



North Carolina Food Safety and Defense Task Force

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Established 2003

Wednesday, September 11th, 2024 - 9:30AM (EST)

**4400 Reedy Creek Rd.
Raleigh, NC 27607**

Teams Link:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

I. Welcome, Introductions, & Membership Engagement- Candice Christian, Chair

- New attendee introductions
 - Chandler Olsen, Dare County

II. Minutes Approval

- July 10th, 2024, meeting minutes approval
 - Motion: Shane Smith
 - Second: Sean Silva

III. Outbreak Update

- Tamra Morrison: Cyclospora outbreak update: multistate outbreak, higher than normal numbers being reported; salmonella outbreak with infants, working with CDC/FDA and local health authorities on baby formula

IV. Business

- Committee reports:
 - a. Executive Committee- **Shane Smith, NCDHHS**
 - i. Executive meeting held election for incoming chair for this FY: Daniel Gaines was nominated and unanimously elected for incoming chair: Officers will be Candice Christian, chair, Daniel Gaines, incoming chair, Shane Smith, past chair
 - b. Food Emergency Response and Communication (FERC)- **Sean Silva, NCDA&CS**
 - i. FDPD Recalls - F&D Update:
 - **Prophet Premium Blends** recalled various Diamond Shruumz Products due to Toxic levels of muscimol, a toxin that is found in certain mushrooms. Inspectors visited food firm establishments to ensure the firm to conduct recall effectiveness checks. This recall was unique due to these products mainly found in vape shops. Inspectors were finding the recalled products on the shelf resulting in more visits to firms listed on the distribution list.
 - Damage assessments were conducted at store level in response to Tropical Storm Debby that impacted the state in August. The focus was mainly in the areas that experienced significant power outages. No structural damages or flooding were reported, however. Some stores reported disposing of some food products due to power loss.

- Recall effectiveness checks were conducted for Boar's Head Provisions Co. Recalls Ready-To-Eat Liverwurst and Other Deli Meat Products due to Possible Listeria Contamination. F&D assisted with this recall by conducting recall effectiveness checks at a few retail locations.
- Hickory Hollow Jerky recalled Ready-To-Eat Jerky products which was produced without the benefit of inspection. North Carolina was impacted by the recall, however. No retail stores have been found to have the product. Sales were likely directly to consumers through website

Public Health Update:

- PH reported that Cyclospora outbreaks were starting to increase in the state which is normal for this time of year. More than a dozen cases have been reported.

Publix Food Store Update:

- Publix reported that they were impacted by the Boar's Head recall and that all stores in North Carolina were instructed to pull the impacted products. They also reported that Emerald brand glazed walnuts were recalled due to undeclared walnuts and pecans. Stores impacted by this recall were instructed to pull the product from the sales floor.

c. Crop/Produce- **Chris Harris, NCDA&CS**

- Suspension of inspection due to storms but are resuming. Violations noticed inadequate hand washing, water source and lack of monitoring of water quality, records related cleaning/sanitizing. Hot topics of microgreens/sprouts remain. Field day on 9/24 in Salisbury.

d. Conference Planning Committee 2024-

- Looking for ideas to move the conference back out west for 2025. Please reach out to executive committee with ideas and topics of speakers. The one day and half format seems best, would like to include another tabletop.

e. Task Force Education and Exercise Committee- **Candice Christian, NCSU**

- NC Fresh Produce Safety Task Force Report
- Looking for possible speakers, Shane Smith brought up On Target Preparedness, who works with LHD's on emergency response. Shane will reach out
- Other reports:
 - Academic Reports – NCSU -Developmental pilot course for manufacturing inspectors, working with FDA, NCDA on visit for field inspections, may offer retail inspectors course at some point
 - Industry Reports -N/A
 - FDA Seminar in FL, in October, Interstate Conference - Nov 12-14; Comment Writing Course for Inspectors coming up, FDA audit course coming

- Additional business

V. **Speaker Topic:** NC Fresh Produce Safety Task Force

- Chip Simmons and Lynette Johnson

VI. **Adjournment**

- Motion: Chris Harris
- Second: Chip Simmons

NOTE: Our regular meetings are scheduled for every 2nd Wednesday of the next odd-numbered month. If you have any questions, or would like to join the Executive Committee, please reach out to Sarah Cope, Shane Smith, or Lynette Johnston. The Executive Committee meets on the 2nd Wednesday of every even-numbered month. The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for April 10th at 9:30am.
