REAGAN-UDALL FOUNDATION for the Food and Drug Administration

Front-of-Package Nutrition Labeling

November 16
2:30 PM - 5:00 PM Eastern

Speaker Bios

Speakers

Robert M. Califf MD, MACC
Commissioner of Food and Drugs
U.S. Food & Drug Administration

Dr. Robert M. Califf is Commissioner of Food and Drugs. President Joe Biden nominated Dr. Califf to head the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and Dr. Califf was sworn in on February 17, 2022. Previously, Dr. Califf served as Commissioner of Food and Drugs from February 2016 to January 2017. As the top official of the FDA, Dr. Califf is committed to strengthening programs and policies that enable the agency to carry out its mission to protect and promote the public health. Dr. Califf served as the FDA's Deputy Commissioner for Medical Products and Tobacco from February 2015 until his first appointment as Commissioner in February 2016.

Prior to rejoining the FDA, Dr. Califf was head of medical strategy and Senior Advisor at Alphabet Inc., contributing to strategy and policy for its health subsidiaries Verily Life Sciences and Google Health. He joined Alphabet in 2019, after serving as a professor of medicine and vice chancellor for clinical and translational research at Duke University. He also served as director of the Duke Translational Medicine Institute and founding director of the Duke Clinical Research Institute. A nationally and internationally recognized expert in cardiovascular medicine, health outcomes research, health care quality, and clinical research, Dr. Califf has led many landmark clinical trials and is one of the most frequently cited authors in biomedical science, with more than 1,300 publications in the peer-reviewed literature.

Dr. Califf became a Member of the National Academy of Medicine (formerly known as the Institute of Medicine (IOM)) in 2016, one of the highest honors in the fields of health and medicine. Dr. Califf has served on numerous IOM committees, and he has served as a member of the FDA Cardiorenal Advisory Panel and the FDA Science Board's Subcommittee on Science and Technology. Dr. Califf has also served on the Board of Scientific Counselors for the National Library of Medicine, as well as on advisory committees for the National Cancer Institute, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the Council of the National Institute on Aging.

While at Duke, Dr. Califf led major initiatives aimed at improving methods and infrastructure for clinical research, including the Clinical Trials Transformation Initiative (CTTI), a public-private partnership co-founded by the FDA and Duke. He also served as the principal investigator for Duke's Clinical and Translational Science Award and the NIH Health Care Systems Research Collaboratory Coordinating Center.

Dr. Califf is a graduate of Duke University School of Medicine. He completed a residency in internal medicine at the University of California, San Francisco and a fellowship in cardiology at Duke.

James Jones, MS
Deputy Commissioner for Human Foods
U.S. Food & Drug Administration

James "Jim" Jones joined the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in September 2023 as the agency's first Deputy Commissioner for Human Foods.

In this new executive position, which reports directly to the FDA Commissioner, Jones leads the charge in setting and advancing priorities for a proposed, unified Human Foods Program (HFP), which includes food safety, chemical safety and nutrition activities. He will exercise decision-making authority over all HFP entities, including resource allocation, risk-prioritization strategy, policy, major response activities involving human foods, and related Office of Regulatory Affairs activities. He currently oversees the leadership of the agency's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition and Office of Food Policy and Response until the proposed HFP reorganization is implemented.

Jones came to the FDA with intimate knowledge of the foods program, having served on the Reagan-Udall Foundation's Independent Expert Panel External Link Disclaimer that evaluated the program in 2022.

He has decades of leadership experience and a track record of forging partnerships among diverse segments of stakeholders and achieving dynamic results to improve public health.

Jones spent most of his career as a federal regulator of pesticides, toxic substances, chemical safety, and pollution prevention at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and spent much of his more than 30-year tenure involved in leadership and decision-making related to food safety. He held positions of increasing responsibility at EPA and made public health-based decisions grounded in sound science, public policy, and law. As a principal architect of the 2016 overhaul of the Toxic Substances Control Act, Jones led discussions with members of Congress, industry and environmental groups that resulted in a law reshaping how chemical safety is managed in the U.S. He also led several national level sustainability programs, including the Environmental Preferable Purchasing Program and the Presidential Green Chemistry Awards Challenge.

From 2017 to 2020, Jones worked for the Household and Commercial Products Association as Executive Vice President for Strategic Alliances and Industry Relations, forging relationships with a wide variety of stakeholders and leading sustainability and green chemistry efforts. He then ran his own company advising clients on issues related to chemical safety and sustainability.

He holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Maryland, and a master's degree in Economics from the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Lauren Fiechtner, MD, MPH
Director of Nutrition, Division of Gastroenterology and General Academic Pediatrics, MassGeneral for Children
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School
Senior Health and Research Advisor, Greater Boston Food Bank

Dr. Lauren Fiechtner is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School. She is a board-certified pediatrician, pediatric gastroenterologist and nutrition physician, a clinical epidemiologist, obesity and food insecurity researcher. She is the director of the Center for Feeding and Nutrition at Mass General for Children. She also serves as the Senior Health and Research Advisor at the Greater Boston Food Bank. Dr. Fiechtner has extensive expertise in epidemiologic investigations, neighborhood food environment, social determinants of health, health services research, implementation science, direction of randomized controlled trials. She has helped lead several randomized controlled trials to treat childhood obesity in clinic and community settings. She is the principal investigator of multiple grants that seek to implement and disseminate evidence-informed childhood obesity management practices to reduce disparities in childhood obesity. In addition, her work with the Greater Boston Food Bank has sought to improve access to food assistance programs by understanding the prevalence of food insecurity and barriers and facilitators to accessing food pantries and federal food assistance programs.

Nancy Glick
Director, Food and Nutrition Policy
National Consumers League

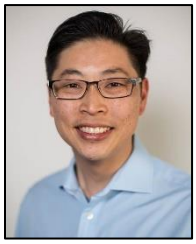
Nancy Glick joined the staff of the National Consumers League as Director of Food and Nutrition Policy in September 2020 after a long career in health and nutrition communications, advocacy, and public policy.

At NCL, she works closely with the executive director and stakeholder organizations to develop policy positions and mount education and advocacy campaigns on key issues of concern to consumers, including food insecurity, food safety, eliminating food waste, food fraud, obesity and diet-related diseases, and improving food and beverage labeling.

Prior to joining NCL, Ms. Glick worked in the public relations field designing and implementing communications, social marketing, disease awareness, healthcare and nutrition advocacy, and public policy programs. From 2009 through mid-2020, she was Director of Health Affairs and Advocacy at the global public relations firm MSL, working with a team of advocacy specialists to assist the firm's clients in forming strategic alliances with health, medical, consumer, and patient groups in the United States and building coalitions to advance nutrition and health care issues.

Before joining MSL, she served in a variety of executive positions at three other leading public relations agencies — Ruder Finn, Porter/Novelli, and Hill and Knowlton, Inc. Ms. Glick was also a press officer at the Food and Drug Administration, where she handled food, cosmetic, drug, and consumer issues and agency announcements about product recalls.

Jeffery Lee, MD
Assistant Medical Director, Facey Medical Group
Past President, LA County Medical Association



Dr. Jeffery Lee was the 150th President of the Los Angeles County Medical Association. LACMA has been a constant voice for the local medical community and is driven by the mission to advocate for quality healthcare and serves the professional needs of our members.

Dr. Lee practices primary care internal medicine in the San Fernando Valley, where he is also the Assistant Medical Director for Facey Medical Group, a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, and is a Certified Professional Coder.

Robin McKinnon, PhD, MPA
Senior Advisor for Nutrition Policy, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
U.S. Food & Drug Administration

Dr. Robin McKinnon is a Senior Advisor for Nutrition Policy at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN). She works to advance FDA's nutrition policy initiatives across CFSAN, including those outlined in the White House National Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Prior to joining FDA, Dr. McKinnon was a Health Policy Specialist at the National Cancer Institute (NCI), National Institutes of Health. At NCI, Dr. McKinnon led policy-relevant research activities on diet, obesity and physical activity. Dr. McKinnon has a doctoral degree in Public Policy and Administration from the George Washington University and a master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard University.

Lilian Tsi Stielstra
Stroke Survivor
Retired Certified Financial Planner

Lilian Tsi Stielstra was a couch potato. But at age 46, that changed.

Waking on a Saturday in 2010 in her San Francisco home, she recalls feeling tired. She brushed it off as stress from her demanding bank sales job.

Walking up the stairs, she felt "pins and needles" in her left leg. A few minutes later, her left arm had the same sensation. Then the left side of her face felt numb.

Her husband, Scott Stielstra, a firefighter and paramedic, bundled her into the car and drove about three blocks to UCSF Medical Center. Her stroke came six months after she was diagnosed with high blood pressure, a leading risk factor for strokes and heart attacks. Tests after the stroke showed that she also had high cholesterol and high triglycerides, other risk factors for heart disease and stroke.

Being an overweight woman with a stressful, sedentary lifestyle also increased her risk of stroke. Although Mrs. Tsi Stielstra, now 59, has no residual effects from the stroke, her neurologist recommended that she walk for 30 minutes a day.

Now she keeps active and she changed her diet, eating more vegetables and grains, and less sugar. She substitutes Greek yogurt for ice cream.

Mrs. Tsi Stielstra also stopped working 15-hour days at her job, where she often was the top salesperson. In 2016, she was No. 7 out of 35 people.

“I just learned to live with that,” she said. “I decided I cannot afford my health to go bad again.” Those changes led to weight loss: about 25 pounds. They also reduced her risk of another stroke.

Moderator

Susan C. Winckler, RPh, Esq.
CEO, Reagan-Udall Foundation for the FDA

Susan C. Winckler is CEO of the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the FDA, the nonprofit organization created by Congress to advance the mission of the FDA. Prior to accepting the Foundation post, she served as President of Leavitt Partners Solutions, a healthcare strategy firm founded by Gov. Michael O. Leavitt, former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Winckler directly advised C-suite executives of a wide range of organizations on public policy and regulation, business strategy, investments, and other major business matters. As Chief of Staff for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (2007-2009), she managed the Commissioner’s Office, served both Republican and Democratic commissioners as their senior-most staff adviser, analyzed complex policy challenges and represented FDA with myriad government entities and external stakeholders. Her earlier career service included more than a decade at the American Pharmacists Association in a series of positions of increasing responsibility.