

Conference for Food Protection 2004-2006
Executive Board Meeting Committee Update

Council II – Program Standards Committee Report

Date of Committee Report: March 7, 2005

Submitted By: Diann S. Worzalla: Chair
Charlene W. Bruce: Vice-Chair

Committee Charge:

The Conference has assigned the Committee the task of working with the FDA's Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards Clearinghouse Workgroup. The Workgroup is to provide interpretations to questions submitted by states, Regional Specialists, or other parties related to the implementation of the Voluntary Program Standards. If consensus of interpretation cannot be reached or if the Standards themselves need clarification, appropriate recommendations will be forwarded by the Clearinghouse to either the FDA Retail Food Steering Committee or the CFP Program Standards Committee for further action.

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Progress Report/Committee Activities:

Program Standards Committee

Three Program Standards Committee members; Diann Worzalla, Charlene Bruce and Elizabeth Nutt, have participated on conference calls with the FDA Clearinghouse on the following dates:

- May 19, 2004
- June 16, 2004
- July 21, 2004
- August 18, 2004
- September 15, 2004
- October 20, 2004
- January 27, 2005
- February 16, 2005

The objectives of the Clearinghouse Work Group are; 1) to provide consistent and uniform interpretations of the "Recommended National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards" that will be disseminated through the FDA Retail Food Specialists and other appropriate forums, and 2) Develop recommendations for changes to the Standards when current language cannot be clearly interpreted.

To date, consensus of interpretation has been reached on over twenty-five questions submitted by enrolled jurisdictions. No further action has been forwarded or requested of the Program Standards Committee at this time.

In addition, committee update reports will be submitted for the following two Workgroups under separate cover.

Work Group 1 – Certification of Food Safety Regulation Professionals

Co-Chair - Dr. David McSwane (Indiana University)

Co-Chair - John Marcello (U.S. Food & Drug Administration)

Work Group 2 – Interdisciplinary Food Borne Illness Training Programs

Co-Chair - Frank Ferko (Rare Hospitality International, Inc.)

Co-Chair - Elizabeth Nutt (Tulsa Health Department)

Requested Actions:

The Program Standards Committee respectfully requests posting of the following materials on the CFP Internet site:

- FDA Retail Food Program Resource Guide
- Clearinghouse questions & answers
- Audit manual