

Subject: ALFOODACT 038-2013 Massachusetts Firm Recalls USDA-Regulated Ready-To-Eat Products for Possible Listeria Contamination

Date Issued: October 25, 2013

1. REFERENCES:

- a. DLAR 4155.26/AR 40-660/NAVSUPINST 10110.8c/AFI 48-116/MCO 10110.38c, DOD Hazardous Food & Nonprescription Drug Recall System.
- b. Allied Communications Publication 121, US SUPP-1 (f).

2. BACKGROUND:

Boston Salads and Provisions Company, Inc., a Boston, Mass., establishment, is recalling approximately 222,959 pounds of ready-to-eat chicken salad products due to possible contamination with *Listeria monocytogenes* (Lm), the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced today.

The products were produced between Aug. 23, 2013, and Oct. 14, 2013, and shipped to wholesalers for further distribution to retail locations in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. The products subject to recall include: Label [<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/recalls-and-public-health-alerts/recall-case-archive/archive/2013/recall-061-2013-release>]

Case labels or packaging may bear the sell by dates ranging from "9/13/2013" through "11/4/2013" as well as the establishment number "P-17999" inside the USDA mark of inspection. Although product included in this recall may be expired, FSIS is concerned that some product may be frozen in consumer or retail freezers.

The problem was discovered when the New Hampshire Department of Public Health (NHDPH) determined that two non-intact samples tested positive for Lm with matching PFGE patterns. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MADPH) was alerted to these findings and tested intact samples of product, with two testing positive for Lm with matching PFGE patterns. MADPH then alerted FSIS of the positive results. The firm's investigation has identified a likely source of the contamination. FSIS is continuing to work with federal and state public health partners on this investigation, including the U.S. Health and Human Services' Food and Drug Administration and the MADPH and NHDPH.

FSIS and the company have not received reports of illnesses due to consumption of these products. Anyone concerned about an illness should contact a healthcare provider.

Consumption of food contaminated with *L. monocytogenes* can cause listeriosis, a serious infection that primarily affects older adults, persons with weakened immune systems, and pregnant women and their newborns. Less commonly, persons outside these risk groups are affected.

Listeriosis can cause fever, muscle aches, headache, stiff neck, confusion, loss of balance and convulsions sometimes preceded by diarrhea or other gastrointestinal symptoms. An invasive infection spreads beyond the gastrointestinal tract. In pregnant women, the infection can cause miscarriages, stillbirths, premature delivery or life-threatening infection of the newborn. In addition, serious and sometimes fatal infections in older adults and persons with weakened immune systems. Listeriosis is treated with antibiotics. Persons in the higher-risk categories who experience flu-like symptoms within two months after eating contaminated food should seek medical care and tell the health care provider about eating the contaminated food.

FSIS routinely conducts recall effectiveness checks to verify recalling firms notify their customers of the recall and that steps are taken to make certain that the product is no longer available to consumers. When available, the retail distribution list(s) will be posted on the FSIS website at www.fsis.usda.gov/recalls.

Consumers and media with questions about the recall should contact the Sales Department of Boston Salads at (617) 307-6340, ext. 21.

Consumers with food safety questions can “Ask Karen,” the FSIS virtual representative available 24 hours a day at AskKaren.gov. The toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854) is available in English and Spanish and can be reached from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern Time) Monday through Friday. Recorded food safety messages are available 24 hours a day. The online Electronic Consumer Complaint Monitoring System can be accessed 24 hours a day at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/reportproblem>.

3. PRODUCTION DATES/IDENTIFYING CODES:

Case labels or packaging may bear the sell by dates ranging from “9/13/2013” through “11/4/2013” as well as the establishment number “P-17999” inside the USDA mark of inspection. Although product included in this recall may be expired, FSIS is concerned that some product may be frozen in consumer or retail freezers.

| <u>Product Brand</u> | <u>Product Description</u> | <u>Container Size</u> | <u>Units per Case</u> |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Boston Salads | Chicken Salad | 5 lbs. | 1 |
| Boston Salads | Chicken Salad | 5 lbs. | 2 |
| Boston Salads | Chicken Salad | 30 lbs. | 1 |
| Boston Salads | Cranberry Walnut Chicken Salad | 7 oz. | 6 |
| Boston Salads | Cranberry Walnut Chicken Salad | 12 oz. | 6 |
| Boston Salads | Cranberry Walnut Chicken Salad | 5 lbs. | 1 |
| Boston Salads | Cranberry Walnut Chicken Salad | 5 lbs. | 2 |
| Boston Salads | Cranberry Walnut Chicken Salad | 30 lbs. | 2 |
| Boston Salads | White Chicken Salad | 7 oz. | 6 |
| Boston Salads | White Chicken Salad | 12 oz. | 6 |
| Boston Salads | White Chicken Salad | 5 lbs. | 1 |
| Boston Salads | White Chicken Salad | 5 lbs. | 2 |
| Boston Salads | White Chicken Salad | 30 lbs. | 1 |
| Dietz & Watson | Cranberry Walnut Chicken Salad | 12 oz. | 6 |
| Dietz & Watson | Cranberry Walnut Chicken Salad | 7 oz. | 6 |
| Dietz & Watson | Cranberry Walnut Chicken Salad | 5 lbs. | 1 |
| Dietz & Watson | Tropical Cranberry Walnut | 5 lbs. | 1 |
| Dietz & Watson | White Chicken Salad | 7 oz. | 6 |
| Dietz & Watson | White Chicken Salad | 12 oz. | 6 |
| Dietz & Watson | White Chicken Salad | 5 lbs. | 1 |
| Market Source | Cranberry Walnut Chicken Salad | 5 lbs. | 2 |
| Northern Haserot | Cranberry Walnut Chicken Salad | 5 lbs. | 2 |
| Price Chopper | Cranberry Walnut Chicken Salad | 5 lbs. | 1 |
| Rachael's | Gourmet Caesar Chicken Salad | 5 lbs. | 2 |
| Rachael's | Gourmet Chicken Caesar Salad | 5 lbs. | 2 |
| Rachael's | Gourmet Chicken Salad | 5 lbs. | 2 |
| Rachael's | Gourmet Chicken Salad | 10 lbs. | 1 |
| Rachael's | Gourmet Cranberry Walnut Chicken Salad | 5 lbs. | 2 |
| Rachael's | Gourmet Cranberry Walnut Chicken Salad | 10 lbs. | 1 |
| Rachael's | Gourmet White Chicken Salad | 7 oz. | 6 |
| Rachael's | Gourmet White Chicken Salad | 5 lbs. | 2 |

4. MANUFACTURER/DISTRIBUTOR:

Boston Salads

Sales Department of Boston Salads at (617) 307-6340, ext. 21.

5. DISTRIBUTION: All

6. REASON FOR ACTION: Due to the potential to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*.

7. INSTRUCTIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR MESSAGE RECIPIENTS:

a. Immediately inventory stocks to identify the above items and secure in a "Medical Hold" status to provide assurance of no further issue/sale/use.

POSITIVE FINDINGS should be reported to Accountable Officers/Vendor Representatives of that facility. Accountable Officer/Agency representatives/Buyers/Contracting Officers should seek/refund/credit/replacement through the normal distribution channel with which the product was received (i.e. Distribution Centers, Prime Vendors, or Manufacturers).

b. Ships at sea are authorized to destroy or dispose of recalled products at their discretion. Documentation for the number of pounds and cases, and any additional pertinent information must be signed by the Accountable Officer and is required for the purpose of recouping to the government the cost of the product involved. In order to get credit please use a SF 364 and forward to your supporting NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center (NAVSUP FLC) and copy furnished to NAVSUP 51. Your supporting NAVSUP FLC should forward to the account manager at DLA Troop Support. The form should include the number of the recall authorizing the survey action. Home-ported ships/galleys will utilize DD form 1149 to transfer w/ reimbursement to the PV. The PV will submit credit invoice to the account manager at DLA Troop Support.

c. DLA Troop Support Subsistence Prime Vendors must report POSITIVE and NEGATIVE RESPONSES directly to the their DLA Troop Support Contracting Officer with a courtesy copy to the Consumer Safety Officer (dscpconssafofc@dla.mil)..

d. DeCA, AAFES, MWR, VA, MCCS, or other non-DLA Troop Support agencies SHOULD NOT respond to the DLA Troop Support Consumer Safety Officer. These agencies should report POSITIVE and NEGATIVE responses in accordance with their agency recall policies.

e. When corresponding with DLA Troop Support concerning this message please include this message's subject in your subject line.

8. The Point of Contact for this ALFOODACT message is CW4 Tony Hemphill, Consumer Safety Officer at DLA-FTW. VOICE, DSN: 444-2922, Commercial (215) 737-2922, or by FAX, DSN: 444-7526, or Commercial, (215) 737-7526, email dscpconssafofc@dla.mil.

9. Individuals or groups that would like to receive recall messages electronically can forward their email address to dscpconssafofc@dla.mil, with "add to list" in the subject line. To be removed from the list place "remove from list" in the subject line.

10. Previous recalls and frequently asked questions are available at the following web site: <http://www.troopsupport.dla.mil/subs/fso/alfood/alfood.asp>. The navigation tool to the left allows you to also view DLA Troop Support Alerts and Archived Vendor Recalls.

Regards,

Mr. Hemphill

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