

## **Patrick Kennelly**

### Patrick Kennelly, Food Safety Section Chief

Patrick Kennelly is Chief of the Food Safety Section for the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Food and Drug Branch. As Chief, Patrick is responsible for overseeing the Department's statewide food safety operations which include inspection and investigation of processed food manufacturers, distributors, water bottling plants and vended water operations; investigation of food-borne illness outbreaks, food contamination and tampering events, and food recalls; and development and delivery of food safety education to the food processing industry.

Patrick serves as a Steering Committee member on the California Food Emergency Response Team (CalFERT), which is a joint US Food and Drug Administration-CDPH rapid response team that responds to food-borne illness outbreaks, reports of product contamination and product tamperings. Patrick has directed and overseen numerous complex food-borne illness outbreak investigations, environmental investigations, tracebacks and food recalls during his tenure. Patrick serves a member of the California Food and Agriculture Defense Steering Committee and the California Organic Advisory Board.

Patrick has previously served as the President of the Western Association of Food and Drug Officials (WAFDO) and currently serves on the Board as a Member at Large. Patrick serves as a Governing Council Member and Co-Chair for FDA's Partnership for Food Protection (PFP), as an Advisory Board Member for the Western Institutes for Food Safety and Security, and as an Advisory Board Member for the Center for Produce Safety.