

## Conference for Food Protection – Committee Periodic Report

Template approved: 04/20/2016

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**COMMITTEE NAME:** Allergen Committee

**DATE OF REPORT:**  Initial fall progress report  Spring progress report  Second fall progress report

Date submitted: 3/6/2019

Date amended (if applicable): [Click here to enter a date.](#)

Date accepted by Executive Board: [Click here to enter a date.](#)

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:**  Council I  Council II  Council III  Executive Board

**REPORT SUBMITTED BY:** Jeff Hawley – Committee Chair, Mike Pascucilla – Committee Vice Chair

#### COMMITTEE CHARGE(S):

- Review Issues 2018-I-015, 2018-II-007, 2018-II-008 and their original submitted Recommended Solution, including but not limited to:
  - Evaluation of major food allergen disclaimers in retail food establishments.
  - Development of methodology for retail food establishments to notify consumers when menu items contain major food allergens.
  - Determining if any additional staff training for food allergen awareness is needed
  - Identifying any supporting research or evidence that supports recommendations.
- Recommend changes to the Food Code that support retail food establishments in their efforts to protect consumers with major food allergens.
- Report back findings and recommendations to the 2020 Biennial Meeting of the Conference for Food Protection.

#### COMMITTEE WORK PLAN AND TIMELINE:

This Committee has been holding regular conference calls, and workgroup calls between Committee calls. My goal is to have all Committee work completed by Sept 1.

#### COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES: Dates of committee meetings or conference calls:

1. **Overview of committee activities:** Two workgroups were formed to address Committee charges. One workgroup is to address allergen notification in food service establishments. The other workgroup to address food allergen training in food service establishments. Committee members were asked to volunteer for one of the workgroups. Emilee Follett chairs the notification workgroup. Betsy Craig chairs the training workgroup. Committee has had conference calls on 9/28, 11/9, 11/30, 1/25 and 2/22. Future calls are scheduled for 3/29, 4/26, 5/31, 6/28, 7/26, and 8/30. Workgroup calls have been on 1/18, 1/24, 1/28, 2/19, and 2/21. The first order of business was to identify and review current major food allergen requirements for notification, labeling, disclaimers, and training. After reviewing current regulatory requirements the Committee recognized that rules for labeling of major food allergens in packaged foods are very thorough. However, there is a gap in notification of major food allergens in food service establishments.

Notification Workgroup is looking at what types of allergen notification are currently being used, domestically and internationally, and how effective these methods are. Workgroup is also considering a survey for consumer groups or food allergy organizations to get input on how they prefer to be notified.

Training Workgroup Group compiled a spreadsheet that identifies food allergy laws, by state or county, and what training is required/accepted. Two surveys (attached) were sent to representatives of the food industry (restaurant and retail) to gather more information about food allergy training. Slightly more than half of those who completed the retail industry survey responded that they provide food allergy training, separate from food safety training. A second survey sent to restaurant and retail members of the Allergen Committee indicated that numerous establishments provide additional training for allergens. It was expressed that current training is more specific to restaurants, so majority of retail respondents are relying more on in-house developed food allergy training.

Committee Chair Jeff Hawley was interviewed by Eric Athas, writer with the NY Times, on 1/4/19. Mr. Athas is working on an article about food allergies that will cover people with food allergies, labeling and notification rules, manufacturing, etc, and contacted CFP through Jen Jobrack (FARE). I explained the CFP process and why the Allergen Committee was formed. I explained that current rules cover labeling of packaged foods, but there's very little regulation about major food allergen notification in food service establishments. I also explained that states must adopt the Food Code before it can become regulation. We spoke for about 15-20 minutes and I asked him to call or email me if he had further questions.

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2. **Charges COMPLETED and the rationale for each specific recommendation:**

- a. *None*
- b.

3. **Status of charges still PENDING and activities yet to be completed:**

- a. *Charges will be completed by 9/1/2019*

COMMITTEE REQUESTED ACTION FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD:  *No requested action at this time*

1. **Approve revised roster.**

- *I received notice on 12/27/18 that Kirsten Knopff is no longer with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. No updated contact information was provided so I removed Kirsten from the Committee roster.*
- *Dee Dee Vicino was a co-submitter of Issue 2018 II-007. Following CFP 2018 she volunteered to be on the allergen committee and was selected for membership. When I tried to contact her about committee membership she had changed organizations, and I did not have her new contact info. Consequently, she was not selected for the committee. She recently contacted Dave McSwane about serving on the Allergen Committee, so she was added (pending approval) as an at-large non-voting member.*

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. **Content Documents:**

- a. **Committee Member Roster:**  *See changes noted above under “requested action”*  **No changes to previously approved roster**  
*“Committee Members Template” (Excel) available at: [www.foodprotect.org/work/](http://www.foodprotect.org/work/) Committee roster to be submitted as a PDF attachment to this report.*
- b. **Committee Generated Content Documents (OPTIONAL):**  **No draft content documents submitted at this time**

2. **Supporting Attachments (OPTIONAL):**  **Not applicable**

*Survey (with results) that was sent to Food Marketing Institute (FMI) Food Protection Committee.*

*Survey (with results) that was sent to restaurant and retail members of Allergen Committee.*

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## Committee Name: Allergen (Feb 2019)

Last Name	First Name	Position (Chair/Member)	Constituency	Employer	City	State	Telephone	Email
Hawley	Jeff	Chair	Retail Food Industry	Harris Teeter	Matthews	NC	704-844-3098	jhawley@harristeeter.com
Pascucilla	Michael	Vice-chair	Local Regulator	East Shore District Health Department	Branford	CT	203-619-1286	mpascucilla@esdhd.org
Brown	Lydia	Voting member	State Regulator	RIDOH Center for Food Protection	Providence	RI	401-222-7723	lydia.brown@health.ri.gov
Campbell	Archer	Voting member	Local Regulator	Thomas Jefferson Health District	Charlottesville	VA	434-972-6256	elizabetha.campbell@vdh.virginia.gov
Craig	Betsy	Voting member	Food Industry Support	MenuTrinfo	Fort Collins	CO	888-767-6368	betsy@menutrinfo.com
Follett	Emilee	Voting member	Food Industry Support	StateFoodSafety.com	OREM	UT	801-805-4679	efollett@statefoodsafety.com
Greco	Darby	Voting member	State Regulator	NYSDOH	Albany	NY	518-402-7600	darby.greco@health.ny.gov
Guzman	Jason	Voting member	State Regulator	Texas Dept of State Health Services	Austin	TX	512-834-4546	jason.guzman@dshs.texas.gov
Hilton	DeBrena	Voting member	Local Regulator	Tulsa Health Department	Tulsa	OK	918-595-4302	dhilton@tulsa-health.org
Jennings	Allison	Voting member	Retail Food Industry	Amazon	Seattle	WA	206-771-4021	jealliso@amazon.com
Jobrack	Jen	Voting member	Consumer	FARE	Skokie	IL	847-852-7552	jjjobrack@foodallergy.org
Koester	Laura	Voting member	Retail Food Industry	Harmons	Salt Lake City	UT	801-349-0407	lauradykman@harmonsgrocery.com
Long	Teresa	Voting member	Local Regulator	Washoe County Health District	Reno	NV	775-328-2641	tlong@washoecounty.us
Love	Alicia	Voting member	State Regulator	State of Montana	Helena	MT	406-444-5303	alicia.love@mt.gov
McInnes	Carol	Voting member	Local Regulator	Boulder County Public Health	Boulder	CO	303-441-1438	cmcinnis@bouldercounty.org
Meinhardt	Christina	Voting member	Food Service Industry	Aramark	Philadelphia	PA	215-238-6892	meinhardt-christina@aramark.com
O'Donnell	Kathleen	Voting member	Retail Food Industry	Wegmans Food Markets, Inc.	Rochester	NY	585-429-3623	kathleen.odonnell@wegmans.com
Sigler	Larry	Voting member	Food Service Industry	Waffle House Inc.	Norcross	GA	770-729-5794	larrysigler@wafflehouse.com
Sweet	Bridget	Voting member	Academia	Johnson & Wales	Providence	RI	774-434-5146	bridget.sweet@jwu.edu

Tew	Dan	Voting member	Food Service Industry	Yum! Brands	Rigby	ID	972-338-8422	daniel.tew@yum.com
Williamson	Kenesha	Voting member	Retail Food Industry	Publix Super Markets Inc	Port Charlotte	FL	404-358-1267	kenesha.williamson@publix.com
Wilson	Nancy	Voting member	Retail Food Industry	Wawa, Inc.	Media	PA	610-812-3934	nancy.wilson@wawa.com
Wynne	Rebecca	Voting member	Food Service Industry	Darden	Denver	CO	303-895-4042	rwynne@darden.com
Arbizu	Thomas	At-Large	Retail Food Industry	HEB Grocery Company	San Anotnio	TX	210-938-6520	arbizu.thomas@heb.com
Bhatt	Chirag	At-Large	Retail Food Industry	Buc-ee's Ltd.	Pearland	TX	346-774-2259	chirag.bhatt@buc-ees.com
Brainerd Jr	Dana	At-Large	Retail Food Industry	CVS Health	Cumberland	MA	401-770-6194	dana.brainerdjr@cvshealth.com
Collins	Alicia	At-Large	Food Industry Support	The Steritech Group, Inc.	Charlotte	NC	707-208-4399	Alicia.Collins@Steritech.com
Craig	Sandra	At-Large	State Regulator	SCDHEC	Columbia	SC	803-896-0614	craigsd@dhec.sc.gov
Crownover	David	At-Large	Food Industry Support	Microbac Laboratories Inc	Pittsburgh	PA	412-699-0919	crownny2@comcast.net
De La Cruz	Hector	At-Large	Local Regulator	L.A. County Environmental Health	Panorama City	CA	818-672-2230	hsdelacruz@gmail.com
Deitzel	Diane	At-Large	Food Service Industry	Sheetz	Claysburg	PA	814-239-1531	ddeitzel@sheetz.com
Del Rosario	Katie	At-Large	Federal Regulator	USDA Food and Nutrition Service	Alexandria	VA	703-457-6798	katie.delrosario@fns.usda.gov
Dickhaut	Jason	At-Large	Food Service Industry	BJ's Restaurants & Brewhouse	Huntington Beach	CA	214-674-1341	jdickhaut@bjsrestaurants.com
Diersen	Nancy	At-Large	State Regulator	Virginia Department of Health	Richmond	VA	804-864-7464	nancy.diersen@vdh.virginia.gov
Dunleavy	Sean	At-Large	State Regulator	MI Dept of Agriculture & Rural Development	Lansing	MI	517-243-8895	dunleavys@michigan.gov
Edsall	Jean	At-Large	Food Service Industry	Compass Group	Charlotte	NC	704-328-5893	jean.edsall@compass-usa.com
Eisenbeiser	Ashley	At-Large	Food Industry Support	Food Marketing Institute	Arlington	VA	202-220-0689	aeisenbeiser@fmi.org
Fessel	Ingrid	At-Large	Food Industry Support	Diversey Inc	Charlotte	NC	608-444-6490	ingrid.fessel@diversey.com
Follett	Danny	At-Large	Food Industry Support	StateFoodSafety	Orem	UT	801-995-9641	dfollett@abovetraining.com
Garvin	Amanda	At-Large	State Regulator	Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural	South haven	MI	616-265-9985	garvina1@michigan.gov

Geller	Todd	At-Large	Food Service Industry	Sodexo	Fredericksburg	VA	540-207-8610	todd.geller@sodexo.com
Halbrook	Courtney	At-Large	Food Service Industry	Topgolf	Dallas	TX	214-202-8230	courtney.halbrook@topgolf.com
Harrison	Lisa	At-Large	State Regulator	indiana state department of health	indianapolis	IN	317-412-2106	lharriso@isdh.in.gov
Hill	Michelle	At-Large	Food Industry Support	Allergen Free Cooking	Woodbury	MN	612-701-4004	michelle@allergenfreecook.com
Hofer	Vasanthi	At-Large	Local Regulator	Maricopa County Environmental Services	Mesa	AZ	602-506-6986	vhofer@mail.maricopa.gov
Holmes	Becki	At-Large	Food Industry Support	Foodwit	Portland	OR	206-457-9598	becki@foodwit.com
Humphries	Sharon	At-Large	Food Service Industry	Bojangles' Restaurants, Inc.	Charlotte	NC	859-967-7066	shumphries@bojangles.com
Hussein	Sima	At-Large	Food Industry Support	Ecolab	Greensboro	NC	336-931-2625	sima.hussein@ecolab.com
Iglesias	Ralph	At-Large	Retail Food Industry	Sizzler USA	Mission Viejo	CA	619-610-8649	riglesias@sizzlerusa.com
Inman	Adam	At-Large	State Regulator	Kansas Department of Agriculture	Manhattan	KS	785-564-6764	adam.inman@ks.gov
Kender	Linda	At-Large	Academia	Johnson & Wales University, CCA	Providence	RI	401-598-1278	lkender@jwu.edu
Klein	Harry	At-Large	Food Service Industry	Prometric	Canton	MD	443-455-6233	harry.klein@prometric.com
Kor	Helen	At-Large	Retail Food Industry	Blue Apron LLC	New York	NY	718-930-1377	helen.kor@blueapron.com
Larsen	Thomas	At-Large	Food Industry Support	StateFoodSafety	Orem	UT	385-208-4994	tlarsen@statefoodsafety.com
Lindholm	Jeffrey	At-Large	Food Industry Support	iCertainty	Chevy Chase	MD	443-452-1950	jeff.lindholm@icertainty.com
Marra	Paul	At-Large	Retail Food Industry	Wegmans Food Markets	Rochester	NY	585-328-2550	paul.marra@wegmans.com
Matthews-Lopez	Joy	At-Large	Consumer	Independent Consultant	Athens	OH	740-594-3266	joy.matthewslopez@gmail.com
McMahan	Thomas	At-Large	Retail Food Industry	Meijer	Grandville	MI	616-249-6035	thomas.mcmahan@meijer.com
McMillion	Ryan	At-Large	Food Industry Support	Prometric	Canton	MD	443-455-6244	ryan.mcmillion@prometric.com
Melichar	Wayne	At-Large	Vending- Distribution Food Industry	Feeding America	Chicago	IL	312-629-7263	wmelichar@feedingamerica.org
Meltz	Elizabeth	At-Large	Food Service Industry	Eataly USA	New York	NY	917-478-2971	ermeltz@gmail.com

Menes	Carlos	At-Large	Retail Food Industry	Sodexo	Newport Beach	CA	949-402-9322	carlos.menes@sodexo.com
Miller	Ashley	At-Large	Food Industry Support	National Restaurant Association	Chicago	IL	312-715-6754	acmiller@restaurant.org
Money	Elaine	At-Large	Food Service Industry	Ecolab	Greensbor	NC	336-931-2596	Elaine.Money@ecolab.com
Nakamura	George	At-Large	Retail Food Industry	State Food Safety	Sunnyvale	CA	408-482-4117	gmlnaka@comcast.net
Oswald	Steve	At-Large	Retail Food Industry	Wakefern Food Corp.	Elizabeth	NJ	908-527-3624	steve.oswald@wakefern.com
Paster	Tara	At-Large	Food Industry Support	Paster Training, Inc.	Gilbertsville	PA	610-970-1776	tara.paster@pastertraining.com
Pelech	Todd	At-Large	State Regulator	Arizona Department of Health Services	Phoenix	AZ	602-364-3122	todd.pelech@azdhs.gov
Read	David	At-Large	Academia	IFPTI	North St Paul	MN	651-485-8905	david.read@ifpti.org
Reighter	Matthew	At-Large	Retail Food Industry	Starbucks Coffee Company	Seattle	WA	206-200-2581	mreighte@starbucks.com
Roughan	George	At-Large	Food Industry Support	TAP Series	Westlake Village	CA	818-889-8799	gr@tapseries.com
Schneider	Kevin	At-Large	Retail Food Industry	Retail Business Services	Landover	MD	301-543-6133	kschneider@retailbusinessservices.com
Sees	Deb	At-Large	Local Regulator	Jackson County environmental health	Grain Valley	MO	816-847-7070	dsees@jacksongov.org
Slowinski	Traci	At-Large	Food Service Industry	Brinker International	Dallas	TX	972-770-8856	traci.slowinski@brinker.com
Snellen	Petra	At-Large	Food Service Industry	Aramark	Philadelphia	PA	267-235-6642	snellen-petra@aramark.com
Sparks	Christopher	At-Large	Local Regulator	Houston Health Department	Houston	TX	832-393-5131	Christopher.Sparks@houstontx.gov
Straughn	Ki	At-Large	Local Regulator	Public Health Seattle & King County	Bellevue	WA	206-263-8088	kstraughn@kingcounty.gov
Sylvis	Christine	At-Large	Local Regulator	Southern Nevada Health District	Las Vegas	NV	702-759-0507	sylvis@snhd.org
Vicino	Dee Dee	At-Large	Food Industry Support	AllerCuisine	Fort Collins	CO	954-254-7707	Deedee@AllerCuisine.com
Walker	Matthew	At-Large	State Regulator	Idaho Food Protection Program	Boise	ID	208-334-5946	matthew.walker@dhw.idaho.gov
Weichelt	William	At-Large	Food Industry Support	National Restaurant Association	Chicago	IL	312-715-5388	wweichelt@restaurant.org
Wijsekera	Dilshika	At-Large	Retail Food Industry	Instacart			(479) 879-3903	dilshika@instacart.com

Woodbury	Thomas	At-Large	Food Industry Support	ComplianceMate	Holladay	UT	801-330-9511	twoodbury@compliancemate.com
Abel	Greg	Consultant (2)	Federal Regulator	FDA	Minneapolis	MN	612-758-7199	greg.abel@fda.hhs.gov
Dutilly	Devin	Consultant (1)	Federal Regulator	FDA	College Park	MD	301-348-1980	devin.dutilly@fda.hhs.gov
Kim	Shinhey	Consultant	Federal Regulator	USDA-FSIS	Washington	DC	202-772-9166	shinhey.kim@fsis.usda.gov
Radke	Taylor	Consultant	Federal Regulator	CDC	Atlanta	GA	770-488-7652	yim3@cdc.gov

**Survey Name:** CFP Allergen Committee Survey  
**Response Status:** Partial & Completed  
 Created January 28, 2019  
 10 Responses To Date

1. Does your brand have its own food allergy training class?

- 3 Yes
- 7 No

2. Does your brand believe you teach enough about food allergies within your food safety program such as a food manager or food handler class?

- 6 Yes
- 3 No
- 1 N/A

3. Have you used an allergy training class by a 3rd party?

- 4 Yes
- 6 No

4. If YES than which training class have you used? (Check any/all that apply)

AllerTrain or AllerTrain Lite (MenuTrinfo)	1	25.0%
Allergen or Allergy Awareness (TAP, Always Food Safe or A Plus)	0	0.0%
Basics of Food Allergy Training (Diversys)	0	0.0%
Food Allergen (NRA)	2	50.0%
Food Allergen Training Program (Institute of Food Safety)	0	0.0%
Food Safety Allergen (State Food Safety)	1	25.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100%</b>

5. Any additional comments about food allergy training classes?

- FARRP, FARE
- I've always wondered why there was a need for a separate allergen training course. Why not update the Manager certification and food handler courses to contain sufficient allergen training rather than create separate courses.
- I strongly believe that while there should be better allergen communication be that labeling or verbal communication at the point of sale I strongly feel the consumer should have the responsibility to educate themselves and make responsible decisions when choosing foods to eat. In other words.. consumer allergen classes as well.
- Our goal is to get every PIC certified.
- We have developed our own Allergen Training Program that focuses heavily on the allergens we have within our operation. The training program is required for all employees.



Food Allergen Training Survey - FMI Food Protection Committee – W/results

1. Does your organization require store associates/employees to take food allergen awareness training, separate from food safety training?

- Yes 10
- No 9

NOTE: If you answered **Yes** please continue the survey. If you answered **No** you do not need to answer any further questions on the survey.

2. If you require associates/employees to take food allergen awareness training, what departments do you require this training? (check all that apply)

- Customer Service/Front End 2
- Dairy/Frozen 2
- Deli/Bakery 10
- Grocery 3
- Meat/Seafood 10
- Produce 10

3. What level of associates/employees are required to take food allergen awareness training? (check all that apply)

- All Food Handlers 9
- Department Management 7
- Store Management 8

4. What type of food allergen awareness training do you provide for your associates/employees? (check all that apply)

- Online 1
- CBT 9
- Video 0
- Print 5
- Classroom 0
- On the job 5

5. Is your food allergen awareness training from a training company or developed in-house?

- Training Company 0
- In-House 10

On behalf of the CFP Allergen Committee, thank you for completing this survey.