



**DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY
DEFENSE SUPPLY CENTER PHILADELPHIA
700 ROBBINS AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19111-5092**

IN REPLY REFER TO

DSCP-HP

18 October 2001

SUBJECT: Letter to Our Valued Suppliers -Securing the DoD and Non-DoD Customer Produce Supply Chain

Dear Sirs or Madams:

The events of September 11, 2001 and after have increased concern regarding safekeeping food supplies for our Armed Forces and Non-DoD Business customers

As a vendor/contractor under, our various produce contracts, agreements and initiatives, you should be aware of the vital role you play in supporting our customers, and we recommend you to take all necessary actions to secure the produce you deliver to military bases as well as to commercial destinations. In many cases, this effort will duplicate efforts to secure your commercial product from adulteration, but we encourage all vendors to review and re-establish security plans now, in light of the heightened threat of terrorism.

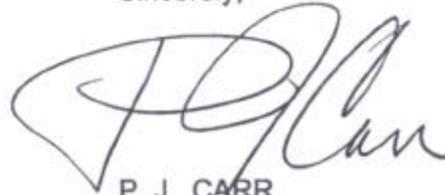
As vendors/contractors, your quality control procedures must be heightened to ensure that product entering your facility is safe for public consumption. Make sure all boxes, bins and loose bags/sacks of produce are intact and demonstrate no evidence of tampering. All incoming truck drivers should provide adequate identification upon request. Visitors should be properly identified and access limited to appropriate areas. Your procedures for storing product should adequately control access to eliminate any possibility of product adulteration. Review lighting and camera conditions at your facility and consider whether fencing and locking devices are adequate. Never leave open trucks unattended, and use seals when possible to designate loaded trailers. Make sure employee background checks are current. Ensure drivers have communication devices available in the event of an emergency and establish emergency phone numbers for them to use. Your firm should keep a low profile and share customer routes, etc., on a need-to-know basis. Basically, we are asking that you review your overall organizational corporate security plan to assess and minimize the risk.

Most important is that you inform your staff in your warehouses, offices, and fleet personnel that any instances of suspected adulteration or tampering must be reported to local authorities and to your cognizant contracting officer and/or PBO/DSO representative. We have access to the US Veterinary Corps and other federal agencies that can assist you in responding quickly. Timely notification is essential to counter this threat.

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As valued suppliers, you and all your employees are ensuring that our produce is safeguarded. By increasing your surveillance and heightening your efforts for safekeeping product for all our customers, you will be contributing even more. We appreciate your utmost attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. J. Carr', is written over a light gray background.

P. J. CARR
Chief, Produce Business Unit
Directorate of Subsistence
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania