

NEWS RELEASE
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Health Department takes on food service inspection contract

(Lawrence, KS) – Effective today, residents of Lawrence and Douglas County can now contact the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department directly to make a food service complaint.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment had previously handled all of Douglas County’s food service establishment inspections, but under a special contract that began May 1, the Health Department will now take on those inspections.

“This contract culminates a rigorous training and quality assurance process,” said Dan Partridge, Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department Director. “Restaurant inspections are a vital and widely recognized public health function and we are committed to providing a level of service that meets the high standards of the public and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.”

Seven other Kansas counties conduct food service inspections. The Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department currently has one food inspector and one in training to inspect the roughly 430 restaurants and food establishments in Douglas County. Each location is inspected at least annually.

Taking on food inspections in Lawrence and Douglas County will assist the Health Department in its strategic plan to diversify its services and expand into an essential area of public health. If concerned with the sanitation conditions of a Douglas County restaurant or food establishment, call the Health Department at (785) 843-3060 or e-mail Environmental Health staff at ehinfo@ldchealth.org.