

SBAR –DHSS Activities within Local Jurisdiction

1. **Situation:** DHSS field staff from the various divisions, offices, bureaus etc. (not just BEHS) sometimes conducts operations within counties without notifying the LPHA. It could be inspections, assessments, surveys, newspaper ads.
2. **Background:** Most of the time there is no big impact, usually just anecdotal info from individual contacts with citizens during our own operations. Individual citizens lump county and state into one concept of “the health department” Examples: “The Health Department was already here and did this, and said this” “They were already here, why are you inspecting again so soon?”

This year there was a large political situation regarding mold in one of our towns. BEE had sent a staffer to do an assessment; we were neither notified nor provided results. Misinformation ensued and was even featured in the local paper and caused even more turmoil for affected city personnel. After several inquiries, BEE called and apologized, stating it was in policy to notify locals first and shared the results.

Inspections are occasionally conducted on food storage and manufacturing operations with absolutely no information or feedback given to the local.

3. **Assessment: (Your assessment about the situation and description of project or program that might address the situation.)** This is not an indictment of any individual office, division, bureau etc. It would just be good to know what is going on within the local jurisdiction to avoid redundancy, confusion, to offer educational opportunities for our own staff, and for data or assessment purposes.
4. **Recommendation/ Request : (policy, personnel, other resources needed to accomplish the project or program)** Any subdivision of DHSS that conducts activities within a county jurisdiction should notify that jurisdiction first. Appropriate programmatic staff from the LPHA should be invited to accompany the state individual or team for educational and networking purposes. This should be Policy and should be followed since it is apparently not just common courtesy.