

Emergency Planning and Management - Always Be Prepared



It's better to meet team members before an emergency or incident rather than in the middle of one!
-Wise Inspector

Do you know who your team members are in a produce emergency or event? AFDO is here to help connect the dots so you can have a meet and greet as part of your emergency planning and preparation.

AFDO maintains a resource known as the [Directory of State and Local Officials \(DSLO\)](http://www.afdo.org/directories/dslo/) at www.afdo.org/directories/dslo/. The DSLO has been identified by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as the primary tool for identifying key state health and agricultural officials in order to quickly communicate important public health challenges. Use these links to identify the key contacts within your state or jurisdiction you might need to connect with and talk to about Food Emergency Response Plans (FERP) in advance of working together on a food/feed related emergency, e.g., a foodborne illness investigation, recall, or natural disaster.

- **Produce Program Manager/Director:** Manages the program that conducts produce inspections on farms to evaluate compliance with the requirements of the Produce Safety Rule for fresh produce. These programs are typically housed within state departments of agriculture or health.
www.afdo.org/directories/dslo/results/?q=&loc=All&a083j00001hmr0LAAQ=on
- **Manufactured Food Program Manager/Director:** Manages the program that regulates and conducts inspections of food processors and warehouse. This may include, but is not limited to, processors of baked goods, juice, low-acid canned foods, bottled water, beverages, seafood, and the warehouses storing food products. These foods are typically sold at the wholesale level and are not directly sold or provided to the end user. These programs are typically housed within state departments of agriculture or health.
www.afdo.org/directories/dslo/results/?q=&loc=All&a083j00001DWiqfAAD=on
- **Retail Food Program Manager/Director:** Manages the program that regulates and conducts inspections of grocery stores, convenience stores, restaurants, markets, mobile food vehicles, and other platforms selling or providing food directly to the end user. These programs may be housed in state and/or local agencies including departments of agriculture or health or potentially both.
www.afdo.org/directories/rfrp/
- **Feed Control Program Manager/Director:** Manages the program that regulates the processing and distribution of animal feeds and animal drug remedies. These programs are typically housed in the state departments of agriculture.
www.afdo.org/directories/dslo/results/?q=&loc=All&a083j00001DWiqBAAT=on
- **Rapid Response Team (RRT) Coordinator:** Serves as the state's point of contact (POC) for foodborne illness and food adulteration emergency coordination activities. Coordinates the state's RRT program and resources, including epidemiology, human food regulatory, animal food regulatory, clinical laboratory, and food laboratory services often housed across different agencies.
www.afdo.org/directories/dslo/results/?q=&loc=All&a083j00001DWir4AAD=on

- **FDA Emergency Response Coordinator:** Serves as the FDA Division's point of contact (POC) including for state and local governments and private industry. Coordinates response with state and local agencies, other FDA Divisions, and other federal agencies, as applicable.
www.fda.gov/about-fda/office-human-and-animal-food-operations/resources-human-and-animal-food-producers-affected-flooding
- **FDA ORA Recall Coordinator:** Coordinates and triages new recalls and serves as the main point of contact (POC) for recalling firms.
www.fda.gov/safety/industry-guidance-recalls/ora-recall-coordinators
- **FDA Produce Safety Network (PSN):** Responsible for collaborating and communicating with regional partners to build on existing programs to achieve high levels of compliance in the farming community.
www.fda.gov/media/105420/download

To best prepare for emergency response coordination, state programs are encouraged to reach out and meet with their state and federal partners, learn about the state's Food Emergency Response Plan or FERP, integrate into the response team, and be prepared to work collaboratively when an incident occurs.

Directory of State and Local Officials (DSLO)

The DSLO can be found by searching <http://www.afdo.org/>. Select *Connect with Experts* from the menu bar in the page header, then click on the Directory of State and Local Officials.

You can select any state to search, OR you can select **Show advance filters** on the top right. Advance filters allow you to see positions by Jurisdiction, Program, Agency Level, or a combination of the three. Once the search or filter area(s) have been chosen, select the **Update** link next to the filter title.

If a personnel change occurs within an agency, send an email to afdo@afdo.org with the updated information and the corrections will be made.

Resources:

The RRT Best Practices Manual

www.fda.gov/media/123908/download

Best Practices for Improving FDA and State Communication During Recalls developed by the Partnership for Food Protection (PFP)

www.pfp-ifss.org/ifss-resources/best-practices-for-improving-fda-and-state-communications-during-recalls-summer-2015/

The Association of Food and Drug Officials is the international leader and trusted resource for building consensus and promoting uniformity on public health and consumer protection issues related to the regulation of foods, drugs, devices, cosmetics and consumer products.

The Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO)

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