

Food Defense PDG

Attendees: Mark Kazmierczak (Chair), Neal Fredrickson (Vice Chair), Amie Minor, Anh Tran, April Bishop, Carleigh Koops, Christine Hilbert, Colin Barthel, Craig Reinhart, Diego Darquea, Gale Prince, Gina Reo, Jamee Cramer, James O'Donnell, Jeff Nauseda, Loralyn Ledenbach, Michael Roberson, Renee Goodrich, Ryan Newkirk, Sarah Jensen, Sharon Dobesh, Tracey David, Virginia Ng, and Yvonne Masters.

Board/Staff Present: Ruth Petran and Dina Siedenbourg.

Number of Attendees: 27.

Meeting Called to Order: 11:02 a.m. Eastern Time, Monday, June 14, 2021.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Neal Fredrickson.

Old Business: The meeting was called to order at 11:02 am Eastern Time. Mark Kazmierczak reviewed the agenda and there were no additions or changes called for. Dr. Kazmierczak and Neal Fredrickson introduced themselves as Chair and Vice Chair. Next, Ruth Petran, Board Liaison, addressed the attendees and provided an update from the Board, including a reminder that webinars are free to attend for all IAFP Members and a call for membership for the newly-formed IAFP Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council. Dr. Kazmierczak then reviewed the Antitrust guidelines. Dr. Kazmierczak reviewed the minutes from the 2020 Food Defense PDG meeting, and the minutes were approved by voice vote.

New Business: Dr. Kazmierczak announced the two Food Defense sessions at IAFP 2021: *When Crime Threatens Food Safety*, Roundtable, Monday, July 19, 1:45–3:15 p.m.; and *Failure to Launch Learn to Live with Your Food Safety Plan Year Round*, Symposium, Wednesday, July 21, 8:30–10:00 a.m. Dr. Kazmierczak also announced a room will be available for each PDG on Sunday at IAFP 2021 (time and room TBD); the Food Defense PDG will send a survey in the fall to inform future direction of the PDG; the Chairs of the Food Fraud PDG and Food Defense PDG have opened a collaboration channel to improve coordination of events between the two groups; and a new Vice Chair will be elected in spring 2022.

Next, Colin Barthel, FDA, provided a brief update of the status of implementation of the Intentional Adulteration (IA) Rule. In summary, the COVID-19 pandemic has had significant impacts on field inspectional staff. Since March 2020, the Office of Regulatory Affairs has been operating on mission critical footing and IA work has been deprioritized. However, compliance dates have not changed and all businesses must be in compliance as of March 2021 and be prepared for IA quick checks to resume. Overall, the implementation timeline has been pushed back by about 18 months. However, the comprehensive inspections still will be done as originally planned (beginning 2024–2025).

Mr. Fredrickson next led discussion of potential session topics for IAFP 2022 in Pittsburgh. Together, the PDG came up with the following topics: 1) Lessons learned from COVID-19— including how they will help us prepare for future pandemics, post-COVID opportunities for integrating food supply chains and the associated risks, what opportunities may open when our attention goes to another priority, and impacts on Foreign Supplier Verification Programs; 2) Role of digital traceability solutions in establishing food defense plans—including blockchain or other methods; 3) Hurdles to discouraging insider attacks—including blocking opportunities, reducing motivation, and how to challenge/validate food defense plans; 4) Challenging implementing/verifying adulteration practices in animal food facilities—including the different culture buying-in to food defense risk assessment and security needs; and cybersecurity in the food industry—including risk assessments. Proposals are due October 5, 2021.

Recommendations to the Executive Board: None.

Next Meeting Date: July 31–August 3, 2021, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:30 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Mark Kazmierczak.