



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION



28 April 2015

FDA ADVISORY
No. **2015-024**

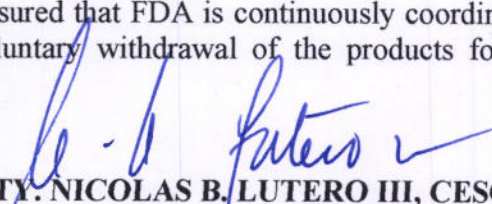
SUBJECT: VOLUNTARY RECALL OF ALL BLUE BELL PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTED BY VISFOOD CORPORATION AND CIRCLE CITY SALES AND TRADING CORPORATION DUE TO POTENTIAL CONTAMINATION WITH *Listeria monocytogenes*

The Department of Health- Food and Drug Administration (DOH-FDA) hereby advises the public that Visfoods Corporation and Circle City Sales and trading Corporation have initiated a voluntary recall of all Blue Bell products due to potential contamination with *Listeria monocytogenes*. This company initiated recall is a response to the Listeriosis outbreak in United States linked to certain Blue Bell Creameries products manufactured by Blue Bell Creameries L. P. of Brenham, Texas.¹

For public information, Listeriosis is a rare but serious illness caused by eating food contaminated with the bacterium called *Listeria monocytogenes*.² This bacterium can be found in soil, water, and some animals, with the highest incidences being found in meat, poultry, and seafood products. It can be present in raw milk and foods made from raw milk. It can also live in food processing plants and contaminate a variety of processed meats.³ Listeriosis primarily affects the elderly, pregnant women, newborn children, and adults with weakened immune system. Symptoms of this disease include fever and muscle aches, sometimes preceded by diarrhea or other gastrointestinal symptoms.

Consumers who have purchased the abovementioned products are advised to contact Visfood Corporation- Cebu at (032) 3163379 and Circle City Sales and Trading Corporation- Mandaluyong City at 0917-624-5854 or e-mail address circlecitph@yahoo.com or ebe121@yahoo.com. The public may also send queries and their concerns to FDA's official email address, info@fda.gov.ph.

Further, the public is hereby assured that FDA is continuously coordinating with the distributors in monitoring the voluntary withdrawal of the products for ensuring protection of public health.


ATTY. NICOLAS B. LUTERO III, CESO III
OIC-Director IV, Food and Drug Administration

¹U.S. Food and Drug Administration. 24 April 2015. <http://www.fda.gov/Food/RecallsOutbreaksEmergencies/Outbreaks/ucm438104.htm>

²US Food and Drug Administration. 10 January 2015. www.fda.gov/Food/RecallsOutbreaksEmergencies/Outbreaks/ucm427573.htm

³U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. <http://www.foodsafety.gov/poisoning/causes/bacteriaviruses/listeria>

