



Environmental Health Services Division

SANITATION BRANCH

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 to indicate 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 critical violation is observed during a routine inspection. The critical violation must be corrected at the time of inspection.

A **YELLOW** placard will be posted when a critical violation remains uncorrected after a routine inspection or when two or more critical 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 critical 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, 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.