

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 FA0211198 - SANTA FE TAQUERIA		Site Address 942 S WHITE RD, SAN JOSE, CA 95127		Inspection Date 02/03/2026		Placard Color & Score GREEN 87		
Program PR0301361 - FOOD PREP / FOOD SVC OP 6-25 EMPLOYEES RC 3 - FP14			Owner Name SANTA FE MERCADOS INC		Inspection Time 14:45 - 15:40			
Inspected By MAMAYE KEBEDE		Inspection Type ROUTINE INSPECTION		Consent By MARICELA				FSC Juan Mendoza 6/21/2028

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				
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						S
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		
K28	Fruits and vegetables washed		
K29	Toxic substances properly identified, stored, used		
K30	Food storage: food storage containers identified		
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		X
K40	Wiping cloths: properly used, stored		
K41	Plumbing approved, installed, in good repair; proper backflow devices		X
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		
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

K07 - 3 Points - Improper hot and cold holding temperatures; 11387.1, 113996, 113998, 114037, 114343(a)

Inspector Observations: Frozen potato stored on the ice bath was measured at 49 oF.

[CA] All cold-held food products must be stored at or below 41 oF or at or above 235 oF.

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

Inspector Observations: Cooling of freshly cooked rice, beef stew, and beans was done at room temperature.

[CA] All hot-held food products must be cooled from 135 OF to 70 OF within the first two hours and from 70 OF to 41 OF with another four hours by:

(1) Placing the FOOD in shallow pans.

(2) Separating the FOOD into smaller or thinner portions.

(3) Using rapid cooling EQUIPMENT.

(4) Using containers that facilitate heat transfer.

(5) Adding ice as an ingredient.

(6) Using ice paddles.

(7) Inserting appropriately designed containers in an ice bath and stirring frequently.

The manager demonstrated the proper cooling procedure using an ice bath and smaller portions.

K11 - 3 Points - Improper reheating procedures for hot holding; 114014, 114016

K39 - 2 Points - Thermometers missing or inaccurate; 114157, 114159

Inspector Observations: There was not a functional prob thermometer to measure the internal temperature of the cold and hot food products.

[CA] Provide an approved prob type thermometer and use it with regular calibration and sanitization.

K41 - 2 Points - Plumbing unapproved, not installed, not in good repair; improper backflow devices; 114171, 114189.1, 114190, 114192, 114193, 114193.1, 114199, 114201, 114269

Inspector Observations: The drainpipe from the ice machine is immersed inside the floor sink.

[CA] To prevent possible contamination from backup of sewage, please provide at least one inch air gap between the floor sink and the drainpipes.

Performance-Based Inspection Questions

All responses to PBI questions were satisfactory.

Measured Observations

Item	Location	Measurement	Comments
Cheese	Preparation fridge	39.00 Fahrenheit	
Chlorine	Three compartment sink	100.00 PPM	
Rice	Steam table	145.00 Fahrenheit	
Beans	Steam table	168.00 Fahrenheit	
Pork	Steam table	158.00 Fahrenheit	
Shell eggs	Upright fridge	40.00 Fahrenheit	
Hot water	Three compartment sink	130.00 Fahrenheit	
Beef	Steam table	150.00 Fahrenheit	

Overall Comments:

Note: Food safety manager certificate. Juan Mendoza - 6/21/2028

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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 2/17/2026. 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

Cynthia Ortiz

Received By: Cynthia Ortiz
Assistant Manager
Signed On: February 03, 2026