

County of Santa Clara

Department of Environmental Health

Consumer Protection Division

1555 Berger Drive, Suite 300, San Jose, CA 95112-2716

Phone (408) 918-3400 www.ehinfo.org



OFFICIAL INSPECTION REPORT

Facility FA0282643 - CHEF ZHAO KITCHEN		Site Address 2180 W BAYSHORE RD 120, PALO ALTO, CA 94303		Inspection Date 09/17/2025		Placard Color & Score GREEN 91		
Program PR0423988 - FOOD PREP / FOOD SVC OP 6-25 EMPLOYEES RC 3 - FP14			Owner Name CHEF ZHAO KITCHEN INC		Inspection Time 14:25 - 15:50			
Inspected By TRAVIS KETCHU		Inspection Type ROUTINE INSPECTION		Consent By WILL ZHAO				FSC Luyuan Chen 7/3/2026

RISK FACTORS AND INTERVENTIONS		IN	OUT		COS/SA	N/O	N/A	PBI
			Major	Minor				
K01	Demonstration of knowledge; food safety certification	X						
K02	Communicable disease; reporting/restriction/exclusion	X						S
K03	No discharge from eyes, nose, mouth	X						
K04	Proper eating, tasting, drinking, tobacco use	X						
K05	Hands clean, properly washed; gloves used properly	X						
K06	Adequate handwash facilities supplied, accessible	X						
K07	Proper hot and cold holding temperatures	X						S
K08	Time as a public health control; procedures & records						X	
K09	Proper cooling methods			X	X			
K10	Proper cooking time & temperatures	X						
K11	Proper reheating procedures for hot holding	X						
K12	Returned and reservice of food	X						
K13	Food in good condition, safe, unadulterated	X						
K14	Food contact surfaces clean, sanitized	X						
K15	Food obtained from approved source	X						
K16	Compliance with shell stock tags, condition, display						X	
K17	Compliance with Gulf Oyster Regulations						X	
K18	Compliance with variance/ROP/HACCP Plan						X	
K19	Consumer advisory for raw or undercooked foods						X	
K20	Licensed health care facilities/schools: prohibited foods not being offered						X	
K21	Hot and cold water available	X						
K22	Sewage and wastewater properly disposed	X						
K23	No rodents, insects, birds, or animals	X						

GOOD RETAIL PRACTICES		OUT	COS
K24	Person in charge present and performing duties		
K25	Proper personal cleanliness and hair restraints		
K26	Approved thawing methods used; frozen food		
K27	Food separated and protected	X	
K28	Fruits and vegetables washed		
K29	Toxic substances properly identified, stored, used		
K30	Food storage: food storage containers identified	X	
K31	Consumer self service does prevent contamination		
K32	Food properly labeled and honestly presented		
K33	Nonfood contact surfaces clean		
K34	Warewash facilities: installed/maintained; test strips		
K35	Equipment, utensils: Approved, in good repair, adequate capacity		
K36	Equipment, utensils, linens: Proper storage and use		
K37	Vending machines		
K38	Adequate ventilation/lighting; designated areas, use		
K39	Thermometers provided, accurate		
K40	Wiping cloths: properly used, stored		
K41	Plumbing approved, installed, in good repair; proper backflow devices		
K42	Garbage & refuse properly disposed; facilities maintained		
K43	Toilet facilities: properly constructed, supplied, cleaned		
K44	Premises clean, in good repair; Personal/chemical storage; Adequate vermin-proofing	X	
K45	Floor, walls, ceilings: built, maintained, clean		
K46	No unapproved private home/living/sleeping quarters		
K47	Signs posted; last inspection report available		

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K48	Plan review	
K49	Permits available	
K58	Placard properly displayed/posted	

Comments and Observations

Major Violations

No major violations were observed during this inspection.

Minor Violations

K09 - 3 Points - Improper cooling methods; 114002, 114002.1

Inspector Observations: Measured cooked veggies at 90 F within a closed to-go container within the 2 door upright display refrigerator.

[CA] Properly store cooling foods in such a way to allow proper air flow.

[COS] Cooked veggies uncovered and relocated to the walk in refrigerator to be cooled to and held at 41 F or below.

Measured cooked pork within covered bowls at 110 F stacked on a rack next to the food preparation sink.

[CA] After heating or hot holding, Potentially Hazardous Foods (PHFs) shall be cooled rapidly from 135°F to 70°F within 2 hours and from 70°F to 41°F within 4 hours. Approved cooling methods include: 1) Placing the food in shallow pans 2) Separating the food into thinner or smaller portions. 3) Using rapid cooling equipment (Ex. blast chiller) 4) Using containers that facilitate heat transfer (ex. stainless steel) 5) Adding ice as an ingredient. 6) Using ice paddles 7) Using an ice bath and stirring frequently 8) Accordance with a HACCP plan. Cooling foods shall have enough space around the containers for cold air to circulate, be loosely covered, or uncovered and stirred as frequently needed to evenly cool.

[COS] Bowls rearranged and placed on a single layer to allow for rapid cooling.

K27 - 2 Points - Food not separated and unprotected; 113984(a-d,f), 113986, 114060, 114067(a,d,e,j), 114069(a,b), 114077, 114089.1(c), 114143(c)

Inspector Observations: Container of wood ear mushroom stored on the drain board of the 3 compartment warewashing sink.

[CA] All food shall be separated and protected from possible contamination. Food preparation shall be accomplished at the dedicated food preparation sink.

Employees cutting green beans at a table within the customer dining room.

[CA] Food preparation shall only occur in approved areas.

[COS] Green bean preparation relocated to the kitchen.

K30 - 2 Points - Food storage containers are not identified; 114047, 114049, 114051, 114053, 114055, 114067(h), 114069 (b)

Inspector Observations: Single use food containers stored on the floor of the dry storage room.

[CA] Food shall be stored at least 6 inches above the floor to prevent contamination.

K44 - 2 Points - Premises not clean, not in good repair; No personal/chemical storage; inadequate vermin-proofing; 114067(j), 114123, 114143 (a,b), 114256, 114256.1, 114256.2, 114256.4, 114257, 114257.1, 114259, 114259.2, 114259.3, 114279, 114281, 114282

Inspector Observations: Back door to the kitchen left open.

[CA] Provide screen door or keep back door closed at all times to prevent the entrance and harborage of vermin.

Performance-Based Inspection Questions

All responses to PBI questions were satisfactory.

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Measured Observations

Item	Location	Measurement	Comments
dumpling	reach in fridge	36.00 Fahrenheit	
bean sprouts	open top prep fridge	37.00 Fahrenheit	
chicken	2 door prep fridge	40.00 Fahrenheit	
quat sanitizer	3 comp sink	200.00 PPM	
cooked veggies	2 door display fridge	90.00 Fahrenheit	
hot water	3 comp sink	120.00 Fahrenheit	
raw fish	open top prep fridge	39.00 Fahrenheit	
cooked pork	rack	110.00 Fahrenheit	
warm water	hand wash sink	100.00 Fahrenheit	
rice	warmer	156.00 Fahrenheit	
cooked pork	walk in fridge	40.00 Fahrenheit	
dumpling	walk in fridge	37.00 Fahrenheit	

Overall Comments:

When required to determine compliance, a single reinspection will be conducted without additional charge. If subsequent reinspections are required, an hourly fee (minimum one hour) at the current rate approved by the Board of Supervisors will be assessed for each and every reinspection until the necessary changes or corrections are made. Unless otherwise noted by the inspector, all violations are to be corrected no later than **10/1/2025**. Any major change in menu or any change in ownership must have prior approval by this Department. This may require structural and/or equipment changes or remodeling to accommodate new operations.

Legend:

[CA]	Corrective Action
[COS]	Corrected on Site
[N]	Needs Improvement
[NA]	Not Applicable
[NO]	Not Observed
[PBI]	Performance-based Inspection
[PHF]	Potentially Hazardous Food
[PIC]	Person in Charge
[PPM]	Part per Million
[S]	Satisfactory
[SA]	Suitable Alternative
[TPHC]	Time as a Public Health Control



Received By: Will Zhao
PIC
Signed On: September 17, 2025