

The National Academies of
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

**First Meeting of the Standing Committee to
Advise the Department of State on Unexplained Health Effects on
U.S. Government Employees and their Families at Overseas Embassies**

December 18, 2019

Advance Registration Required –

AGENDA

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

DATA GATHERING SESSION

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Greetings from Sponsor and Charge to Committee

Mark Cohen, Medical Director, U.S. Department of State

10:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Presentations on Medical Investigations

Moderator – **David Relman**, Professor of Medicine and Microbiology
and Immunology, Stanford University

Acute Presentation of an Acquired Neurosensory Syndrome

Michael Hoffer, Professor, Department of Otolaryngology,
University of Miami

Carey Balaban, Professor of Otolaryngology, Neurobiology,
Communication Sciences and Disorders, and Bioengineering,
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

What Underlies Havana Syndrome

Douglas Smith, Robert A. Groff Endowed Professor and Vice
Chairman of Neurosurgery at the University of Pennsylvania and
Director of University of Pennsylvania's Center for Brain Injury and
Repair

*Multimodal Neuroimaging Reveals Neurotoxins as a Likely Underlying
Cause of Illness Among Canadian Diplomats*

Alon Friedman, Professor of Neuroscience and Dennis Chair in
Epilepsy Research, Dalhousie University

Note: The data gathering sessions of this meeting to be held on December 18, 2019 from 1:30 PM – 6:00 PM, EST, and December 19, 2019, from 8:45 AM – 3:45 PM, EST, will not be open to the public under Subsection 15(b)(3) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. The Academy has determined that to open this session to the public would disclose information described in 5 U.S.C. 552(b).