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Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO)



Senior FDA and USDA Officials Speaking at AFDO Conference

Association of Food and Drug Officials, a national leader and trusted resource for food, drug, and medical product safety professionals, is pleased to announce the participation of senior FDA and USDA officials at the upcoming AFDO Conference <http://www.afdo.org/conference>.

York, PA (AFDO) April 13, 2016 – The Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) is pleased to announce that several of FDA's top officials will be speaking at AFDO's 120th Annual Education Conference to be held June 25 – 29, 2016 in Pittsburg, PA. The conference theme this year is "Collaborating to Strengthen Food, Drug, and Medical Device Safety Systems" and the program is filled with timely topics that illustrate the strengthened relationships between federal, state, and local regulatory agencies in their efforts to protect consumers. AFDO has historically been a conference where top level federal officials brief government program managers and industry officials on the numerous collaborative efforts in place to strengthen consumer protection and answer questions relating to these efforts and other concerns. "As far back as 1897, the AFDO Conference has been the site of instruction, knowledge, and debate, and this year is no different," said Joseph Corby, AFDO Executive Director.

Barbara Cassens, Director, FDA's Office of Partnerships will deliver the Glenn W. Kilpatrick Memorial Address on Sunday, June 26, 2016. Mr. Kilpatrick served as Director at FDA's Division of Federal-State Relations in the 1970s. This keynote address is presented in his honor and historically focused on matters that have enhanced federal, state, and local collaboration.

Monday, June 27, 2016 will start with an interactive panel on FDA Program Alignment led by Melinda Plaisier, Associate Commissioner for Regulatory Affairs. Ms. Plaisier will be joined by Alonza Cruse, Director of Pharmaceutical Quality Program; Joanne Givens, Director of Human and Animal Food Program; and Jan Welch, Director of Medical Devices and Radiological Health Program.

Dr. Stephen Ostroff, M.D. has agreed also agreed to speak on Monday. Dr. Ostroff joined FDA in 2013 as Chief Medical Officer for the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN). He then became Senior Health Adviser, Chief Science Officer and served as Acting FDA Commissioner. Dr. Ostroff will become the Deputy Commissioner for Foods and Veterinary Medicine on June 1 to succeed Michael Taylor who recently indicated he would be leaving FDA. AFDO has worked closely with senior FDA officials in advancing an integrated food safety system and is looking forward to maintaining the momentum of collaboration with Dr. Ostroff.

On Tuesday, June 28, 2016, Alfred V. Almanza, Deputy Under Secretary for Food Safety, USDA will speak and discuss food safety policy changes within USDA. Recent efforts and initiatives by FSIS involve Listeria control at retail, beef grinding record keeping, and working more collaboratively with state and local officials on illness investigations associated with meat and poultry..

For more information please visit <http://www.afdo.org/conference>

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About

The Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO), 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.