

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, DC

FSIS NOTICE	81-09	12/1/09
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EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY STATEMENT

The Food Safety and Inspection Service is fully committed to providing equal employment opportunity (EEO) for all personnel. FSIS provides equal opportunity both in Federal employment and employee advancement regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, age (40 and over), gender, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, marital or family status, political affiliation or belief, protected genetic information, or reprisal (retaliation) for prior EEO activity. Unlawful discrimination against any employee, former employee, or applicant for employment with FSIS under one or more of the protected bases cited above is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

EEO captures all human capital employment programs, management practices, and decisions including, but not limited to, recruitment, hiring, merit promotion, transfers, reassignments, training and career development, benefits, and separation. Employees, managers, and supervisors, at all levels, must share the responsibility to ensure EEO in all employment decisions and that these actions comply with EEO laws. The Agency's continued and vigorous adherence to these laws is fundamental to both its operational mission and to its success as a premier public health Agency.

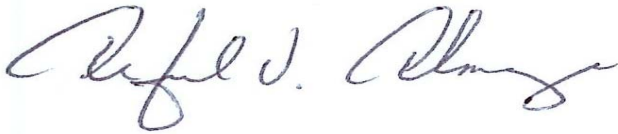
It is my intent that FSIS provide a workplace environment that honors excellence, teamwork, respect, dignity, fairness and equity. All employees must play an integral role in maintaining a discrimination-free work environment and treat all coworkers, colleagues, and customers with dignity, respect, and professionalism.

As the FSIS administrator, I support the objective of and commitment to EEO and hold all employees accountable for achieving this policy objective. Furthermore, I hold managers and supervisors, at all levels, responsible for promoting and supporting this policy as well as the Department's EEO and other related policies.

Most importantly, we must view our commitment to EEO as a matter of personal integrity and accountability. I trust that I can depend on you to do your part in these efforts.

DISTRIBUTION: Electronic	NOTICE EXPIRES: January 1, 2011	OPI: CRD – Program Planning, Analysis and Compliance Branch
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For more information on EEO and civil rights, contact the Civil Rights Division (CRD) at 301-504-7755 (Voice and TDD), 800-269-6912 (Toll-free), or link to the CRD Web page at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/About_Fsis/Civil_rights_programs/index.asp.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rafael V. Alvarez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rafael" being the most prominent.

Administrator