

News Release
January 8, 2017



Contact:
Deena Crawley, Marketing Director
Dion's Pizza
505-858-1010
dcrawley@dions.com

FSIS Issues Public Health Alert for Sliced Deli Meat Products Due to Possible Listeria Contamination

Albuquerque, NM – The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) issued a public health alert for deli meats sliced by the Peter DeFries Corporation. The alert was issued because the meats may have been contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes* (Lm). Products in the alert are sliced turkey, ham, pastrami and roast beef which are served in pizzas, salads and subs at Dion's locations.

The products were sliced from December 14, 2016 through December 29, 2016. These items were shipped to Dion's locations in New Mexico, Texas, and Colorado.

The potential problem was discovered during routine internal testing of equipment. No food products tested positive for contamination. There have been no confirmed reports of illness or adverse reactions.

Mark Herman, CEO of Dion's, said "Food safety is our number one priority. We are currently serving safe, high-quality pre-sliced products from our normal vendors. We are working with our partners at the USDA to resume our in-house deli meat slicing operation."

Anyone concerned about an illness should contact a healthcare provider. Customers with food safety questions can also "Ask Karen," the FSIS virtual representative available 24 hours a day at AskKaren.gov or via smartphone at m.askkaren.gov. The Peter DeFries Corporation has set up a hotline for those who have questions. That number is 505-515-2660 and it is open daily from 8:00am to 8:00pm.

Consumption of Lm can cause Listeriosis. Symptoms of Listeriosis can be found at www.cdc.gov/listeria/. Someone experiencing symptoms should respond as the Center for Disease Control recommends at www.cdc.gov/listeria/.

The USDA alert can be found at www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/newsroom/news-releases-statements-transcripts/news-release-archives-by-year/archive/2017/pha-010617.

###