

## State of Connecticut – Department of Public Health

The following provides the State with the authority to obtain records and documents necessary for the determination of consumer food purchases during investigation of foodborne illnesses within their jurisdiction. Questions regarding specific situations, the documents that can be requested, or the statutory citations listed should be directed to the authorized State agency. You may access contact information for the state agency on the Directory of State and Local Officials webpage at:

<http://dslo.afdo.org>

### Connecticut General Statutes

**§19a-2a (8): Powers and duties:** The Commissioner of Public Health shall employ the most efficient and practical means for the prevention and suppression of disease and shall administer all laws under the jurisdiction of the Department of Public Health and the Public Health Code. The commissioner shall have responsibility for the overall operation and administration of the Department of Public Health. The commissioner shall have the power and duty to: (8) with the health authorities of this and other states, secure information and data concerning the prevention and control of epidemics and conditions affecting or endangering the public health, and compile such information and statistics and shall disseminate among health authorities and the people of the state such information as may be of value to them.

**§ 19a-36-A6. Investigation and control of reportable disease:** (a) The department, in cooperation with the local director of health, in the investigation and control of reportable disease shall make or cause to be made such investigation as it deems necessary and shall secure all such data as may assist it in establishing adequate control measures. (b) In order to investigate and control any apparent outbreak or unusual occurrence of reportable disease, the department shall institute such special disease surveillance, follow-up reports and control measures as it deems necessary. (c) Individual medical information pertaining to cases of reportable disease, persons affected by outbreaks of disease or significant increases in the rate of nosocomial infection shall be provided when requested to an investigator who presents official identification of the department or the local department of health. Such an investigator may be an employee of the State or local health department.

**§ 19a-36k. Food-borne illness or outbreak Investigation.** If a director of health has reasonable cause to suspect the possibility of a food-borne illness or food-borne outbreak, such director shall complete an investigation and take action to control the illness or outbreak. Such action may include, but need not be limited to, securing employee morbidity histories, requiring medical and laboratory examinations of an employee, modification of a menu and any other restriction or action deemed necessary by such director of health to control the illness or outbreak. A person who violates any provision of sections 19a-36h to 19a-36m, inclusive, section 22-6r, or section 22-6s, or

who provides false information during an investigation, refuses to cooperate with an investigation or otherwise impedes an investigation that is conducted under this section or section 19a-36i or 19a-36j shall be guilty of a class C misdemeanor.

**§ 19a-215. (Formerly Sec. 19-89). Commissioner's lists of reportable diseases, emergency illnesses and health conditions and reportable laboratory findings.**

**Reporting requirements. Confidentiality. Fines.** (a) For the purposes of this section:

(d) When a local director of health, the local director's authorized agent or the Department of Public Health receives a report of a disease or laboratory finding on the commissioner's lists of reportable diseases, emergency illnesses and health conditions and laboratory findings, the local director of health, the local director's authorized agent or the Department of Public Health may contact first the reporting health care provider and then the person with the reportable finding to obtain such information as may be necessary to lead to the effective control of further spread of such disease. In the case of reportable communicable diseases and laboratory findings, this information may include obtaining the identification of persons who may be the source or subsequent contacts of such infection.

(e) All personal information obtained from disease prevention and control investigations as performed in subsections (c) and (d) of this section including the health care provider's name and the identity of the reported case of disease and suspected source persons and contacts shall not be divulged to anyone and shall be held strictly confidential pursuant to section 19a-25, by the local director of health and the director's authorized agent and by the Department of Public Health.

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