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## Press Release

### **SIouxLAND DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT RESPONDS TO REPORT OF MOUSE FOUND IN A CUSTOMER'S ORDER AT LOCAL RESTAURANT**

**Sioux City, IA, February 13, 2020:** On Wednesday, February 12, officials at Siouxland District Health Department (SDHD) received a complaint from a citizen stating that a mouse had been found in their food while eating at a local food establishment. Pictures of the incident were posted online, which generated many comments and reactions from the public.

SDHD can confirm that a mouse was found at the restaurant and was associated with the complainant's meal. However, how the animal got into the food is not known at this time.

Upon receiving the complaint yesterday, SDHD went directly to food establishment to conduct an inspection. After the inspection, at SDHD's recommendation, the restaurant agreed to voluntarily close for deep cleaning, discarding of any potentially contaminated food, and pest control efforts.

Today, SDHD inspectors returned to the restaurant to ensure that all public health recommendations associated with the complaint were implemented prior to re-opening for business. Inspectors found the restaurant to have cooperated fully, having implemented all recommended actions. Therefore, the restaurant is now free to reopen to the public.

Pest control in food establishments is just one of many crucial aspects to maintaining food safety. SDHD checks for compliance with safe food practices on a routine basis as well as when complaints from the public are reported.

For any inquiries related to this release please contact Tyler Brock using the information listed above.

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#### **About Siouxland District Health Department**

Siouxland District Health Department, the public health agency for Woodbury County, is creating "A healthy community for all" by "leading a collaborative effort to build a healthier community through improved access to health services, education and disease prevention." They provide public health nursing, nutrition, laboratory, health planning and environmental services. For more information on Siouxland District Health Department visit [www.siouxlanddistricthealth.org](http://www.siouxlanddistricthealth.org).