



# Environmental Health Services Division

## FOOD SAFETY BRANCH

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### COLOR CODED PLACARD PROGRAM

**PURPOSE** The purpose of this notice is to outline the Color Coded Placard Program that is used by the State of Hawaii, Department of Health.

**BACKGROUND** The Hawaii Administrative Rules Title 11, Chapter 50 that enforces the Color Coded Placard Program was implemented on February 24, 2014. Chapter 50 states the Department of Health will post a color coded placard indication the compliance of the establishment based on the most recent inspection.

Goals of the Color Coded Placard Program:

1. Reduce the occurrence of foodborne illness;
2. Increase the compliance of Chapter 50 Food Establishment Regulations;
3. Inform the public of the most recent inspection results.

**PLACARDS** A **GREEN** placard will be posted when no more than one major violation is observed during a routine inspection. The major violation must be corrected at the time of inspection.

A **YELLOW** placard will be posted when a major violation remains uncorrected after a routine inspection or when two or more major violations are observed during a routine inspection, if corrected or not at the time of inspection. A follow-up inspection will be conducted within two business days to ensure compliance. If no major violations exist, a green placard will be posted.

A **RED** placard will be posted when an imminent health hazard is observed during an inspection or when the permit is suspended. Examples include: sewage overflow, no hot water, rodent/vermin infestation, or severe unsanitary conditions. The red placard must remain posted and facility closed until a follow-up inspection is conducted to confirm the imminent health hazard no longer exists.