



*Advocating the views of convenience stores, supermarkets,
independent grocers, wholesalers and consumer product vendors.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 26, 2016

CONTACT: Elizabeth Peroni, PFMA
eperoni@pfma.net, 800-543-8207 x5516

PFMA TO HOST MEETING WITH PHILADELPHIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO DISCUSS LICENSING AND INSPECTIONS

Philadelphia — Philadelphia Department of Health (DPH) staff will answer food retailers' questions on licensing and inspections during a Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association (PFMA) regional meeting, February 11, at the DPH Philadelphia office.

PFMA, the statewide trade association representing convenience stores, supermarkets, wholesalers and affiliated businesses, will offer the meeting in two sessions — one in English and one in Spanish. All food retailers are invited to attend the meeting at the DPH Office of Food Protection, South University Avenue and Curie Boulevard in Philadelphia. The morning session in English is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. to noon, and the afternoon session in Spanish is set for 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Dr. Pavak Raval-Nelson, director of Environmental Health Services, and Bernie Finkel, chief of Food Protection, Philadelphia DOH, Office of Food Protection, will present the sessions and answer questions. A Spanish-speaking sanitarian will assist with the afternoon meeting.

"Food safety is of utmost importance to the daily operation of any retail food store," said Alex Baloga, PFMA vice president of external relations. "Navigating the licensing and regulatory issues can be challenging for food retailers, who want to provide safe food products for their customers. We encourage all food retailers to take this opportunity to learn and ask questions from the experts at the Philadelphia Department of Health."

To register for the meeting, contact Steve Neidlinger, PFMA manager of legislative research, at sneidlinger@pfma.net or 717-760-5922. Space is limited for the two sessions.

###

The Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association is a statewide trade association advocating the views of convenience stores, supermarkets, independent grocers, wholesalers and consumer product vendors. PFMA's more than 800 corporate members operate 3,200 retail food stores and employ more than 150,000 Pennsylvanians.

PENNSYLVANIA FOOD MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 870 | Camp Hill, PA 17001-0870 | www.pfma.org | pfma@pfma.net