

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 FA0213757 - EL SABOR DE MERCEDES		Site Address 195 E MAUDE AV, SUNNYVALE, CA 94085		Inspection Date 01/21/2025		Placard Color & Score GREEN 90		
Program PR0306214 - FOOD PREP / FOOD SVC OP 0-5 EMPLOYEES RC 3 - FP11			Owner Name EL SABOR DE MERCEDES IN		Inspection Time 13:00 - 14:30			
Inspected By LAWRENCE DODSON		Inspection Type ROUTINE INSPECTION		Consent By IBEL GUARDADO				FSC Roxana Gutierrez 1/07/2029

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						
K03	No discharge from eyes, nose, mouth	X						S
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						
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						
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	X	
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	X	
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		
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

K04 - 3 Points - Improper eating, tasting, drinking or tobacco use in food preparation area; 113977

Inspector Observations: Open employee beverage found on food preparation table.

[CA] No employee shall eat or drink in the food prep, food contact storage, or food storage areas, use designated area.

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

Inspector Observations: Ice bath is used for cooling yet PHF is placed in deep containers and not fully submerged in ice.

[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.

K26 - 2 Points - Unapproved thawing methods used; frozen food; 114018, 114020, 114020.1

Inspector Observations: Frozen beef found thawing at ambient temperature (preparation table).

[CA] Frozen potentially hazardous food shall only be thawed in one of the following ways: 1) under refrigeration that maintains the food temperature at 41°F or below, 2) completely submerged under potable running water for a period not to exceed two hours at a water temperature of 70°F or below, and with sufficient water velocity to agitate and flush off loose particles into the sink drain, 3) in a microwave oven if immediately followed by immediate preparation, 4) as part of a cooking process.

K36 - 2 Points - Equipment, utensils, linens: Improper storage and use; 114074, 114081, 114119, 114121, 114161, 114178, 114179, 114083, 114185, 114185.2, 114185.3, 114185.4, 114185.5

Inspector Observations: Clean utensils found stored on preparation table with used dishware.

Performance-Based Inspection Questions

All responses to PBI questions were satisfactory.

Measured Observations

Item	Location	Measurement	Comments
water	hand wash sink	100.00 Fahrenheit	
cooked rice	hot holding unit	138.00 Fahrenheit	
walk-in refrigerator	storage	34.00 Fahrenheit	
pico de gallo	preparation refrigerator	41.00 Fahrenheit	
beef	hot holding unit	141.00 Fahrenheit	
sanitizer concentration	3 compartment sink	200.00 PPM	quaternary ammonium
water	3 compartment sink	128.00 Fahrenheit	
cooked rice	rear preparation table	141.00 Fahrenheit	cooling/active preparation
black beans	hot holding unit	148.00 Fahrenheit	
sanitizer concentration	mechanical dishwasher	50.00 PPM	
raw shrimp	drawer refrigerator	38.00 Fahrenheit	
shredded cheese	preparation refrigerator	40.00 Fahrenheit	

Overall Comments:

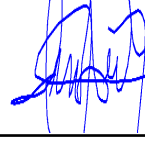
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When required to determine compliance, a single reinspection will be conducted without additional charge. If subsequent reinspections are required, an hourly fee (minimum one hour) at the current rate approved by the Board of Supervisors will be assessed 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 2/4/2025. 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: Ibel Guardado
PIC
Signed On: January 21, 2025