



## Association of Food and Drug Officials

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ***Association of Food and Drug Officials Leadership Changes Iowa's Steven Mandernach to head organization as Joe Corby moves to new role***

After years of leading the transformation of the Association of Food and Drug Officials to a key force in food and medical products regulation, Joe Corby is stepping down as executive director of AFDO. Stepping into the position is Steven Mandernach, currently Bureau Chief for Food and Consumer Safety at the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals. These changes are effective October 8, 2018.

"AFDO is a growing organization," says Steve Moris, current AFDO president. "Joe's decision to step down as executive director combined with his recommendation for the future of the position and the AFDO board's vision have led us to create a full-time executive director position."

"Joe Corby has provided leadership that has brought the organization to the forefront of food regulation innovation and collaboration," Moris continues. "We now have a seat at the table and often we are inviting others to this table as an organization. Steve brings the opportunity to extend our successes to state and local regulators who work with food safety every day. I am pleased to announce that Steven Mandernach will be that person."

"Steve brings the spirit of collaboration and innovation I have used to support our growth," says Corby. "His experience at the state level and collaborating with local officials will be instrumental to expanding our reach to the front line members who make a difference every day in their own geographic locations."

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**AFDO Press Release**



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# AFDO Press Release

“We have a history of being the organization who encourages integration and during my time here, we continued that during the roll out of FSMA,” Corby notes. “People said it was not practical but we have begun the process to integrate our nation’s food safety system. While we can point to many successes, there is so much more to do as we explore better methods to protect the public health.”

“AFDO has a history that predates any kind of food and drug regulation at the national level,” Mandernach says, noting that AFDO is older than the predecessor to the FDA itself by nearly ten years. “It’s a very great opportunity to bring together partners at the state and local level with our federal partners to discuss, implement and deploy food and medical products policy while being able to answer the needs for new areas and technologies that will impact what our regulators do on a daily basis.”

Mandernach notes that produce regulation, stabilizing the number of restaurant illness incidents, the regulation of cannabis, and the use of artificial intelligence are the kinds of issues that face the profession and he says AFDO wants to be pivotal in encouraging innovation but helping with the application of it at the state and local levels where most policy is carried out.

Corby will continue to provide his expertise to AFDO on a part-time basis, working on special projects including those supporting an integrated food safety system. He will also work closely with Mandernach during the transition of executive directorship beginning in October.

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### **About the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO)**

*The Association of Food and Drug Officials, established in 1896, successfully fosters uniformity in the adoption and enforcement of science-based food, drug, medical devices, cosmetics and product safety laws, rules, and regulations. AFDO and its six Regional Affiliates provide the mechanism and the forum where regional, national and international issues are deliberated and resolved to uniformly provide the best public health and consumer protection in the most expeditious and cost effective manner.*