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SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS
COMMUNICATIONS

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sedgwick County Health Department Reports Recall of Castleberry's Food Items

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) – The Sedgwick County Health Department is alerting citizens of a product recall by Castleberry's Food Company. Sedgwick County citizens should be made aware that some of the recalled items were sold at local retailers. Castleberry's produces foods including stew, hash and canned chili.

The recalled items may contain botulism toxins and are thus dangerous to consumers. Two confirmed botulism cases and two potential botulism cases (not in Kansas) involving individuals who ate hot dog chili sauce products are being investigated. No new cases have been reported since the recall was announced on July 18, 2007.

Castleberry's has expanded the recall to include many products and brands, including Kroger chili and beef stew. For a complete list of recalled items, go to www.castleberrys.com.

If you have an unopened can of one of the recalled products, do not open it. Place it in a sealable bag, wrap two plastic bags around it, and tape it tightly. Dispose in household trash out of reach of humans and pets. Wash hands with soap and running water for at least 2 minutes. If you have an open can of a recalled product, wear gloves and eye

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protection and proceed with the same process as explained for the unopened can.

If you have eaten the affected product and are experiencing the following symptoms, you should seek immediate medical care:

- Double or blurred vision
- Drooping eyelids
- Slurred speech
- Difficulty swallowing
- Muscle weakness.

If untreated, the illness may progress from head to toe, with paralysis of the face, arms, breathing muscles, trunk, and legs. Symptoms generally begin 18 to 36 hours after eating a contaminated food item, but they can occur as early as 6 hours or as late as 10 days. If you ate one of the recalled products more than 2 weeks ago, and have no signs or symptoms of botulism, you are very unlikely to develop botulism. You do not need to do anything but dispose of the item.

To get money back for recalled items, consumers should submit a refund request to Castleberry's via the "Recall Refund Request Form" on the Castleberry's Web site (<http://www.castleberrys.com>) or mail the request to:

Castleberry's Food Recall Refund
P.O. Box 85362
San Diego, CA 92186-5362

Be sure to include a short note with your name, address, telephone number, the product(s) name, the UPC barcode numbers, and the amount you paid for the product(s).

Local retailers may also offer refunds. Be sure to check with the store the item was purchased at for specific details.

For more information on botulism, go to www.sedgwickcounty.org, where a fact sheet on the disease is posted.

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