

## An Exclusive CIAA Member Update



## FDA Takes Several Actions to Reduce Outbreaks Related to Certain Soft Cheeses and Promote Production of Healthier Foods

Over the last several weeks, FDA has made several announcements that have some impacts on CIAA members.

First, FDA announced a strategy to reduce the number of foodborne illnesses associated with Soft, Fresh Queso Fresco-Type Cheeses. The strategy will focus on prioritizing inspections with environmental samples for manufacturing facilities that produce or repackage these types of cheese, developing resources regarding managing *Listeria* in cheese manufacturing facilities, and sharing training and educational materials for manufacturers and consumers regarding the risks associated with Soft, Fresh Queso Fresco-Type Cheeses.

Second, FDA recently announced two changes intended to increase access to healthy foods and access to information regarding healthy eating patterns. Of importance to CIAA members, FDA has proposed to amend 80 standards of identity (SOIs), including various cheese standards, to allow for the use of safe and suitable salt alternatives when salt is a required or optional ingredient in the standardized food. Additionally, FDA has issued a guidance document to help food companies with making claims about how a food fits within healthy dietary eating patterns.

[Summary of FDA Draft Guidance on Dietary Guidance Statements](#)

[Summary of FDA Proposal to Amend SOIs re Salt Substitutes](#)

[Summary of FDA Strategy to Prevent Soft Cheese Outbreaks](#)

Members with questions regarding these actions can reach out to the Husch



## DATES TO REMEMBER

### **MAY 5, 2023**

Member Meeting  
9:30 am - 11:30 am  
Glenpointe Marriott  
Teaneck, NJ

### **MAY 5, 2023**

Dinner Dance  
Chart House Restaurant  
Weehawken, NJ

### **SEPTEMBER 1, 2023**

First day of license eligibility period for next quota year-plus one. Example: entries made on or after September 1, 2032 can be used to establish eligibility for a license for calendar year 2024.

### **SEPTEMBER 1, 2023**

Last date to request globalization of a calendar year 2023 license. First transmission date for applications for reallocated license amounts for calendar year 2023. First transmission date for all applications for calendar year 2024 licenses.

### **SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 (no exceptions)**

Last transmission date for licensees applying for reallocated license amounts for calendar year 2023.

### **OCTOBER 2, 2023 (no exceptions)**

Last transmission date for licensees to surrender all or the unused portion of their calendar year 2023 licenses.

### **OCTOBER 15, 2023 (no exceptions)**

Last transmission date for all applications for calendar year 2024 licenses.

### **OCTOBER 31, 2023**

Exporting countries that are designating U.S. importers for calendar year 2024 must submit their designations to FAS by this date.

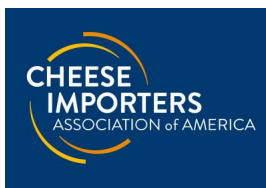
### **DECEMBER 20, 2023 (approximately)**

FAS issues first notice of calendar year 2024 licenses to licensees.

### **DECEMBER 31, 2023**

Last day for licensees to make entries to fulfill the requirement to use 85% of their calendar year 2023 license amount. Last day for which calendar year 2023 licenses are valid.

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