



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

6/22/98
dl855b

FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION
466 FERNANDEZ JUNCOS AVENUE
SAN JUAN, P.R. 00901-3223

June 8, 1998

WARNING LETTER

SJN-98-13

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

José A. Perez Colón
President
Frigorífico Perez Hermanos
P.O. Box 2080
Cayey, P.R. 00737-2080

Dear Mr. Perez:

We are writing to you because on 5/12-18/98, during an inspection of Ponce Packing Company, San Juan, Puerto Rico and on 5/14/98, during an inspection of Mar y Tierra, a store located inside Ponce Packing Company, an investigator from the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) collected information that revealed a serious regulatory problem involving the product known as "Bahia* Mero Rebanado" which is distributed by your firm.

This product is considered to be adulterated within the meaning of section 402(b)(2) of the Food Drug and Cosmetic Act (the Act) for the following reasons:

- 1 - [REDACTED] pounds of the product was shipped to you, for storage at [REDACTED] from [REDACTED]. The Bill of Lading for shipment of the product identifies the product as "frozen saithe" (pollock).
- 2 - The product was packaged by [REDACTED] under your orders and using labeled containers supplied by you, into boxes which labeled the product as "mero rebanado" (grouper).
- 3 - Pollock was substituted for grouper in this product, making it adulterated within the meaning of section 402(b)(2) of the Act.

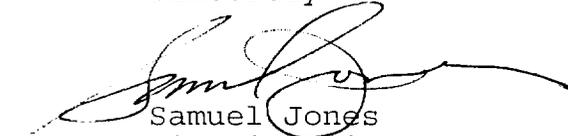
The sale of food products which have been adulterated after being received in interstate commerce, including importation, is a violation of section 301 (k) of the Act.

Mr. José Perez Colón
6/8/98
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Please notify the San Juan District office in writing, within 15 working days of receipt of this letter of the specific steps you have taken to correct the noted violations. If corrective action can not be completed within 15 working days, state the reason for the delay and the time when you expect the corrections to be completed.

Your replies should be directed to the Food & Drug Administration, San Juan District Office, attention Mary L. Mason, Compliance Officer at the address listed on the letterhead. Telephone contact can be made at (787)-729-6894, extension 2141.

Sincerely



Samuel Jones
District Director