DoITT. He was among the select group of people responsible for creating the Office of Emergency Management and he was instrumental in formulating its information and communication strategies. He also led the city's Y2K effort and within 72 hours of the attack on the Trade Center, he led the city in the development of the Family Assistance Center and the substitute Emergency Operations Center on Pier 92.

**Peter Levin** is the Dean of the School of Public Health here at the University at Albany where he's created a bioterrorism response plan for 63 campuses of the SUNY system and received a million-dollar disaster preparedness center grant from the Center for Disease Control. Peter's career has been spent on the cutting edge of medical provision policy and quality of care issues. He has held academic, administrative, and executive appointments at universities and medical institutions across the country, including some time at the New York City Department of Health.

**Karen Schimke** is currently President of the Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy, which is more than a century old. It is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, public policy and advocacy organization working to improve health and human services. Karen has served as Executive Deputy Commissioner for both the New York State Department of Health and the New York State Department of Social Services and has spent her entire career as an advocate for families and children.

**Steve Kos** is from HSBC Bank USA where he has been for the last 23 years. He is currently a Senior Vice-President in Operations for risk and support services. He is responsible for programs of operational risk, corporate contingency, operational administration, internal communications, branch operations and others. His primary focus is risk management, including operational risk and institutional contingency planning.