

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, DC

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<h1>FSIS NOTICE</h1>	67-09	9/25/09
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## GENERAL FOOD DEFENSE PLAN

In October, FSIS will be mailing a letter to establishments that did not have a food defense plan when asked during the 2008 food defense plan survey and to establishments that received a grant of inspection after FSIS conducted the 2008 survey. Attached to that letter is a new general food defense plan developed by the Office of Data Integration and Food Protection (ODIFP), with input from representatives from small and very small establishments.

At the next weekly meeting after receipt of this notice, Inspection Program Personnel (IPP) at establishments that do not have a food defense plan are to have a discussion with the establishment's management about the need to voluntarily implement a food defense plan. The discussion should identify that a new, general food defense plan is being mailed directly to the establishment management, and that another food defense plan survey will follow in December. Also, IPP are to inform establishment management that if it finds that this general plan is suitable for its needs, the establishment can use the general plan as its food defense plan. Establishment management would only have to sign the cover sheet and maintain the plan in the establishment's files. IPP are to document this discussion in the Memorandum of Interview (MOI) for the weekly meeting as set out in FSIS Directive 5000.1.

**NOTE:** See FSIS Directive 5420.1, *Homeland Security Threat Condition Response - Food Defense Verification Procedures*, for a discussion of food defense plans and how to determine whether an establishment has one.

During the week of November 2, 2009, at the weekly meeting with establishment management, IPP at the establishments identified by FSIS from the prior survey that do not have a food defense plan are to ask establishment management whether it received the new, general food defense plan from FSIS. IPP are to document the discussion in that week's MOI. If the establishment did not receive the mailed general plan and needs one, please notify Sally Fernandez, OOEET, using Outlook. Another plan will be mailed. For mailings that are returned because of an incorrect address, Sally Fernandez will contact the Inspector-in-Charge (IIC) to get the correct mailing address, and the Agency will mail another copy to the establishment.

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**DISTRIBUTION:** Electronic

**NOTICE EXPIRES:** 10/1/2010

**OPI:** OPPD

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Refer questions regarding this notice to the Policy Development Division through askFSIS at <http://askfsis.custhelp.com> or by telephone at 1-800-233-3935.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kemp S. Deffen", is positioned above the typed name.

Assistant Administrator  
Office of Policy and Program Development