



United State
Department of
Agriculture

Food Safety
and Inspection
Service

Office of
Field Operations

1400 Independence Ave, S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

March 13, 2020

TO: FSIS-Regulated Establishment Facility Management

FROM: Dr. Philip Bronstein, Assistant Administrator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "P. Bronstein", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

SUBJECT: USDA Guidance on COVID-19 Health Questionnaires

We are aware and share your concerns about the health and safety of your plant/facility and the general public, as well as your desire to solicit information from our employees. Due to privacy-related laws and regulations covering our employees, the USDA Office of General Counsel has advised employees not to complete and sign questionnaires about their medical conditions or attest to their medical conditions. However, USDA has taken the following actions to address the spread of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19):

All United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) managers and employees have received guidance from the Agency on protocols, preventative measures and mitigation guidelines regarding COVID-19. USDA guidance is consistent with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) guidance. The Agency continues to provide additional guidance to all managers and employees.

All USDA employees are required to follow USDA guidance and policy.

If you have specific concerns or questions, please contact the local or district level supervisors for your establishment. I have also shared this information with our employees.