

Bios – U.S. Food & Drug Administration Speakers and Panelists

Mark Abdoo, Assistant Commissioner, Global Regulatory Policy, Office of Global Regulatory Operations and Policy, FDA

Mark Abdoo is the Assistant Commissioner for Global Regulatory Policy in the Office of Global Regulatory Operations and Policy. Mr. Abdoo leads cross-cutting activities predominantly relating to food and veterinary products, including building international partnerships to enhance FDA's surveillance and enforcement functions. He also manages strategic resource allocation, planning, and management for the Office. Mr. Abdoo joined FDA in 2013 as the inaugural director of the Office of Public Health and Trade (OPHT) in the Office of International Programs, where he led FDA's efforts related to the Trans-Pacific Partnership and Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership trade agreements, and, worked with the Commissioner's Office, the Centers, the Offices of Chief Scientist and Regulatory Affairs to develop agency positions on trade issues. Prior to joining FDA, Mr. Abdoo served in senior positions in the Federal government including: Senior Advisor for Food Security and Agricultural Economics at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID); Director for Global Health and Food Security at the National Security Council staff at the White House; and, in various positions in the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, including Acting Deputy Director and Director for Multilateral Affairs in the Office of Global Affairs, where he was responsible for the Department's engagement with the Agencies of the United Nations System, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and other organizations. Mr. Abdoo received a Bachelor of Arts degree from College of the Holy Cross and conducted graduate studies at Brown University. Before joining the Federal civil service, Mark lived in East Asia for over nine years, where he owned two consulting companies. He is fluent in Mandarin.

Susan Berndt, M.B.A., Acting Deputy Director, International Affairs Staff, CFSAN, FDA

Susan Berndt is currently the Acting Deputy Director, International Affairs Staff (IAS), at FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), and has been with the agency since 2011. She has more than 20 years of leadership experience involving policy and planning, advancing mission priorities through strategic and targeted resource allocation, organizational restructuring and business process/staff operations transformation. Ms. Berndt has been the Associate Director for Operations, Office of Food Safety, CFSAN since 2015 and she began her career at CFSAN as Director, Executive Operations Staff, Office of the Center Director. She received her M.B.A. from Thunderbird, the American Graduate School of International Management and her B.B.A. in international business from the University of Georgia. Other positions held by Ms. Berndt include Director, Executive Secretariat Staff, Office of Food and Veterinary Medicine (OFVM), Director, Market Compliance Office, and Assistant Director, Formulation and Malt Beverage and Distilled Spirits Labeling Office, at the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of Treasury; Operations Manager, Center for e-Service, Robert E. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland; and Director, Community-based Education, National Wildlife Federation.

Camille E. Brewer, M.S, R.D., Director, International Affairs Staff, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition and Office of Foods and Veterinary Medicine, Office of the Commissioner, FDA

Ms. Brewer joined FDA in 1992 as a nutritionist and regulatory writer. She was quickly promoted to Team Leader for Regulations Policy Development at CFSAN's former Office of Food Labeling. In 1996, she joined FDA's Food Safety Staff as International Activities Coordinator for Food Safety. In this capacity, she developed and implemented an innovative international outreach, education, and capacity building strategy on food safety. She was promoted to the position of Deputy Director of the Office of Nutrition, Labeling, and Dietary Supplements in 2004. Ms. Brewer was appointed Director of the International Activities Staff in September 2008. Currently, she enjoys a dual appointment as Director for International Affairs for CFSAN as well as for the Office of Foods and Veterinary Medicine. Ms. Brewer is the recipient of the United States Public Health Service Award for Dietitian of the Year. She is a two-time winner of FDA's Award of Merit, the agency's highest honor award, for her work in international food safety and food defense. Ms. Brewer earned her Master's Degree in Public Health Nutrition at the Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, and she is a registered dietitian. She has a Bachelor's degree in political science from Lincoln University in Oxford, Pennsylvania.

William A. Correll, Jr., Director, Office of Compliance, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, Office of Foods and Veterinary Medicine, FDA

Bill Correll was appointed Director of the CFSAN's Office of Compliance in September 2014. He provides leadership in food compliance and enforcement operations, work planning and logistics, special field assignments, and other programmatic activities. The compliance office is the primary interface between the Center's scientists and policy experts and the FDA's field staff in the Office of Regulatory Affairs and the Office of Chief Counsel. He serves on FDA's Steering Committee for activities in the Produce Safety Partnership and he is engaged in numerous aspects of FDA's implementation of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). He has extensive experience in FDA regulatory activities in preventing, detecting and responding to varied biological or chemical hazards in the global food supply. Mr. Correll joined FDA in 1990 in ORA's Philadelphia District Office and has served in various regulatory positions in CFSAN's compliance office since 1994. He is a graduate of University of Maryland.

Debra DeVlieger, National Food Expert, Office of Regulatory Affairs, FDA

Debra DeVlieger is a National Food Expert in FDA's Office of Regulatory Affairs and has been with the agency for 30 years. She has assisted in the development and implementation of some of FDA's most significant food safety initiatives including the Seafood and Juice HACCP regulations, and is currently serving as co-lead to implement the Preventive Controls for Human Food regulation. Ms. DeVlieger served a key role in the development of FDA's Systems Recognition Program, and continues to participate as a team member in assessing and auditing foreign countries food safety systems.

Caroline Smith DeWaal, J.D., International Food Safety Manager, International Affairs Staff, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, FDA

Caroline DeWaal is the International Food Safety Manager for the International Affairs Staff at the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. She manages the agency's representation and positions at international standard setting bodies, such as the Codex Alimentarius Commission, and its various Committees, and engages with foreign governments on emergency notifications and systems recognition. DeWaal is the former director of the food safety program for the Center for Science in the Public Interest, and co-author of *Is Our Food Safe? A Consumer's Guide to Protecting Your Health and the Environment* (Three Rivers Press, 2002). Ms. DeWaal has testified more than 20 times as a food safety expert before the United States Congress. She has presented papers on food safety at more than 100 scientific and public policy conferences and regularly publishes in scientific and legal journals. She has participated in World Health Organization consultations on food safety, and on FDA, USDA, and CDC food safety advisory panels. She is a graduate of the University of Vermont and of Antioch School of Law.

Joann Givens, Director, Food and Feed Program Human and Animal – West, Office of Regulatory Affairs, FDA

Ms. Joann M. Givens serves as Office of Regulatory Affairs' Food and Feed Program Director Human and Animal Food – West. In this leadership position, Joann oversees the human and animal food program work plan, accomplishments, implementation strategies of FSMA, program alignment advancement and collaborates with the Center of Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) and Center of Veterinary Medicine (CVM), ORA components and external stakeholders. Prior to serving in this position, Joann served as the Acting Regional Director of the Central Region for several years, Deputy Regional Director in the Central Region and District Director in Detroit District. Joann is a graduate of Berkeley College in Little Falls, NJ and also majored in biology at Kean University, Union, NJ. She is the recipient of numerous awards and a member of numerous professional organizations.

William R. Jones, Ph.D., Deputy Director, Office of Food Safety, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, FDA

Dr. William R. Jones serves as Deputy Director, Office of Food Safety at the FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. He has represented the FDA on three subcommittees of the President's National Science and Technology Council, on the Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force and as U.S. Delegate to the United Nations' FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission Committee on Fish and Fishery Products. He previously served on the graduate faculty of the University of Maryland as Senior Scientist and Head of Educational Programs for Marine Biotechnology and also has experience in the private sector as a founder and owner of four successful businesses prior to joining the U.S. FDA in 2001. He received his B.A. in Biology from Towson University and his Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from the University of Maryland.

Sharon L. Mayl, J.D., Senior Advisor for Policy, Office of Foods and Veterinary Medicine, FDA

Sharon Linden Mayl currently serves as the Senior Advisor for Policy to the Deputy Commissioner for Foods and Veterinary Medicine. In this position, she oversees and manages significant policy initiatives related to food safety and nutrition. She currently focuses on implementation of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). Ms. Mayl co-leads the team that is developing the FSMA import rules and guidance documents, including those related to the Foreign Supplier Verification Program, Voluntary Qualified Import Program, and Accredited Third-Party Certification Program. Ms. Mayl is also the co-lead for the FSMA import operational team that will prepare the Agency for its transition from policy setting to compliance in the next phase of FSMA implementation. In addition to her work on foods issues, Ms. Mayl remains involved in agency-wide policy matters in the imports area and served as a co-chair of the Commissioner's Globalization Strategy Working Group, which produced the 2011 report, "Pathway to Global Product Safety and Quality." Ms. Mayl is a graduate of Cornell University and Harvard Law School. Prior to joining the agency in 1994, she worked first in private practice and then for a public interest advocacy group on foods issues.

Susan T. Mayne, Ph.D., F.A.C.E., Director, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition

Susan T. Mayne is the director of the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). In this position, Dr. Mayne leads the center's development and implementation of programs and policies related to the composition, quality, safety, and labeling of foods, food and color additives, and cosmetics. An internationally recognized public health leader and scientist, CFSAN also oversees diet and health initiatives, which include the policy development and management of food and nutrition labeling, as well as the regulation of dietary supplements, medical foods and infant formulas. She came to the FDA from Yale University, where she was the C.-E.A. Winslow Professor of Epidemiology.

Julie Moss, Ph.D., Acting Third Party Program Director, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, FDA

Dr. Moss is currently acting as the Third Party Program Director focusing on implementation efforts and related policy issues. Her permanent role is Deputy Director of the International Affairs Staff in the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. In this role, Dr. Moss manages import/trade aspects of food safety and nutrition with a significant focus on enhancing strategic partnerships in global food safety and associated performance measurement. She joined the agency in 2001. Dr. Moss is a graduate of The Ohio State University, University of Cincinnati, Florida State University and is a registered dietitian.

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Ritu Nalubola, Ph.D., Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Policy, FDA

Ritu Nalubola is a Senior Policy Advisor in FDA's Office of Policy, Office of the Commissioner. She advises senior leadership at FDA on complex and cross-cutting policy issues, including related to genetic engineering, nanotechnology, food safety, and international consensus-based standards. She has a key role in FDA's implementation of the Food Safety and Modernization Act, specifically relating to produce safety. Dr. Nalubola routinely represents FDA at various domestic and international policy forums. Prior to joining the Office of the Commissioner, Dr. Nalubola worked at FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition on a diverse range of food policy matters. Dr. Nalubola graduated from Michigan State University and worked with the U.S. Agency for International Development before starting her career at FDA in 2000.

Dr. Stephen M. Ostroff, Acting Commissioner of Food and Drugs, FDA

Stephen Ostroff, M.D., is the acting Commissioner of Food and Drugs. As the top official of the Food and Drug Administration, Dr. Ostroff is committed to strengthening programs and policies that enable the agency to carry out its mission to protect and promote the public health.

From May 2016 to January 2017, Dr. Ostroff served as the Food and Drug Administration's Deputy Commissioner for Foods and Veterinary Medicine. In that role, he oversaw the food and animal health activities of FDA, including FDA's responsibilities in the areas of food safety and nutrition, food labeling, food and color additives, cosmetics, dietary supplements, animal drugs and animal feed, and research to support the food and veterinary medicine mission of FDA. Dr. Ostroff previously served as the acting FDA Commissioner from April 2015 to late February 2016. Before being named acting commissioner, Dr. Ostroff served as the FDA's Chief Scientist starting in February 2014. The Office of the Chief Scientist works closely with FDA's product centers, providing strategic leadership and support for FDA's regulatory science and innovation initiatives. Dr. Ostroff joined FDA in 2013 as Chief Medical Officer in the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition and Senior Public Health Advisor to FDA's Office of Foods and Veterinary Medicine.

Prior to that, he served as Deputy Director of the National Center for Infectious Diseases at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). At CDC Dr. Ostroff focused on emerging infectious diseases, food safety, and coordination of complex outbreak response. He retired from the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service at the rank of Rear Admiral (Assistant Surgeon General). Dr. Ostroff was also the Director of the Bureau of Epidemiology and Acting Physician General for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and has consulted internationally on public health projects in South Asia and Latin America.

Dr. Ostroff graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine in 1981 and completed residencies in internal medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and preventive medicine at CDC.

Mickey Parish, Ph.D., Senior Science Advisor, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, FDA

Dr. Mickey Parish is the Senior Science Advisor and Director of the Senior Science Advisor Staff for the FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. Prior to that, he was the Senior Advisor for Microbiology, Office of Food Safety where he provided technical support for food safety policy development and implementation. He also supports outbreak and recall investigations. Prior to coming to FDA, Dr. Parish was Professor and department chair in the University of Maryland's Department of Nutrition and Food Science, and a Professor of Food Microbiology at the University of Florida. Mickey has a Ph.D. in Food Science from NC State University, a Master's degree in Food Science from the University of Florida, and B.S. in Biology from Florida State University.

Brian Pendleton, J.D., Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Policy, Office of the Commissioner, FDA

Brian Pendleton is a Senior Policy Advisor in the Office of Policy in FDA's Office of the Commissioner, where he works primarily on multi-Center rulemakings and guidances. He co-led the working group implementing two components of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act: the regulation on foreign supplier verification programs (FSVPs) for food importers and the guidance for industry on the Voluntary Qualified Importer Program. Mr. Pendleton received a B.A. and M.A. in political science from Kent State University and a J.D. from the University of Michigan.

Donald A. Prater, DVM, Acting Assistant Commissioner for Food Safety Integration, Office of Foods and Veterinary Medicine, FDA

Dr. Donald A. Prater is the Acting Assistant Commissioner for Food Safety Integration in the Office of Foods and Veterinary Medicine (FVM). He is the principal spokesperson on behalf of the FVM Program for imports discussions with external stakeholders, including foreign governments, as well as being responsible for import-related strategic resource planning activities across FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) and Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM), and in coordination with FDA's Office of Global Regulatory Operations and Policy (GO). Previously, Dr. Prater was Director of FDA's Europe Office in Brussels, Belgium and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Country Representative to the European Union. Dr. Prater received a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine (Government and Corporate track) in 1996. Following a three-year residency in anatomic pathology, he joined FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine in 1999 as a Veterinary Medical Officer. He served in several roles including Leader of the Aquaculture Drugs Team, CVM Pathologist, and Director of the Division of Scientific Support.

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Jenny Scott, M.S., Office of Food Safety, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, FDA

Jenny Scott is a Senior Advisor in the Office of Food Safety with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, where she leads the FDA teams on the Preventive Controls for Human Food rule and guidance. She is a past-president of the International Association for Food Protection and a fellow of both IAFP and the Institute of Food Technologists. In addition, she serves as the U.S. Delegate to the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene.

Steven Solomon, DVM, Director, Center for Veterinary Medicine, FDA

Dr. Steven Solomon was appointed Director of the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Veterinary Medicine in January 2017. Dr. Solomon previously served as the Deputy Associate Commissioner for Regulatory Affairs within the Food and Drug Administration's Office of Regulatory Affairs. He joined FDA in 1990 as a Veterinary Medical Officer in the Center for Veterinary Medicine, and has served in various policy and leadership positions in the Office of Regulatory Affairs' Office of Enforcement, Office of Regional Operations and as the Assistant Commissioner for Compliance Policy. He also served in the Office of Global Regulatory Operations and Policy. Dr. Solomon has a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from Ohio State University and a Master's in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University.

Karen A. Swajian, M.S., Consumer Safety Officer, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, FDA

Karen A. Swajian has worked as a Consumer Safety Officer in the Office of Food Safety/ Division of Seafood Safety since 2008. She is the subject matter expert in natural marine toxins as well as allergen and food intolerance substances. Ms. Swajian has played a key role in development of rules, policies, procedures, and guidance for seafood related issues and certain FSMA programs. Ms. Swajian has been instrumental with the development and implementation of the Systems Recognition program. She has created the information technology system for internal and external users of the program. Ms. Swajian has come to FDA from academia, the food and medical industries, and human health arenas. Ms. Swajian holds a Master of Science in Clinical Microbiology from the University of Rhode Island.

Mary Lou Valdez, MSM, Associate Commissioner, Office of International Programs

Mary Lou Valdez joined the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as Associate Commissioner for International Programs on January 4, 2009. In close alignment with the FDA program centers and offices, OIP is the hub of the agency's international activity. Ms. Valdez leads and manages OIP staff around the world, catalyzing FDA global engagement in collaboration with international health and regulatory partners, ministries of health and agriculture, other U.S. Government Agencies, industry, academia,

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multilateral organizations, and related stakeholders. Ms. Valdez has a Master of Science in Management from the University of Maryland University College, and a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Texas at El Paso.

Bettye Walters, DVM, International Policy Analyst, Center for Veterinary Medicine, FDA

Dr. Bettye Walters serves as international Policy Analyst within the FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM). She provides leadership for FDA's interactions with the World Organization for Animal Health (the OIE), the International Cooperation on Harmonization of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medicinal Products (VICH), and the Global Animal Health Conference. She assists with CVM's academic initiatives and activities including veterinary and human medical student One Health programs, and is CVM's primary contact for T-TIP negotiations. Prior to her CVM employment, she was Director for the Center for Public and Corporate Veterinary Medicine at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Walters earned her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Tuskegee University and joined the FDA in 2010.