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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Food Inspection Reports Now Available On-Line

The Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) Food Safety and Sanitation Program announced today that food inspection reports as well as active food and seafood permits are now available on the internet.

Inspection reports give a 'snapshot' view of the conditions of a food establishment and their food safety practices while under inspection. The major emphasis of the inspections is on practices known to be directly linked with the causes of foodborne illnesses.

"It is important to remember that an inspection report may not tell you of the overall, long-term cleanliness of a restaurant. Many times, violations are corrected before the Health Officer leaves the establishment," noted Ron Klein, FSS Program Manager. "We know the public has been very interested in viewing this information, but the best way to know if a restaurant is safe is to be an informed consumer." Diners can learn how to be informed consumers at:

www.dec.state.ak.us/eh/fss/consumers/check_out_that_restaurant.htm

Food inspections conducted after December 7, 2007 are available on the new 'Food Inspections and Permits' webpage at:

www.dec.state.ak.us/eh/fss/food_inspections.htm.

To review reports completed before December 7, 2007, please contact DEC's Food Safety Program at 1-87-SAFE-FOOD or 1-877-233-3663.

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