

## **Conference for Food Protection Executive Board Meeting Committee Report**

This report must be submitted to your Council Chair for review so that it can be approved and submitted to the Executive Board via the Executive Director 30 days before each Executive Board Meeting (held in April and August of each year). The report must be accompanied by an updated committee roster on the Excel spreadsheet provided (Committee Members Template) located here: <http://www.foodprotect.org/work/>.

**COMMITTEE NAME:** Recall Evaluation Committee

**COUNCIL (I, II, or III):** I

**DATE OF REPORT:** 29 July 2011

**SUBMITTED BY:** Craig Harris, Co-Chair  
Greg Pallaske, Co-Chair

**COMMITTEE CHARGE(S):**

- Clarify the system of classification for recalls established by USDA and FDA.
- Create clarifying instructions and procedures that industry and consumers can easily understand and comply with.
- Recommend enforceable and reasonable time frames for execution of recall communications and actions.
- Clarify the information required to be included in supplier recall notifications.
- Recommend expectations for the notification of end-users, including restaurant and retail customers as well as school and institutional food service.
- Report back to the 2012 Biennial Meeting.

**REQUESTED ACTION BY BOARD (If Applicable):**

To better target the Committee's recommendations to recent developments and experience with recalls, the Committee requests that \$5,500 be allocated for a systematic study of recent recalls.

For each recall examined, the study will determine

- (1) what was the trigger for the recall, and how was the recall initiated
- (2) after the initial recall was it subsequently expanded
- (3) was a cause of the contamination identified
- (4) were any illnesses linked to the recalled product at the time of the recall, or subsequently
- (5) what was the time frame for the entire recall process

A representative sample of 50 recalls will be drawn from existing USFDA and USDA-FSIS databases of recent food recalls in the U.S. Background information will be obtained for each recall, and the appropriate person at the firm conducting the recall will be interviewed to obtain additional information outlined above. A report summarizing the information collected will be prepared.

The study will be supervised by Craig Harris (Department of Sociology, Michigan State University), under the overall direction of the two co-chairs of the Committee, Craig and Greg Pallaske (Regulatory Compliance, U.S. Food Service). The data will be collected and the report drafted by a student working under Craig's supervision.

**Budget**

50 case studies @ 10 hours @ \$10 per hour (student pay) =	\$5,000
Summary report @ 50 hours @ \$10 per hour (student pay) =	\$ 500
Total	\$5,500

**PROGRESS REPORT / COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES WITH ACTIVITY DATES:**

13 June 2011 Stacey Womack (USDA-FSIS) presented to the Committee an explanation of the most recent revision of the directive for the USDA recall process. Discussion focused on how the USDA-FSIS recall committee decides what is the class of the recall.

23 June 2011 Committee co-chairs met for a day and revised work plan for next nine months (remainder of time before biennial meeting of the Conference).