

## 2025 MFRPA Speaker List — Alphabetical by Last Name



### **Rashelly Bland**

Rashelly Bland is the Food Safety Manager for the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) Food Safety Program. She graduated Magna Cum Laude with a B.S. in Environmental Health from Old Dominion University in 2015. She began her food safety regulatory career as an Environmental Health Specialist with the Virginia Department of Health and later transferred to VDACS as a Food Safety Specialist. She was promoted to MFRPS Coordinator, responsible for planning, coordinating, and executing all activities under the MFRPS FDA Cooperative Agreement, and managing the VDACS Food Safety Training Program. She led several innovative projects to improve the VDACS MFRPS Quality Assurance and Training Programs and presented at the MFRPA Annual Meeting. Now as Food Safety Manager, she oversees the statewide retail and manufactured food program and serves as the Principal Investigator for the MFRPS and Food Protection Task Force Cooperative Agreement. She also holds leadership roles with CASA and AFDOS.



### **Michelle Boyd**

Michelle Boyd has served as the Assistant Bureau Chief at Iowa DIAL's Food Safety Bureau since May 2019. She leads all grant initiatives, coordinates FCS's participation in the LFFM with the State Hygienic Lab, leads the licensing team, and contributes to special projects. Her background includes public finance, consulting, and procurement. Michelle is passionate about program standards and streamlining processes for efficiency.

## 2025 MFRPA Speaker List — Alphabetical by Last Name



### Wendy Campbell

Wendy joined the FDA in February 2010 and the Office of Partnerships (formerly Division of Federal-State Relations) in 2011. Prior to joining FDA, she worked for the North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services as the Food Defense Coordinator and Principal Investigator for the RRT cooperative agreement. Other work experience includes serving as an instructor for the National Center for Biomedical Research and Training (NCBRT) and pharmaceutical laboratory chemist. Wendy graduated from NC State University with an M.S. and B.S. in Food Science.



### Luisa Castro

Luisa F. Castro, PhD, is the Assistant Director for the Food Safety & Consumer Services Division at the Washington State Department of Agriculture. She has held various roles within the FS&CS Division, including Policy & Performance Administrator and interim Rapid Response Team Coordinator. Prior to her time in Washington, Luisa served as the Agriculture Food Safety Program Manager at the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture and held positions at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa and the University of Hawai'i at Hilo.



### James Chan

James Chan has over two decades of food safety experience with the California Department of Public Health. As a program manager, he oversees the success of California's Manufactured Food Regulatory Program Standards (MFPRS), FDA contract activities, and FDA Mutual Reliance Partnership efforts. Committed to continuous improvement, James has a strong interest in leveraging technology to enhance the effectiveness and impact of the state's food safety programs.

## 2025 MFRPA Speaker List — Alphabetical by Last Name



### Jason Channels

Jason Channels is a native of Springfield, OH, and a 1996 graduate of Central State University with a B.S. in Water Resource Management. He currently serves as the MFRPS Coordinator for the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Food Safety Division. With 19 years of experience in food safety programs, Jason began his career as an Environmental Health Specialist for the Clark County Combined Health District before joining the Ohio Department of Agriculture in 2008. He has served as MFRPS Coordinator for nine years, achieving full conformance with the MFRPS in 2019. He also represents Ohio on the board of NCAFDO and serves as a MFRPS technical advisor to the MFRPA board.



### Matthew Coleman

Matthew Coleman began his public health career in 1999, spending 22 years with the State of Florida, working for both the Florida Department of Health and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. He has been with the FDA for 2.5 years, conducting over 25 state regulatory program assessments. Matthew is a Certified Quality Auditor and has held his Registered Sanitarian credential since 2005.



### Guy Delius

Guy has been with FDA Office of Domestic Partnerships for 14 years, previously retired as the Director of the Kentucky Department for Public Health's Environmental Health Division. Guy has been President of several organizations including AFDOSS, The Kentucky Public Health Association, KY Environmental Health Association, and a previous board member of AFDO.

## 2025 MFRPA Speaker List — Alphabetical by Last Name



### **Phillip Fruechting**

Phillip Fruechting is the Program Manager for the Arkansas Department of Health's Wholesale/Manufactured Foods and Rapid Response Team. He has been with the department since 2011 and has managed the wholesale/manufactured foods program since the agency enrolled in the Manufactured Foods Regulatory Program Standards. Phillip has served as the MCAFDO representative and board chair, co-chair of AFDO's Food Recovery Committee, state representative on the MCAFDO board, and state co-chair for the Partnership for Food Protection's Information & Technology workgroup.



### **Maha Hajmeer, PhD**

Dr. Hajmeer is the Chief of the Food Safety Protection Section (FSPS) at the California Department of Public Health – Food and Drug Branch (CDPH-FDB). This section is responsible for Food Safety inspection and compliance work. Prior to FSPS, Dr. Hajmeer transitioned from academia to CDPH-FDB and served as the Chief of the Science and Education Section as well as a Subject Matter Expert in Food Safety supporting both the Food Safety Program and the Emergency Response Unit / California Food Emergency Response Team. Dr. Hajmeer's food safety areas of interest and expertise include detection and control of foodborne pathogens, predictive microbiology and modeling of growth/survival of foodborne pathogens, and applied microbiology and intervention strategies to reduce pathogens in foods.



### Max Huebner

Max Huebner has been with the Department for four years. He has recently worked closely with the MFRPS Coordinator on revamping the department's training program.



### Luis Hernandez

Luis is a Founding Member of the National De-escalation Training Center (NDTC), an NDTC Executive Council Member, NDTC Senior Trainer, and formerly served as the Director of NDTC Region 5. Luis is a Ziglar Legacy Certified professional and DISC Level 3 Certified Instructor. Luis brings a wealth of experience in leadership, de-escalation, and personal development to all of his training sessions.

In addition to his work with NDTC, Luis serves as the President of DynaClean Professional Services, and President of KRYH RADIO 104.7 FM "Radio for Your Heart". Luis enjoys family, serving others, percussion instruments, the outdoors, as well as boating on local lakes and coastal waters.

Fun Fact: Luis appeared as a guest on stage with Dr. Hook (Ray Sawyer and Crew) to solo congas as well as play along with top early 80's songs like "Sexy Eyes" and "When You're in Love with a Beautiful Woman".

## 2025 MFRPA Speaker List — Alphabetical by Last Name



### **Krissa Jones**

Krissa Jones is a 29-year veteran of the Georgia Department of Agriculture with extensive experience in food safety. She was one of the original inspectors hired when the Manufactured Food Program was established in 2009. Krissa later served as Georgia's RRT Program Manager and was promoted to Program Manager of the Manufactured Food Program in 2015. Under her leadership, the program has achieved national recognition and full FDA conformance since 2018.



### **Patrick Kennelly**

Pat is a Program Director for the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) and currently manages the Integrated Food Safety System (MFRPA) Cooperative Agreement. Prior to joining AFDO, Pat worked for the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) for 28 years. During his tenure with CDPH, Pat oversaw the Department's statewide food safety operations, including inspection of processed food manufacturers and distributors, investigation of food-borne illness outbreaks (CalFERT), food recalls, and development and delivery of food safety education to the food processing industry.



### **Angela Kohls**

Angela Kohls joined FDA in December 2010. She has spent her entire FDA career in the Office of Partnerships, helping her assigned states achieve full conformance with the Manufactured Food Regulatory Program Standards (MFRPS). Prior to joining FDA, Angela worked for the State of Kansas in various positions, beginning as a field inspector and advancing to program management. Angela is a proud alumna of Kansas State University. In her free time, she enjoys attending and watching a variety of sporting events, spending time with family and friends, and supporting her son, Joshua, with his activities.

## 2025 MFRPA Speaker List — Alphabetical by Last Name



### **Michelle Kusnier**

Michelle Kusnier is a graduate of Michigan State University with 22 years of experience at the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. She spent 17 years as an Inspector and the past 5 years as the RRT Food Safety Specialist.



### **Eric Martinez**

Eric Martinez began his food safety career as a sanitarian for the city of El Paso, Texas. He then joined the Texas Department of State Health Services, where he spent five years inspecting food manufacturers, wholesalers, and facilities with specialized processes. He now serves as a compliance officer within the same organization, focusing on maintaining public health standards and ensuring regulatory compliance across the industry.



### **Dan McCarthy**

Dan McCarthy serves as the Director of the Division of Food Safety and Inspection for the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets. His division regulates over 36,000 food establishments across New York and conducts more than 20,000 sanitary inspections annually. The division also oversees inspections under the FSMA Produce Safety Rule and is establishing a unit to inspect animal food facilities under the FSMA Animal Food Rule.

## 2025 MFRPA Speaker List — Alphabetical by Last Name



### **Milan McGorty**

Milan McGorty joined the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 2009. She has experience in FDA import operations and has conducted both domestic and international food facility inspections. Since 2023, she has served as the Field Emergency Response Coordinator assigned to New York. Milan holds a bachelor's degree in Animal Science from the University of Connecticut.



### **Jennifer Mirabile**

Jennifer Mirabile serves as the Chief Food Inspector (Region 1) with the NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets, Division of Food Safety. She has been with the Department for 18 years. During her tenure she has held many positions within the department. She spent many of her early career years as a chemistry analyst at the NYS Food Laboratory then transitioned to various positions, including field inspector to the recall coordinator, within the Division of Food Safety.



### **Michelle Motsinger**

Michelle is the Director for the FDA's, Office of Domestic Partnerships (ODP), Division of Domestic Partnerships Coordination and Integration (DDPCI) where she leads a group of staff that serve as technical advisors for the Rapid Response Teams program, Domestic Mutual Reliance and the various regulatory program standards (Manufactured Food Regulatory Program Standards (MFRPS), Animal Food Regulatory Program Standards (AFRPS), Egg Regulatory Program Standards (ERPS), and Produce Regulatory Program Standards (PRPS)).

## 2025 MFRPA Speaker List — Alphabetical by Last Name



### Suzanne Pyle

Suzanne Pyle has been a Program Specialist with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture for three years. Prior to that, she served as the RRT Program Specialist for six months and spent over 15 years as a field inspector conducting advanced inspections, including Acidified Foods, Juice HACCP, Seafood HACCP, Preventive Control Inspections, and Traceback Investigations. In her current role, Suzanne manages grants, develops SOPs, coordinates MFRPS activities, audits programs, and trains field staff in specialized courses such as Juice HACCP, Acidified Foods, FD190, and Seafood HACCP.



### Alicia Schroder

Alicia Schroder brings a strong blend of academic credentials and field experience to her work at the FDA. She holds a B.S. in Clinical Laboratory Science with a Certificate in Criminal Justice from the University of Wisconsin - Madison, an M.S. in Strategic Planning for Critical Infrastructures from the University of Washington - Seattle and is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP). Before joining the FDA in 2010, Alicia worked for the Seattle Police Department as Regional Law Enforcement CBRNE Planner, managing WMD grant writing and training for over 75 local agencies. At the FDA, she earned Level 1 Investigator Certification in food safety and served six years as Emergency Response Coordinator for the Seattle District, leading major outbreak responses and helping establish the Washington Rapid Response Team and Food Protection Task Force. From 2016 to 2023, she led the Produce Safety Cooperative Agreement Program, building internal systems to support state and association partnerships. In 2023, she became Acting Senior Advisor, guiding the Produce Safety Alignment Project and development of the FDA's Produce Safety Strategic Alignment Plan and supporting infrastructure. Currently, she serves as Acting Senior Advisor for Integrated Food Safety System Partnerships, where she

## 2025 MFRPA Speaker List — Alphabetical by Last Name

leads initiatives like the BRIDGE Project to modernize inspections and advance a unified domestic food safety system.



### David Smith

David Smith is the Manufactured Food Program Manager for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. Prior to joining MDA, he spent nearly ten years with the Washington State Department of Agriculture and managed food safety and quality in the manufactured food industry for 15 years. David holds a Master of Science in Food Science from the University of Arkansas.



### Kimberly Stryker

Kim Stryker is the Program Manager of Alaska's Food Safety and Sanitation Program, a role she has held since 2011. With over 25 years of experience in the program, Kim has served in several key positions and brings deep expertise in both manufactured and retail food safety. A lifelong Alaskan, she has taken on numerous leadership roles and contributed to a wide range of food safety committees. She currently serves as President of the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO).



### Jodi Taylor

Jodi Taylor is the Chief of the Food Safety Division at the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Her division oversees manufactured foods, produce safety, administrative oversight of local health departments, hemp, and sampling. She has been with the department since 1998.

## 2025 MFRPA Speaker List — Alphabetical by Last Name



### **Benjamin Warren, PhD**

Benjamin Warren is an experienced food industry professional with over 15 years of leadership in food safety, microbiology, and regulatory affairs. He currently serves as the Senior Science Advisor for Food Safety at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), where he supports national food safety policy, outbreak response, and the implementation of preventive controls for human food. Benjamin also represents the U.S. as a delegate to the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene and serves on the National Advisory Committee for the Microbiological Criteria for Food.

Prior to joining the FDA, he held leadership roles at Land O'Lakes, Inc. and ConAgra Foods, directing teams in product safety, regulatory strategy, and microbiological oversight.