



North Carolina Food Safety and Defense Task Force

Established 2003

Welcome to the 4th Annual NC Food Safety and Defense Task Force Conference

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I would like to welcome you to Durham and thank you for joining us at our 4th annual conference. The North Carolina Food Safety and Defense Task Force has been meeting and collaborating for most of the last 12 years. By bringing together government, industry, and university professionals on a regular basis, we share information, challenges, and solutions for protecting North Carolina's food supply from intentional and unintentional contamination. We first convened soon after the events of September 11, 2001, when concerned leaders in government saw the food supply as a next and vulnerable target for terrorism that could impact many lives here in North Carolina and across the country.

For this year's conference, we have chosen the theme "Food Defense: Who is Protecting The Food Supply and How" with the intent of remembering why the task force was first established, and to become updated and share ideas on current efforts that are focused on food defense and preventing intentional contamination of our food anywhere along the supply chain. We appreciate the speakers and attendees who have traveled far distances to join us, and we know that our time together will be a benefit to our work in food protection.

I hope you enjoy the conference. The planning committee has worked hard to provide this opportunity, and the task force executive committee desires and appreciates any and all feedback and comments regarding your experience of the event.

Sincerely,

Steve Tracey, Food Lion- Delhaize America
Chair-Executive Committee
North Carolina Food Safety and Defense Task Force

Executive Committee Members:

Dr. Eduardo Gutierrez Rodriguez, NCSU
Alan Wade, NCDA&CS
Jennifer Stewart, NCDHHS
Larry Michael, NCDHHS
Rick Smith, Private Industry
Mary Donny, NCEM
Dan Ragan, NCDA&CS
Nicole Lee, NCDHHS