

Clark County Health District
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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Health inspectors receive certification

(Las Vegas, Nev. – February 15, 2001) – For the first time, Clark County Health District field staff who are responsible for conducting inspections of food establishments will be certified in the National Restaurant Association Education Foundation’s ServSafe program. This certification program is recognized by more federal, state and local jurisdictions than any other food safety education training.

Chief Health Officer Donald Kwalick, MD, MPH, and Van Heffner, president of the Nevada Restaurant Association, will be presenting the first graduates of this course with their certificates on Friday, February 16, 2001 at 8:30 a.m. at the Clark County Health District Clemens Room, 625 Shadow Lane.

The Health District is making this certification mandatory for all field staff in order to acquaint them with the food safety management classes that are available to their regulatees. Currently, food service workers are required to complete a basic food safety course in order to receive a health card. However, food safety manager’s certification is voluntary in Clark County.

The Health District actively encourages management to participate in ongoing training. Dr. Kwalick states, “The training required of foodhandlers must be reinforced by food service managers on a daily basis in order to remain effective. We feel a well-trained manager will be able to better reinforce food safety measures to their employees.”

Food safety practices will remain a top priority for the District as the number of food establishments continues to grow. Currently there are 12,000 permitted establishments in Clark County. Additionally, the Health District issued 128,000 food handler cards last year.

The ServSafe course is available in Clark County through the Community College of Southern Nevada, The University of Nevada, Las Vegas and the Nevada Restaurant Association.

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