

Occupational Safety and Health Protection for Employees of the United States Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, Executive Order 12196 and 29 CFR 1960 require the heads of Federal agencies to furnish to employees places and conditions of employment that are free from job safety and health hazards.

FSIS Responsibilities

1. General Requirements

The FSIS Administrator will furnish employees places and conditions of employment that are free from on-the-job safety and health hazards.

2. OSHA Regulations

FSIS will comply with applicable regulations of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

3. Reporting Hazards

FSIS will respond to employee reports of hazards in the workplace.

4. Workplace Inspections

FSIS will ensure that each workplace is inspected annually for hazardous conditions. FSIS will post Notices of Unsafe or Unhealthful Working Conditions found during the inspections for a minimum of three working days, or until the hazard is corrected, whichever is later.

5. Correction of Unsafe Conditions

FSIS will take prompt action to assure that hazardous conditions are eliminated. Imminent danger conditions will be corrected immediately.

6. Safety and Protective Equipment

FSIS will acquire, maintain, and require use of appropriate protective and safety equipment.

7. Safety and Health Training

FSIS will provide occupational safety and health training for employees.

8. Reporting Accidents, Injuries and Occupational Illnesses

Supervisors must submit a supervisor's report of accidental injury/illness for all work-related accidents, injuries or occupational

illnesses experienced by employees under their supervision.

9. Safety and Health Committees

FSIS will support safety and health committees that are formed from management and employee representatives.

Employee Responsibilities

1. Compliance with Standards

Employees shall comply with all OSHA and approved FSIS occupational safety and health standards, policies, and directives.

2. Safety and Protective Equipment

Employees shall use appropriate protective and safety equipment provided by FSIS.

Rights of Employees and Their Representatives

1. Participation in Safety and Health Program

Employees and their representatives shall have the right to participate in the FSIS Safety and Health Program. Employees shall be authorized official time for these activities.

2. Access to Records and Documents

Employees and their representatives shall have access to copies of applicable OSHA and other recognized standards and regulations; FSIS safety and health policies and directives; accident, injury, and illness statistics of FSIS.

3. Reporting Hazards

Employees and their representatives shall have the right to report unsafe or unhealthful working conditions to appropriate officials and to request an inspection of the workplace. The name of the employee making the report will be kept confidential if requested.

4. Freedom from Fear of Reprisal

Employees and their representatives are protected from restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination, or reprisal for exercising any of their rights under the FSIS Safety and Health Program.

Responsible Officials

The Designated Agency Safety and Health Official (DASHO) for FSIS is:

C. Natalie Lui Duncan
Deputy Assistant Administrator
Office of Management
Washington, DC 20250
Office: (202) 690-6608
Fax: (202) 690-1742
Email: Natalie.Duncan@usda.gov

The Safety and Health Designee for this workplace is:

Glenn Kerschner
Safety & Occupational and Health Specialist
District 60 & District 80
Safety and Physical Security Branch
Cell Phone: 202-580-5157
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Office Phone: 215-430-6244
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Further Information

This notice highlights the FSIS employee job safety and health program. More information about the FSIS program or its standards and procedures may be obtained from the workplace Safety and Health Designee.

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