

PRESS RELEASE



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Jerry Farrell, Jr.
Commissioner

Date: March 6, 2008

Consumers Alerted to Recall of Heinz Boston Market Lasagna with Meat Sauce Recall

HARTFORD, February 29 – In cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Connecticut’s Department of Consumer Protection food inspectors are checking stores statewide to ensure that Heinz Boston Market Lasagna with Meat Sauce in the 12.5 oz carton are removed from sale because they may contain beef produced by Hallmark/Westland Meat Packing Co., of Chino, California. Hallmark/Westland initiated a beef recall on February 17th based on reports that meat produced by the company was not completely and properly inspected by the USDA.

“Once again, I encourage consumers to check their cabinets for this widely-distributed product, and return unopened cans to the store for a full refund,” Consumer Protection Commissioner Jerry Farrell, Jr. said. “Anyone who has open cartons of Boston Market Lasagna with Meat Sauce in the 12.5 oz carton size should throw the container and food away.”

To date, no illnesses have been reported; however, consumers should not consume these products, even if they appear to be normal. This recall is classified as Class II which means there is a remote probability that the recalled beef would cause adverse health effects if consumed. No other Heinz or Boston Market products are implicated.

Consumers with questions can contact the Boston Market Frozen Food Consumer Helpline at 1 (800) 488-0050. Consumers with food safety questions can "Ask Karen," the FSIS virtual representative available 24 hours a day at AskKaren.gov. The toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854) is available in English and Spanish and can be reached from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern Time) Monday through Friday. Recorded food safety messages are available 24 hours a day or the Department of Consumer Protection at (860)713-6160.

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