

ISDH Food Emergency Response Plan (FERP)

ISDH FOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM
TRAVIS GOODMAN
FOOD DEFENSE PROGRAM
COORDINATOR-SOUTH

Food Sector Background

- Post-harvest food accounts for:
 - 12% of US economic activity
 - 10% of the American workforce
- Consists of enormous subsectors:
 - Food processing, distribution, transportation, retail, and food service

Food Sector Background

- In 2007 the National Restaurant Association Projects that:
 - 925,000 restaurants reach \$511 billion in sales/year
 - 34,000 supermarkets will reach \$460 billion in sales/year
 - Sector also consists of 55,000 Smaller markets, convenience stores etc.

Food Sector Background

- In Indiana there are approximately:
 - 30,000 retail food establishments, 1500 grocery stores, and 1000 food processors
 - Food Protection Program is planning to do a census in 2009/2010 to find out if these numbers are accurate

Federal Food Regulatory Structure

- USDA - meat & shell eggs
 - OIG - does criminal investigations
- FDA - all other food products + drugs, & devices
 - OCI - does criminal investigations

IN Food Regulatory Structure

- IN Board of Animal Health - meat & dairy
 - Animal and zoonotic disease investigations
- IN State Department of Health- all other food products
 - Human disease investigations

Relevant Law

- Terrorism: IC 35-47-12-1
- Agricultural Terrorism: IC 35-47-12-2
- Food Safety 410 IAC 7-24
- Food Tampering: IC 35-45-8-3
- Interstate Food Tampering:
 - Federal Anti-Tampering Act
 - USC 18- Part 1- Ch 65- 1365

Threats to Food & Agriculture

- Food System Failure (Food Safety)
 - Breakdown in food safety practices/procedures leading to unintentional food contamination resulting in illness
- Food System Attack (Food Defense)
 - Breakdown in security practices/procedures leading to intentional food contamination resulting in illness

Sickening News


- 2006- E.coli tainted fresh spinach
- 2007- Salmonella in peanut butter, botulinum toxin in chili sauce, e.coli in meat, intentional contamination of pet food
- 2008- California meat recall over BSE concerns

Changing Food Protection Trends

- Segment of the US population in the high-risk category is increasing
 - By 2025 25% will be highly susceptible
- Consumption of RTE foods is increasing
 - Cooking in the home is decreasing
- Greater variety of foods are available
 - More foods are consumed raw
- New foodborne pathogens are emerging

Planning for Food Emergencies

- Should be done now - don't wait!
- Time is critical
- The more prepared we are ahead of time the more likely we can effectively respond to minimize illness, deaths, and economic loss
- Funding and assistance for this type of preparedness work is available



MOST OF THE NATION
TODAY WILL BE UNDER A
YELLOW TERRORIST ALERT
WITH LIGHTLY SCATTERED
ORANGE ALERTS IN THE USUAL
AREAS... AND A RED ALERT IS
IN HOGSWALLER, ARKANSAS. SO,
GO AHEAD AND PANIC.

DECIPHERING THE COLOR-CODED ALERT SYSTEM

LET'S SEE -

GREEN: GO BACK TO SLEEP

BLUE: TAKE AN EXTRA STRESSTAB

YELLOW: MAKE SURE THE FREEZER'S FULL

ORANGE: CALL IN SICK

RED: DON'T WORRY ABOUT FILING YOUR TAXES



IN Food Defense Project

- Received public health preparedness funding through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

CDC Grant Objective

- In coordination with the appropriate state and local agencies responsible for food, water, and air safety, develop or ensure the capacity of the public health system to respond in a timely and appropriate manner to a food, water, or airborne illness or threat

What is expected of the States in food emergencies

- National Planning Scenario 13- Food Contamination- is a preparedness baseline for a state food emergency response
- We should be prepared to handle 1200 illnesses, including 400 hospitalized in ICU, and 300 dead in 11 days

ISDH FERP

- Background- DHS recommended template
- Began development of plan Jan 2007
- Target completion date April 2008
- Plan will match up with federal FERP template and NRP
- IN Food Safety and Defense Task Force assisted ISDH with plan review & development

Goal of the FERP

- Ensure an effective, coordinated response to a food emergency situation to minimize illness and mortality and resume normal operations

Objectives of the FERP

- Identify ISDH staff who can activate the FERP by establishing a Food Emergency Assessment Team
- Ensure effective and coordinated communication between federal, state, and local responders and the public
- Identify and define roles and responsibilities of supporting agencies and groups
- Provide contact information and procedures to facilitate rapid response to a food emergency situation

Roles and Responsibilities are Outlined for:

- Governor
- ISDH
- LHDs
- BOAH
- DNR
- IDEM
- IDHS, etc.

Investigation Responsibilities

- Illness Investigation
 - ISDH Epidemiologists, LHDs
- Environmental Investigation
 - ISDH Food Protection, LHDs
- Criminal Investigation (if necessary)
 - Local police & State police, FBI

Food Emergency Coordination

- ISDH Department Operations Center (DOC)
- IDHS State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)
- Possibly federal agencies if it is a multi-state emergency- DHS (FEMA), FDA, USDA

Communication

- In-state food emergency- ISDH Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
- Multi-state food emergency- coordinated Joint Information Centers (JIC)
- All communications must be vertical-down (ICS/NIMS) chain of command and horizontal- division to division

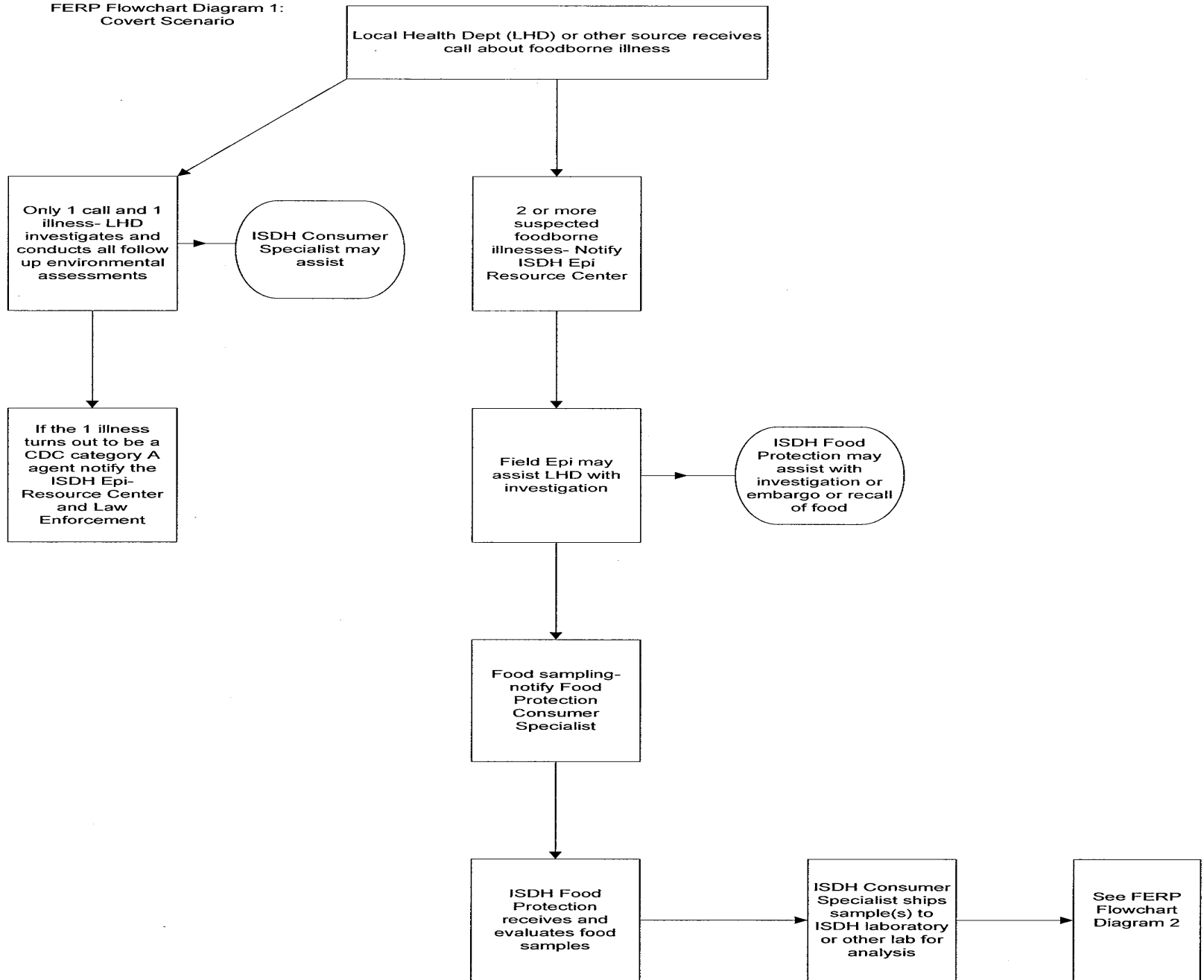
Local Health Departments

- LHDs will be the initial responders to most food emergencies
- May identify the problem first through disease reporting from local healthcare providers
- Should support the local and state emergency operations center

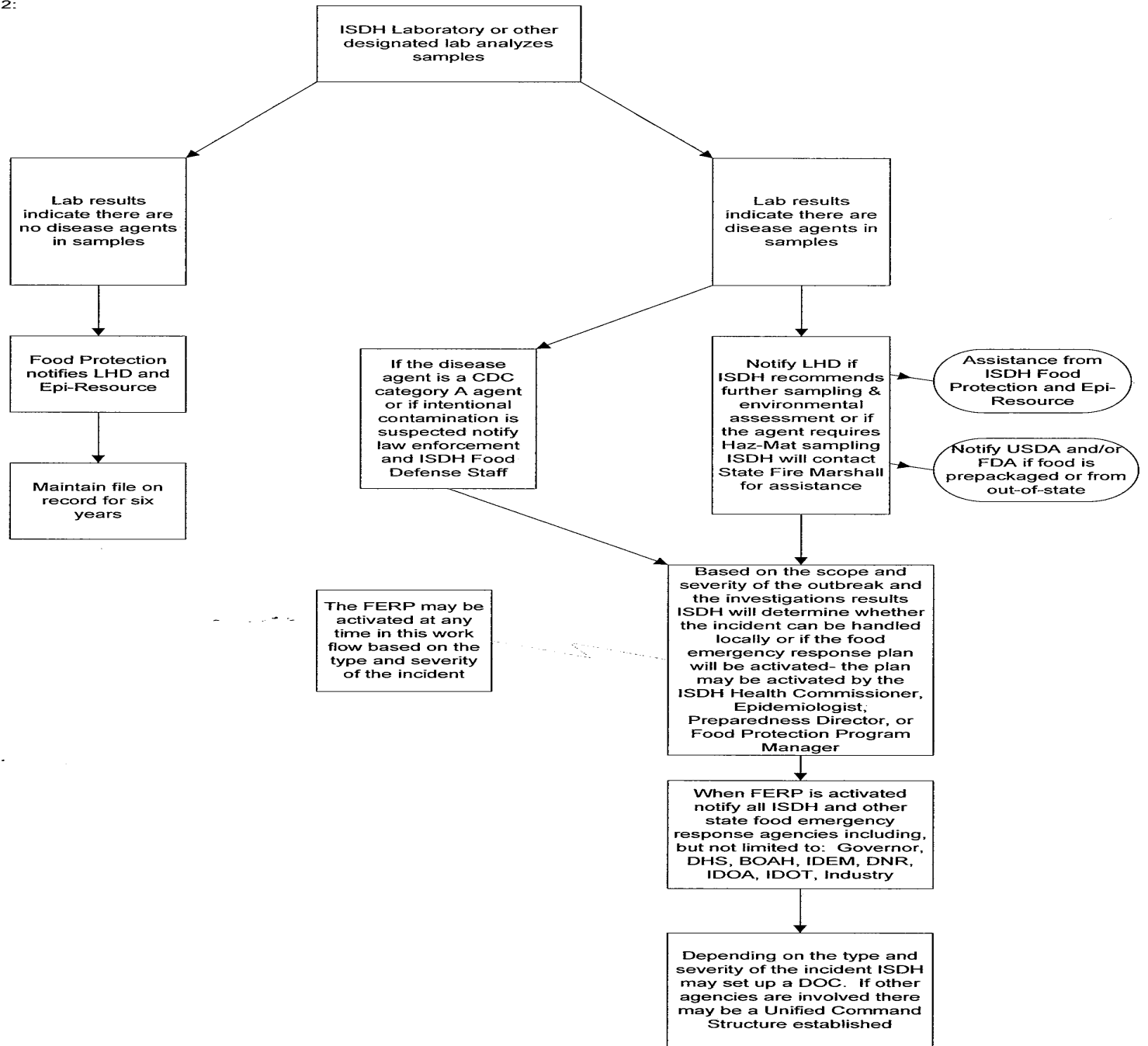
Private Sector - Industries Role

- Procedures in place to track/trace:
 - Employee illnesses
 - Contaminated product
 - Hazardous chemicals
 - Ingredients
 - Finished products
- Implementing appropriate food safety and security plans

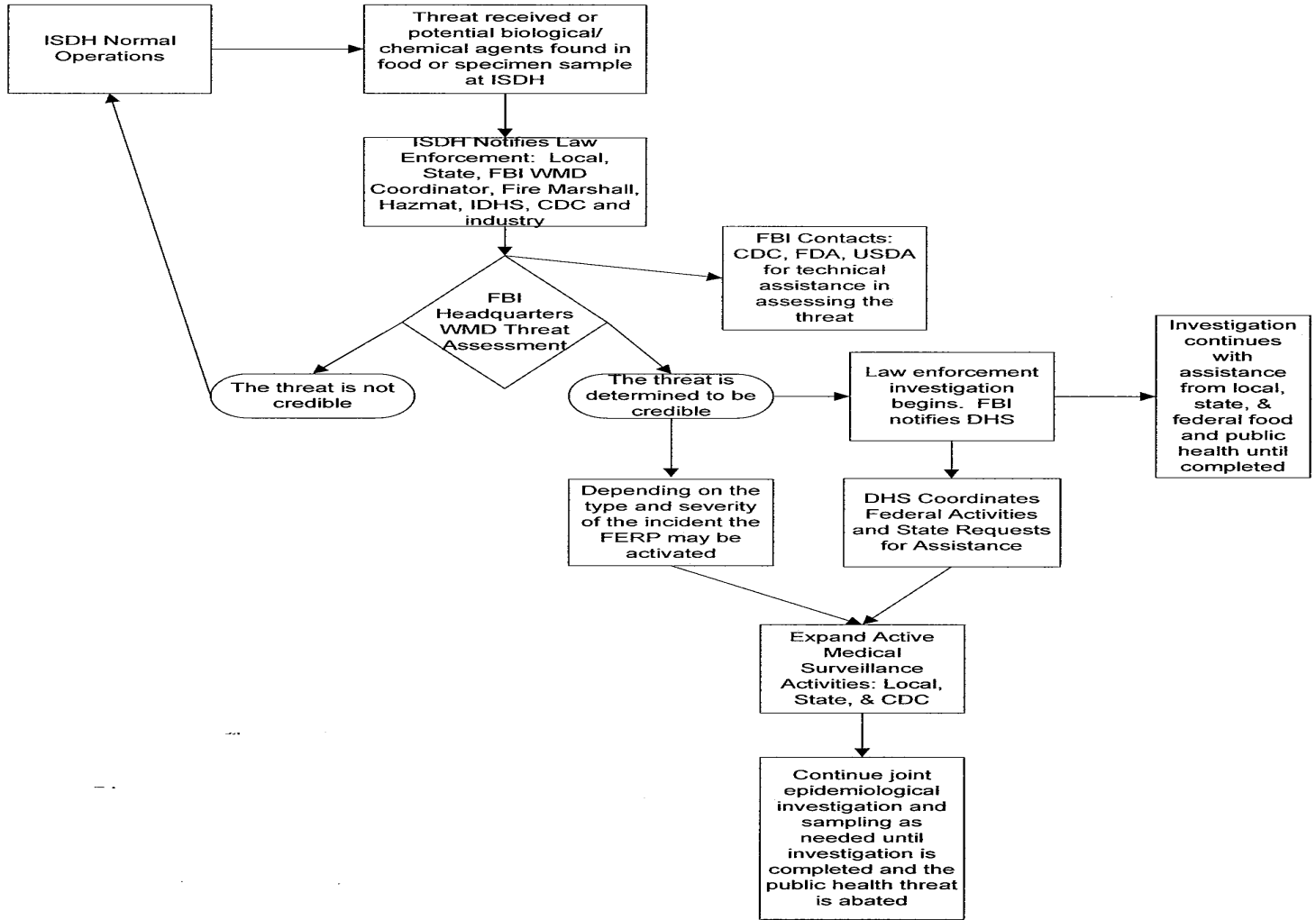
FERP Flowchart Diagram 1:
Covert Scenario



FERP Flowchart Diagram 2:
Covert Scenario



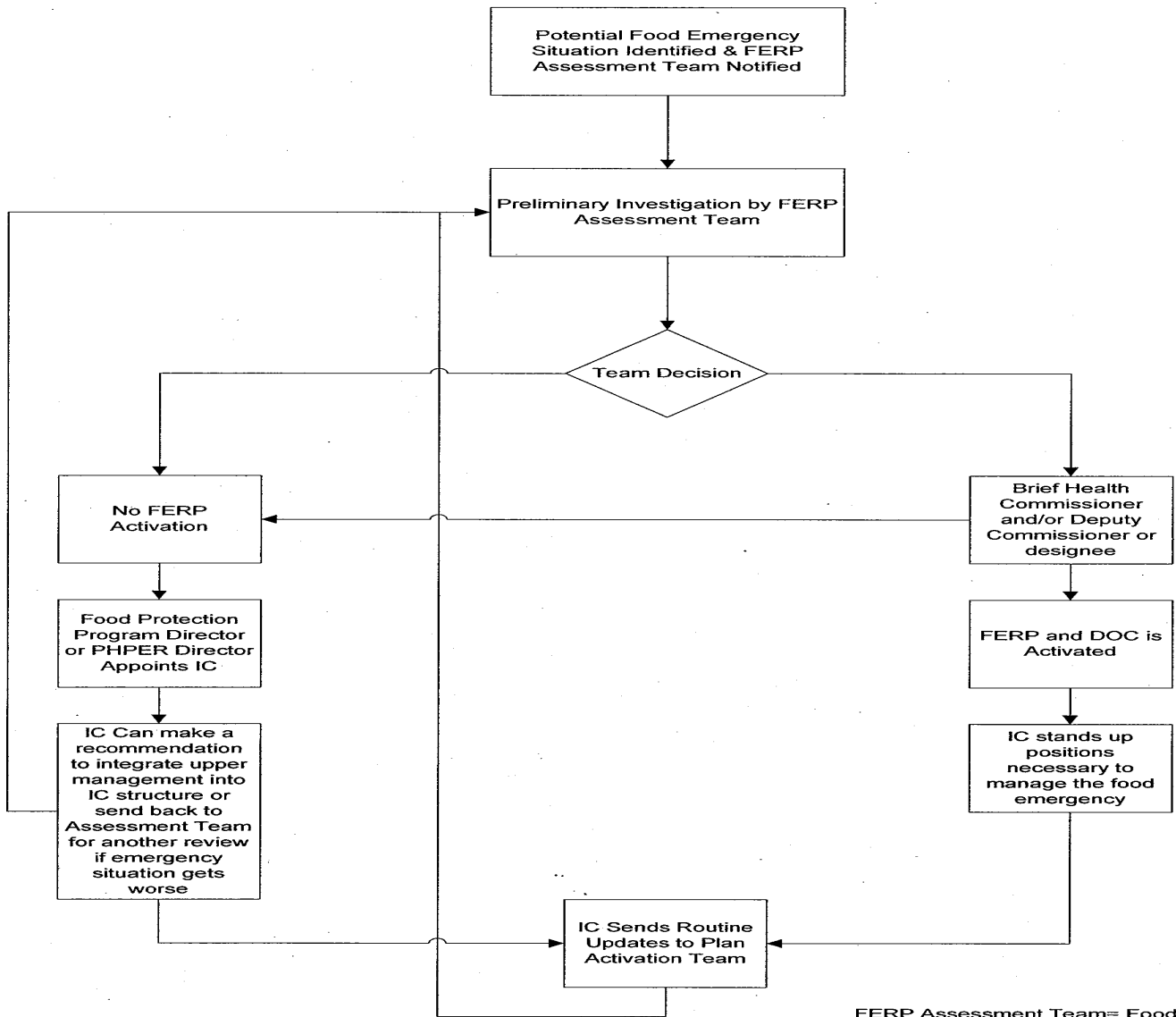
FERP Flowchart Diagram 3:
Overt Scenario



FERP Activation

- A food emergency should be identified by illness surveillance activities or by a credible threat
- Once a “potential” emergency is identified the Food Emergency Assessment Team will be notified
- The Team will conduct an investigation and brief the Health Commissioner, who will decide whether or not to activate the plan

DRAFT- ISDH Food Emergency Response Plan (FERP) Decision Tree



IC= Incident Commander
DOC= Department Operations Center

FERP Assessment Team= Food Protection Program Director, Epidemiologist, Office of Public Affairs Director, and the Public Health Preparedness and Emergency Response Director (Other SME's will be consulted if needed)

Contact	Department	Title	Number(s)	email
24 Hour Duty Officer	ISDH	On-call 24/7	317-233-1325	
Dr. Judith Monroe	ISDH	Health Commissioner	317-233-7400	jmonroe@isdh.in.gov
Scott Gilliam	ISDH	Food Protection Manager	317-233-7467	sgilliam@isdh.in.gov
Shirley Vargas	ISDH	Wholesale Food Manager	317-233-7718	svargas@isdh.in.gov
Travis Goodman	ISDH	Food Defense Program Coordinator-South	317-233-3081 Cell 317-412-2105	tgoodman@isdh.in.gov
George Jones	ISDH	Food Defense Program Coordinator-North	317-234-2982 Cell 317-517-5842	gjones@isdh.in.gov
Dan Gala	ISDH	Consumer Specialist	317-233-7366 Cell 317-650-0890	dgala@isdh.in.gov
Pam Pontones	ISDH	Director of the Epidemiology Resource Center	317-233-7861	ppontones@isdh.in.gov
Gary Couch	ISDH	Director of Public Health Preparedness & Emergency Response	317-234-3545	gcouch@isdh.in.gov
Jennifer Dunlap	ISDH	Director of the Office of Public Affairs	317-233-7000	jdunlap@isdh.in.gov

Testing the FERP

- ISDH conducted a tabletop exercise on August 23, 2007 to test the plan
- 30 staff and 4 divisions attended the exercise including: Food Protection, Public Health Preparedness and Emergency Response, Office of Public Affairs, and the Laboratory

FERP Testing – the Outcome

■ Communication

- From central office to field staff, from division to division, and communication exercises

■ Coordination

- Always specify who is in charge, make sure all field staff have the appropriate equipment, specify personnel for specific tasks

■ Training

- Staff need more ICS/NIMS, more exercises

Our Collective Goal!

- Ensure that the our food supply is both **safe and secure from farm to fork!**

Questions

Farm Defense Mascot!

