ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN

To: **Mobile Food Facility (MFF) Operations in Orange County**

Subject: **Restroom, Handwashing and Commissary Requirements**

This is to notify MFF operators of the requirements regarding restrooms, handwashing and commissary usage, which are addressed in the California Retail Food Code (CRFC). Because of the mobile nature of the MFF and the limited requirements, additional support facilities such as restrooms, handwashing and commissary are required.

RESTROOM and HANDWASHING REQUIREMENTS for MFFs

A MFF which stops for more than one hour to conduct business at a single location is required by the CRFC Section 114315 to operate within 200 feet travel distance of an approved and readily available toilet and handwashing facility.

Those MFFs that do not operate within 200 feet travel distance of an approved restroom and handwashing facility are required by law to relocate after one hour.

Approved restroom and handwashing facilities are to be available for the MFF employee's use. The restroom shall consist of those that are currently inspected by this agency such as those at a retail food facility (i.e. a permitted restaurant or market). Other approved restroom and handwashing facilities may include public restroom facilities (not a private residence) that are available for inspection by this agency and that meet the following minimum requirements as set forth in the CRFC:

- Handwash sinks with warm (minimum 100 degrees Fahrenheit) running water through a mixing valve
- Soap and towels from a dispenser
- Operative and clean toilet facilities
- Toilet paper available at each toilet

MFFs that exceed one hour of operation at any business location will be directed to provide the location of the approved restroom and handwashing facilities. An MFF failing to comply with the restroom and handwashing facility requirement may be issued a Notice of Violation, with the associated fees.

COMMISSARY REQUIREMENTS for MFFs

To ensure sanitary conditions, MFFs are required to be serviced, cleaned, and stored at an approved commissary each operating day (CRFC Section 114295, 114297). MFFs not using an approved commissary as required are in violation of the law. Exception: MFFs operating at a community event or utilizing an approved Mobile Support Unit (MSU).

A commissary is an approved food facility adequately equipped to daily service the MFF and/or MSU using it (CRFC Section 113751, 114326). Commissaries must provide appropriate facilities including but not limited to the following items: hot and cold water for cleaning, a sloped and properly drained cleaning area, potable water, electrical outlets, proper disposal of trash, garbage and liquid waste, adequate food, utensil and supply storage, approved food handling areas as needed in addition to storage of the MFF and/or MSU.

A required MFF which is not daily using an approved commissary for cleaning, servicing and storage may be issued a Notice of Violation with the associated fees.

Repeat violations regarding these issues can result in chargeable re-inspections, legal action, permit suspension and/or permit revocation.

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