



Corning Tower The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12237

Richard F. Daines, M.D.  
*Commissioner*

August 3, 2007

**DQS/DAL # 07-08**  
**FDA Notification of Food Recall**

Dear Long Term Care Facility Administrator:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the Department has been notified of a recall being conducted by the FDA involving human and pet food products from Castleberry Foods. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, along with the FDA has requested that we share this information with our provider community.

The FDA is warning consumers not to consume certain canned food products that have been produced by Castleberry's Food Company of Augusta, Georgia, due to possible botulism contamination. Given the potentially fatal effects of botulism poisoning and the fact that over 90 products and 27 brands of food are potentially contaminated, please alert your facility food service directors or their designees to carefully inventory their pantries and dispose of any recalled products immediately. The canned products including canned chili products, stew, hash, BBQ, and gravy could cause life-threatening illness.

Castleberry's is recalling all of the potentially contaminated products and is cooperating with the FDA, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service and the states' investigation into the cause of the contamination. Recalled products include cans of hot dog chili sauce, chili with meat, corned beef hash, and a number of other products. For the most up-to-date information on this and any other food safety concern, please visit the FDA website at <http://www.fda.gov>.

Should you experience any illness issues related to any products potentially related to this recall, please contact your NYSDOH Regional Office in the customary manner during normal business hours or the NYSDOH Duty Officer (AOD) at 1-866-881-2809 on nights, weekends or holidays. Thank you for your prompt attention to this very important issue, and your continued commitment to high-quality care and resident safety.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark H. Kissinger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line at the end.

Mark Kissinger  
Deputy Commissioner  
Office of Long Term Care