

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Food Defense Workshop; Public Workshop

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AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of public workshop.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA), Southwest Regional Office (SWRO), in co-sponsorship with the University of Arkansas (UA) Institute of Food Science and Engineering (IFSE), is announcing a public workshop entitled "Food Defense Workshop." This public workshop is intended to provide information about food defense, the regulations authorized by the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 (the Bioterrorism Act), and other related subjects to FDA-regulated food facilities (farms, manufacturers, processors, distributors, retailers, and restaurants).

Date and Time: This public workshop will be held on May 23 through 24, 2007, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: The public workshop will be held at the Continuing Education Center, 2 East Center St., Fayetteville, AR (located downtown).

Contact: David Arvelo, Food and Drug Administration, Southwest Regional Office, 4040 North Central Expressway, suite 900, Dallas, TX 75204, 214-253-4952, FAX: 214-253-4970, or e-mail: david.arvelo@fda.hhs.gov.

For information on accommodation options, contact Steven C. Seideman, 2650 North Young Ave., Institute of Food Science and Engineering, University

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of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72704, 479-575-4221, FAX: 479-575-2165, or email: *seideman@uark.edu*.

Registration: You are encouraged to register by May 9, 2007. The University of Arkansas has a \$150 registration fee to cover the cost of facilities, materials, speakers, and breaks. Seats are limited; please submit your registration as soon as possible. Course space will be filled in order of receipt of registration. Those accepted into the course will receive confirmation. Registration will close after the course is filled. Registration at the site is not guaranteed but may be possible on a space available basis on the day of the public workshop beginning at 8 a.m. The cost of registration at the site is \$200 payable to: "The University of Arkansas." If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please contact Steven C. Seideman (see *Contact* section of this document) at least 7 days in advance.

Registration Form Instructions: To register, please complete the following form and submit along with a check or money order for \$150 payable to the "The University of Arkansas." Mail to: Institute of Food Science and Engineering, University of Arkansas, 2650 North Young Ave., Fayetteville, AR 72704.

FOOD DEFENSE WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone: () _____

FAX: () _____

E-mail: _____

Special Accommodations Required: _____

Transcripts: Transcripts of the public workshop will not be available due to the format of this workshop. Workshop handouts may be requested at cost

through the Freedom of Information Office (HFI-35), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, rm. 6-30, Rockville, MD 20857, approximately 15 working days after the public workshop at a cost of 10 cents per page.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This public workshop is being held in response to the large volume of food defense concerns from FDA-regulated food facilities (farms, manufacturers, processors, distributors, retailers, and restaurants) originating from the area covered by the FDA Dallas District Office. The Southwest Regional Office presents this workshop to help achieve objectives set forth in section 406 of the Food and Drug Administration Modernization Act of 1997 (21 U.S.C. 393), which include working closely with stakeholders and maximizing the availability and clarity of information to stakeholders and the public. This is consistent with the purposes of the Small Business Representative Program, which are in part to respond to industry inquiries, develop educational materials, sponsor workshops and conferences to provide firms, particularly small businesses, with firsthand working knowledge of FDA's guidance, requirements, and compliance policies. This workshop is also consistent with the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-121), as outreach activities by Government agencies to small businesses.

The goal of this public workshop is to present information that will enable FDA-regulated food facilities (farms, manufacturers, processors, distributors, retailers, and restaurants) to better comply with the regulations authorized by the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 (the Bioterrorism Act), and with food defense guidance, especially in light of growing concerns about food defense. Information presented will be

based on agency position as articulated through regulation, guidance, and information previously made available to the public. Topics to be discussed at the workshop include: (1) Food defense awareness, (2) ALERT: The basics, (3) FDA actions on bioterrorism legislation (food supply), (4) food recalls, (5) crisis management, (6) food defense technologies and methodologies, and other related topics. FDA expects that participation in this public workshop

will provide regulated industry with greater understanding of the regulatory and policy perspectives on food defense and increase voluntary compliance and food defense awareness.

Dated: JAN 31 2007
January 31, 2007.



Jeffrey Shuren,
Assistant Commissioner for Policy.

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