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EEO, Civil Rights, and Diversity

Policy Statement

As the Administrator for the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), I am committed to the principles of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO), Civil Rights, and diversity, and the implementation of policies and objectives that will enhance the quality of our work-life and promote productivity in our workplace. The greatest resource in FSIS is our employees, and it is my goal to create a positive workplace where all employees feel comfortable that their work and individual contributions count. FSIS employees will be held accountable for treating each other with courtesy, dignity, and respect without regard for a person's race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, disability, protected genetic information, sexual orientation, marital, familial or parental status, political beliefs, or protected EEO activity.

FSIS will foster, through effective outreach, recruitment, hiring, and development, an inclusive workforce that reflects America's diversity. We will continue to eliminate barriers to equal employment opportunity for all groups with a low participation rate in the FSIS workforce. Equal opportunity to work and advance based on merit is the law, not an option. I expect all managers and supervisors to ensure that employees are given an equal opportunity for training and career development programs, promotions, awards, and other applicable benefits and privileges of employment.

Managers and supervisors must lead by example and monitor the workplace to ensure that the environment is free from discrimination, hostility, intimidation, reprisal, and harassment. All employees at FSIS are responsible for implementing EEO policies in their daily actions, conduct, and decisions. Managers, supervisors, and employees alike must treat each other with dignity, respect, and professionalism. Discrimination has no place in FSIS and will not be condoned or tolerated.

Let us maintain our commitment to foster an excellent work environment free from unlawful discrimination and harassment as we strive toward making FSIS a premier public health Agency.

Alfred V. Almanza
Administrator