

Minutes  
Georgia Public Health Team  
Georgia Food Safety Task Force  
August 18, 2004

GFSTF

Attendees:

Cheryl Brown, DHR	Reuben Beverly, GDA
Tammi M. Stigger, DHR	Gayle Lancette, FDA
Cindy Burnett, DHR	Jane Jenkins, GDA
Kimberly Livsey, FDA	Morris Potter, FDA
Virginia O'Leary, GSU	Sandra Lawrence, FDA
Lurlene Dixon, FDA	Russell Zablan, FDA
Barbara Wood, FDA	Cameron Smoak, GDA
Don Crull, USDA	Gary Dykstra, FDA
Bob Sherrer, GDA	Lee Myers, GDA
Van Harris, GDA	

Van Harris welcomed everyone and we introduced ourselves.

**Agenda Items:**

**Post G8 Summit**– Kimberly Livsey

1. Summary
  - a. FDA used the same plan for the G8 Summit as they used for the Olympics in Atlanta and for NATO Summit in D.C.
  - b. Federal, State and Local governments worked together.
  - c. Laboratories in Atlanta were on stand-by.
  - d. In advance of the Summit, FDA:
    - i. Monitored menus and
    - ii. Provided risk based training to local EHS
  - e. Activities during the Summit:
    - i. Monitored food service activities at various locations throughout the region.
    - ii. Used /tested the new CFP inspection form.
    - iii. Conducted inspections based on risk factors.
    - iv. Monitored over 57,000 meals prepared throughout the region.
    - v. Monitored hotels and temporary vendors.
2. Challenges
  - a. Heat- refrigeration units and inside kitchens.
  - b. Transportation – long waits at security stations.
  - c. Menu changes – oysters and sushi were added.
3. Rewards
  - a. Recognition from government officials for keeping the food safe.
  - b. Meeting President George W. Bush and other foreign dignitaries.

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**USDA / FSIS Grant Project – Kimberly Livsey**

1. GFSTF was awarded \$35,000
2. Kimberly Livsey and Janice Buchanon are the project leaders.
3. They will create an interactive CD on managing/inspecting ethnic foods.
4. The CD will be geared toward local, state and federal EHS inspectors.
5. They are soliciting video graphics bids.

**Proposed Legislation – Cameron Smoak**

**HR2699 (US Congress) Legislation for National Food Safety**

1. Passage of HR2699, in its current form, would not be good for food safety because it would not allow preemptive action against adulterated food.
2. Cameron also mentioned:  
1.57 million was set aside for the Agri-terrorism committee to conduct training to work with GEMA all –Hazards team. This money would be used for set-up and equipment.
  - 8 trailers to respond to all hazards.
  - Training course for 1<sup>st</sup> responders.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> level of training would include tabletop exercises in animal food and dairy safety.
3. Cameron also made a request to Governor Sonny Purdue's office to recognize the GFSTF for food safety alerts.
- 4.

**Current Outbreaks – Cindy Burnett**

1. DeKalb County
  - a. Family reunion outbreak being investigated. Several family members ill, one fatality. Etiology unknown.
2. Nationwide
  - a. Salmonella cluster causes by roma tomatoes from Pennsylvania
  - b. 7 cases in Georgia
3. Henry County
  - a. Salmonella Manhattan cluster
4. CDC reported Salmonella Mississippi case in GA
5. E. Coli in sprouts
  - a. PFGE pattern matched cases in other states.
  - b. FDA, GDA and DHR worked on this case.

**USDA Food Safety Mobil Event Summary – Virginia O'Leary**

1. Thanks to Joi Hatch for coordinating the event.
2. The event was successful!
3. The event attracted many women.
4. Changes for next time will include hands on demonstrations and events to attract more men.

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**Next meeting will be held at Georgia State University in conjunction with the “fight bac” campaign on November 18, 2004.**