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# FSIS Constituent Update

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## FSIS to Hold Educational Meetings for Importers on Inspection of Siluriformes Fish

FSIS will be conducting a series of educational meetings regarding the new final rule, "Mandatory Inspection of Fish of the Order Siluriformes and Products Derived from Such Fish," which was published in the *Federal Register* on Dec. 2, 2015. The purpose of the meetings is to explain and review the regulatory requirements contained in the final rule as they apply to importers.

The final rule, which applies to both domestically-raised and imported Siluriformes fish, becomes effective March 1, 2016, with an 18-month transitional period. During the transitional period, FSIS will provide guidance and work with domestic establishments and importers to ensure that they understand FSIS' requirements. The final rule, and additional information on the mandatory inspection of Siluriformes fish and fish products, is available on the FSIS web site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/siluriformes>. Questions regarding the mandatory inspection of fish of the order Siluriformes and products derived from such fish may be directed to [AskFish@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:AskFish@fsis.usda.gov).

The meetings will be held on the following dates in the specified cities:

- March 3, 2016, Newark, NJ: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm ET, Rutgers University – Newark, School of Public Affairs, The Great Hall, 15 Washington Street, Newark, N.J. 07102. For directions, please visit: <https://www.newark.rutgers.edu/directions-and-parking>.
- March 17, 2016, Los Angeles, CA: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm PT, Hilton Los Angeles Airport, 5711 W. Century Boulevard, Los Angeles, Calif.
- March 24, 2016, Houston, TX: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm CT, Hilton Houston North, 12400 Greenspoint Drive, Houston, TX.

## Deputy Under Secretary To Testify In Front of the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee

Deputy Under Secretary Al Almanza will appear before the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee on Feb. 24, 2016, at 2:30 pm ET. Almanza will testify before the subcommittee members on the Fiscal Year 2017 Office of Food Safety and FSIS budget request.

Details on the hearing, including written testimony when available and webcast capability, can be found at <http://appropriations.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=394359>.

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### Export Requirement Updates



The Library of Export Requirements has been updated for the following countries:

El Salvador  
Republic of Congo  
(Brazzaville)  
Taiwan

For a complete list of countries, visit <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/international-affairs/exporting-products>.

# The Food Safety Discovery Zone Tour Starts Next Month

The USDA's Food Safety Discovery Zone (FSDZ) will be back on the road next month. The FSDZ will be at the B'More Healthy Expo at the Baltimore Convention Center, 1 W Pratt St, Baltimore, MD on March 19, 2016 from 10 am – 5:00 pm. FSDZ will also visit the USA Science and Engineering Festival at the Washington Convention Center, 801 Mt. Vernon Pl NW, Washington, DC on April 15 -17, 2016.

On April 23, 2016, the FSDZ will be at the Jenks Herb and Plant Festival in Main St. Jenks, OK. They will also be at the Worth Mayfest at 2401 University Drive, Ft. Worth, TX on April 28 - May 1, 2016.

The FSDZ is a 40-foot interactive vehicle that educates consumers about the four food safety messages: Clean, Cook, Separate and Chill from the Food Safe Families campaign. Some of the features in the vehicle include a Hand Washing Station, where visitors can learn the proper techniques to washing hands, and a cook station that showcases how to properly use a food thermometer to verify foods have been cooked to a safe internal temperature. More events will be announced in the coming months.

## Policies Updates

FSIS notices and directives on public health and regulatory issues are available at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/regulations>. The following policies update were recently issued.

**Notice 14-16** - *Modernizing Federal Leave Policies*

**Notice 15-16** - *Profile Update in Establishments that Produce Not-Ready-To-Eat Stuffed Chicken Products that Appear Ready-to-Eat*

## Food Recalls and Alerts

For information regarding recalls, please contact the Congressional and Public Affairs Staff at (202) 720-9113. You can also receive e-mail notifications when public health alerts and recalls are issued. Register at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/recalls>.

## Sign Up for Siluriformes Fish Inspection Email Updates

Want the latest news and information about Siluriformes fish inspection? FSIS' email subscription service is an easy way to keep up with Agency news. You can receive e-mail notifications when new Siluriformes fish inspection information is posted. You can add or delete your subscription updates at any time and you have the option to password protect your account. Register at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe>.

## We Want to Hear From You

The *Constituent Update* Content and Technical Review Committee seeks feedback from its readers. Please let us know what you think about the *Constituent Update* and send comments and suggestions regarding content to [FSISUpdate@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:FSISUpdate@fsis.usda.gov). If you aren't regularly receiving the *Constituent Update*, you can sign up for it at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/newsroom/meetings/newsletters/constituent-updates>.

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