



Partnership for Food Protection (PFP) Coffee Talk with

Diane McDaniel

Consumer Safety Officer (State Liaison)

Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA)

Office of Human and Animal Foods Operations (OHAFO)

The Partnership for Food Protection (PFP) Information Technology Workgroup (IT WG) recently had the opportunity to catch-up with Diane McDaniel, Consumer Safety Office (State Liaison), Office of Human and Animal Foods Operations (OHAFO) Immediate Office (IO), ORA, FDA.

When Diane joined ORA, over 27 years ago, there was no official position for state liaisons. However, since the creation of the role, Diane has enjoyed working with the states to bridge a two-way communication channel between state and federal partners and has been an active participant for the ORA data exchange project and the PFP IT WG.



Tell us about yourself and your role on the ORA Data Exchange project.

I am the state liaison for HAF East Division 5E. We cover the states of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Ohio. I primarily work with Ohio Human Food, Ohio Animal Food, Ohio Egg, and Kentucky Human and Animal Food programs. My role for the ORA DX project, has been to provide input to enhance the DX capabilities, and introduce states to the project and listen to conference calls.



How does your background add to your participation in the PFP?



As the state liaison, I get to see both sides – FDA and state. I have worked with the states for many years in multiple areas – Human Food, Animal Food, and Eggs.



Has your participation in the PFP been of benefit to your FDA role and responsibilities?



Yes, it has been a benefit to be a part of PFP. Participating in PFP gives you a larger perspective on Food Safety than just the state and federal level.



What are some of the benefits or advantages of the DX that you would like to share with the states you support?



Hopefully the DX has the potential to cut back on duplicate entry that is done by our states. Also, DX has the potential for sharing of information; two-way sharing, which will be beneficial to both parties.



Looking ahead, is there any particular functionality you would like to see in DX for State Liaisons or Field Management (District Directors and Program Division Directors)?



I am hoping that DX will be a true data sharing system. It would be nice for both state and federal to only have to be in one system. The uploading of documents, I think is a great advantage.



Looking ahead, is there any particular functionality you would like to see in DX for the state(s) you support?



States to have direct access to the information that currently the State Liaison have to provide them. Time savings is always a plus.



What is your advice for states considering DX?



At least take the time to learn about DX. Understand that sometimes it could be a big undertaking, but at the same time there is a lot of potential.



Any additional DX support, the state(s) you support could have received from FDA during the process of adopting DX?



I think we are in the very beginning of the process and my states are still just learning about DX.



The PFP IT WG thanks Diane McDaniel and her team for their support of the ORA Data Exchange (DX) program and the PFP. We look forward to continued collaboration with OHAFO on the expanding the ORA DX program.

For Diane’s picture and profile, check out [I Am ORA Profile](#).

For questions or information about the ORA DX program or the PFP IT WG, contact us at NFSDX_Info@fda.hhs.gov.



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