Rules and Regulations: Where do you Start?

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National Value Added Agriculture Conference
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Hosted by Iowa State University and University of Illinois
Drake Ag Law Center

- Provides opportunities to study how the legal system shapes our food and agriculture systems

- Supports courses, publications, conferences, research initiatives, certification program in food and agricultural law

- My role: to help grow the Iowa food economy

- www.law.drake.edu/aglaw
Coyote Run Farm
Lacona, IA—Marion County

Coyote Run Farm: Restoring a 110 acre farm into a profit center through relational marketing and sustainable agriculture

- Fruits, vegetable, cut flowers, plants
- Pasture poultry
- Specialty beef
- Hay, horses, mules
Iowa Network For Community Agriculture

INCA aims to promote relationships among people who are developing sustainable local food sources that are safe and healthy for people, all creatures, and the land.

www.growinca.org
Local and Regional Foods

Perceptions about Local Foods

- Trendy/Popular/Hot
- Healthy
- Sustainably grown
- Local—food miles, carbon footprint
- Quality

$881,000
27 Institutions
2006

Drake University Agricultural Law Center
How to Frame Your Question

• “Why can’t I sell milk off of my farm?”

• “I want to milk cows and bottle the milk on my farm. I plan to sell it at an on farm store and wholesale to grocery stores. Who do I need to talk with so I’m complying with the regulations and acquiring the necessary licenses?”
Who Do You Contact?

- City Zoning
- County Zoning
- Department of Public Health
- Department of Inspections and Appeals
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Revenue
- Department of Workforce Development
In addition to the county health departments depicted in the map above, DIA has contracts with five municipal health departments to conduct inspections in the following cities:

1. City of Ames
2. City of Council Bluffs
3. City of Dubuque
4. City of Muscatine
5. City of Ottumwa (including Wapello County)
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Processing

• Is it a federal, state, or local issue?

• Who do you contact?

• How is the activity defined and who defines it?

• Does scale matter?
Distribution

- Is it a federal, state, or local issue?
- Who do you contact?
- How is the activity defined and who defines it?
- Does scale matter?
Food Safety

• Is it a federal, state, or local issue?

• Who do you contact?

• How is the activity defined and who defines it?

• Does scale matter?
Labeling

- Is it a federal, state, or local issue?
- Who do you contact?
- How is the activity defined and who defines it?
- Does scale matter?
Promotion

• Is it a federal, state, or local issue?

• Who do you contact?

• How is the activity defined and who defines it?

• Does scale matter?
Insurance

• Is it a federal, state, or local issue?

• Who do you contact?

• How is the activity defined and who defines it?

• Does scale matter?
Thank You!

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