Appendix J: Food Safety Branch Illness Outbreak Sampling Protocol

1) When an outbreak is identified, Food Safety Branch (FSB) is to be notified by the Division of Epi within 24 hours.
2) FSB reviews the epi data to verify they have jurisdiction.
3) FSB notifies other agencies that also have jurisdiction.
4) FSB takes action to remove the suspect food from the retail market and to prevent its further distribution.
5) FSB develops and coordinates a sample collection plan with the other agencies that have jurisdiction.
6) FSB collects samples and transports them to the Division of Laboratory Services.
7) If the suspect food is manufactured within the State of Kentucky, FSB will conduct an inspection of the manufacturer and if appropriate, collect samples.
8) All samples collected in intact containers will be collected as “official” samples following the “Chain of Custody” procedure.
9) FSB will determine if regulatory action is warranted.
10) FSB will provide the Division of Epi with their port for inclusion in the final incident report.

See the EPI Sampling Procedure dated 10/28/15 for additional guidance.
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