



County of Riverside
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
 www.rivcoeh.org

FOOD ESTABLISHMENT INSPECTION FORM

FACILITY NAME Casa Mendoza Mexican Grill & Bar				DATE 7/29/2022	TIME IN 9:50 AM	TIME OUT 11:25 AM
ADDRESS 78110 Calle Estado, La Quinta, CA 92253				FACILITY DESCRIPTION Not Applicable		
PERMIT HOLDER Ramiro Mendoza & Martina Mendoza				EMAIL ramiromendoza0@gmail.com		Major Violations 1
PERMIT # PR0066183	EXPIRATION DATE 11/30/2022	SERVICE Routine inspection	REINSPECTION DATE Next Routine	FACILITY PHONE # (760)880-0409	PE 3620	DISTRICT 0038
					INSPECTOR NAME Khrysta Green	Points Deducted 19

The conditions listed below correspond to violations of the California Health and Safety Code and/or Riverside County Ordinances and must be corrected as indicated by the enforcement officer. The Department of Environmental Health appreciates your cooperation.

Failure to correct listed violation(s) prior to the designated compliance date may necessitate an additional reinspection at a charge determined by Riverside County Ordinance 640.

B
SCORE 81

Major / Minor Violations: Major Violations are those that pose an imminent risk to public health and warrant immediate closure of the food facility or immediate correction. Minor Violations are those violations that do not pose an imminent public health risk, but do warrant correction.

GRADE REPRESENTS THE FOLLOWING RANGES: A = 100-90 Passed inspection / meets minimum health standards. B = 89-80 Did not pass inspection / does not meet minimum health standards. C = 79-0 Failed inspection / conditions exist which may pose a potential or actual threat to public health and safety. The facility is required to display a grade card in a conspicuous place selected by the Enforcement Officer. The grade card shall not be concealed and can only be removed or relocated by the Enforcement Officer per County Ordinance 492 / County Code Section 8.40.020

○ In = In compliance
 + COS = Corrected on-site
 ○ N/O = Not observed
 ○ N/A = Not applicable
 ○ OUT = Out of compliance

DEMONSTRATION OF KNOWLEDGE			COS	MAJ	OUT
In	N/A	1. Food safety certification StateFoodSafety, Selenia Zepeda Mendez, exp.			2
EMPLOYEE HEALTH AND HYGIENIC PRACTICES					
In		2. Communicable disease; reporting, restrictions and exclusions		4	
In	N/O	3. No persistent discharge from eyes, nose, and mouth			2
In	N/O	4. Proper eating, tasting, drinking or tobacco use			2
PREVENTING CONTAMINATION BY HANDS					
In	N/O	5. Hands clean and properly washed; gloves used properly		4	2
In		6. Adequate handwashing facilities supplied and accessible			2
TIME AND TEMPERATURE RELATIONSHIPS					
In	N/O	N/A		4	2
In	N/O	N/A		4	2
In	N/O	N/A		4	2
In	N/O	N/A		4	2
In	N/O	N/A		4	2
In	N/O	N/A		4	2
PROTECTION FROM CONTAMINATION					
In	N/O	N/A			2
In		13. Food: unadulterated, no spoilage, no contamination		4	2
In	N/O	N/A		4	2
		14. Food contact surfaces: clean and sanitized 50 ppm chlorine, mechanical/ 100 ppm chlorine, manual /		4	2

FOOD FROM APPROVED SOURCES			COS	MAJ	OUT
In		15. Food obtained from approved sources		4	2
In	N/O	N/A			2
In	N/O	N/A			2
CONFORMANCE WITH APPROVED PROCEDURES					
In		N/A			2
CONSUMER ADVISORY					
In		N/A			1
SCHOOL AND HEALTHCARE PROHIBITED FOODS					
In		N/A		4	2
WATER / HOT WATER					
In		21. Hot and cold water available Water Temperature 120°F		4	2
LIQUID WASTE DISPOSAL					
In		22. Sewage and wastewater properly disposed		4	2
VERMIN					
In		23. No rodents, insects, birds, or animals	+	4	2
In	N/A	24. Vermin proofing, air curtains, self-closing doors			1

SUPERVISION / PERSONAL CLEANLINESS	OUT
25. Person in charge present and performs duties, demonstration of knowledge	2
26. Personal cleanliness and hair restraints	1
GENERAL FOOD SAFETY REQUIREMENTS	
27. Approved thawing methods, frozen food storage	1
28. Food separated and protected from contamination	2
29. Washing fruits and vegetables	1
30. Toxic substances properly identified, stored, used	1
FOOD STORAGE / DISPLAY / SERVICE	
31. Adequate food storage; food storage containers identified	1
32. Consumer self-service	1
33. Food properly labeled; honestly presented; menu labeling	1

EQUIPMENT / UTENSILS / LINENS	OUT
34. Utensils and equipment approved, good repair	1
35. Warewashing: installed, maintained, proper use, test materials	1
36. Equipment / utensils: installed, clean, adequate capacity	1
37. Equipment, utensils, and linens: storage and use	1
38. Adequate ventilation and lighting; designated areas, use	1
39. Thermometers provided and accurate	1
40. Wiping cloths: properly used and stored	1
PHYSICAL FACILITIES	
41. Plumbing: properly installed, good repair	1
42. Refuse properly disposed; facilities maintained	1
43. Toilet facilities: properly constructed, supplied, cleaned	1
44. Premises; personal item storage and cleaning item storage	1

PERMANENT FOOD FACILITIES	OUT
45. Floors, walls, ceilings: good repair / fully enclosed	1
46. Floors, walls, and ceilings: clean	1
47. No unapproved private homes / living or sleeping quarters	1
SIGNS / REQUIREMENTS	
48. Last inspection report available	
49. Food Handler certifications available, current, and complete	1
50. Grade card and signs posted, visible	
COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT	
51. Plans approved / submitted	
52. Permit available / current	
53. Permit suspended / revoked	
54. Voluntary condemnation	
55. Impound	



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4. PROPER EATING, TASTING, DRINKING OR TOBACCO USE

POINTS

2

Inspector Comments: Ensure all food consumption takes place in approved, designated areas, away from food prep areas. Observed the person in charge to be consuming a beverage in the server wait station near the cook line.

Violation Description: No employees shall eat, drink, or smoke in any work area. (113977)

6. ADEQUATE HANDWASHING FACILITIES SUPPLIED & ACCESSIBLE

POINTS

2

Inspector Comments: Observed both handwashing sinks behind the front bar to be obstructed, one by a beverage dunnage rack and the other by a trash bin during inspection. Ensure that all handwashing sinks are unobstructed and available for handwashing at all times.

Violation Description: Adequate facilities exclusively for handwashing shall be provided in food preparation areas and within toilet rooms. Handwashing soap, and towels or drying device, shall be provided in dispensers. Handwashing facilities shall be clean, unobstructed, and accessible at all times for employee use. (113953, 113953.1, 113953.2, 114067(f), 114143 (e))

23. NO RODENTS, INSECTS, BIRDS, OR ANIMALS

⚠ CRITICAL ⚠

POINTS

4

Inspector Comments: Observed one live cockroach on the gasket, on the cold-holding drawer underneath the flat top grill on the cook line. Observed no other roaches (live or dead) throughout facility at time of inspection. Person in charge stated the facility gets treated by a pest control service every week, however, was not able to provide a contract or receipts. Ensure facility is treated for roaches and receipt is sent to this department by 8/5/22. Instructed person in charge that pest control must take place at least every 2 weeks until further notice to eliminate cockroach activity.

Violation Description: Each food facility shall be kept free of vermin. Only approved animals, such as service animals or decorative fish in aquariums, are permitted inside a food facility. (114259.1, 114259.4, 114259.5)

24. VERMIN PROOFING, AIR CURTAINS, SELF-CLOSING DOORS

POINTS

1

Inspector Comments: Discontinue use of fly traps around the facility (over prep sink and near the 3-compartment sink). Eliminate flies from facility by using approved pest control measures.

Violation Description: Each food facility shall be constructed, equipped, maintained, and operated to prevent the entrance and harborage of animals, including birds and vermin. (114259, 114259.2, 114259.3)

27. APPROVED THAWING METHODS USED, FROZEN FOOD STORAGE

POINTS

1

Inspector Comments: Observed several raw shrimp being improperly thawed inside the prep sink, sitting in the sink without running water running. Discontinue this practice. Food shall be thawed by one of the following methods: under refrigeration; completely submerged under cool running water of sufficient velocity to flush loose particles; in microwave oven; during the cooking process.

Violation Description: Food shall be thawed in an approved manner: under refrigeration, completely submerged under cool running water of sufficient velocity to flush loose particles, in microwave oven, during the cooking process. (114018, 114020)

28. FOOD SEPARATED AND PROTECTED FROM CONTAMINATION

POINTS

2

Inspector Comments: *REPEAT VIOLATION*

Observed uncovered food inside reach-in coolers around the facility. Discontinue storage of foods inside coolers uncovered and ensure foods stored inside coolers are covered with a secure, tight fitting lid when not in use to prevent contamination.

Violation Description: All food shall be separated and protected from contamination. (113984, 113986, 114060, 114067(a, d, e), 114069(a, d), 114073, 114077, 114089.1(c), 114143(c))



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31. ADEQUATE FOOD STORAGE; FOOD STORAGE CONTAINERS IDENTIFIED

POINTS

1

Inspector Comments: Observed the following:

- Observed 2 containers of sour cream to be stored inside the walk-in freezer directly on the floor. Discontinue storage of foods in this manner and ensure food is stored at least 6" off of the floor.
- Food containers being stored stacked directly on top of other uncovered food bins containing food(shredded white cheese on top of raw onions in walk-in cooler) . Discontinue this practice. Ensure foods are stored in an approved manner and protected from contamination.

Violation Description: Food shall be stored in approved containers and labeled as to contents. Food shall be stored at least 6" above the floor on approved shelving. (114047, 114049, 114051, 114053, 114055, 114067(h), 114069(b))

34. UTENSILS AND EQUIPMENT APPROVED, GOOD REPAIR

POINTS

1

Inspector Comments: Replace torn gasket at the reach-in cooler underneath the flip-top cooler near the cook line.

Violation Description: All utensils and equipment shall be approved and in good repair. (114130, 114130.1-114130.6, 114132, 114133, 114137, 114175, 114177, 114257)

35. WAREWASHING; INSTALLED, MAINTAINED. PROPER USE, TEST MATERIALS

POINTS

1

Inspector Comments: Sanitizer test strips shall be available at all times to test the sanitizer concentration. Observed no test strips to be available at time of inspection.

Violation Description: Food facilities that prepare food shall have approved warewashing equipment. Testing equipment and materials shall be provided to measure the wash water temperature and applicable sanitization method. (114067(g), 114099, 114099.3, 114099.5, 114101(a), 114101.1, 114101.2, 114103, 114107, 114125)

36. EQUIPMENT / UTENSILS PROPERLY INSTALLED, CLEAN;ADEQUATE CAPACITY

POINTS

1

Inspector Comments: Clean the following:

- Food debris from all gaskets at all coolers around the facility
- Grease accumulation from the exterior of the grease bin in the dumpster area
- Clean soda build-up from inside both soda guns behind the front bar

Violation Description: All utensils and equipment shall be clean and installed in an approved manner. Equipment type and quantity shall be adequate for the operation.(114115, 114130.3, 114139, 114153, 114163, 114165, 114167, 114169, 114175, 114180, 114182, 114257)

38. ADEQUATE VENTILATION & LIGHTING: DESIGNATED AREAS; USE

POINTS

0

Inspector Comments: Note: Repair or replace the non-functional inside the dry storage room.

Violation Description: Mechanical exhaust ventilation shall be provided to remove toxic gases, heat, grease, vapors, and smoke. All areas of a food facility shall have sufficient ventilation to facilitate proper food storage and provide a reasonable condition of comfort for each employee. Toilet rooms shall be vented to the outside air by a screened openable window, an air shaft, or a light-switch activated exhaust fan. Adequate lighting shall be provided in all areas to facilitate cleaning and inspection. Light fixtures in areas where open food is stored, served, prepared, and where utensils are washed shall be of shatterproof construction or protected with light shields. (114149, 114149.1, 114149.2, 114149.3, 114252, 114252.1)

40. WIPING CLOTHS: PROPERLY USED AND STORED

POINTS

1

Inspector Comments: Observed the sanitizing solution in one of the wash cloth buckets behind the front bar at 0 ppm chlorine. Ensure that the sanitizing solution inside all wash cloth buckets is maintained at at least 100 ppm chlorine at all times for adequate sanitizing practices.

Violation Description: Wiping cloths used to clean food spills shall be used only once, unless stored in an approved concentration of sanitizer solution and laundered daily. (114135, 114185.1, 114185.3(d-e))



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42. REFUSE PROPERLY DISPOSED: FACILITIES MAINTAINED

POINTS

0

Inspector Comments: Note: Remove rubbish and large fan from the dumpster area.

Violation Description: All food waste and rubbish shall be kept in leakproof and rodent-proof containers. Containers shall be covered at all times. All waste must be removed and disposed of as frequently as necessary to prevent a nuisance. The exterior premises of each food facility shall be kept clean and free of litter and rubbish. (114244, 114245, 114245.1, 114245.2, 114245.3, 114245.4, 114245.5, 114245.6, 114245.7, 114257.1)

44. PREMISES; PERSONAL ITEM STORAGE AND CLEANING ITEM STORAGE

POINTS

1

Inspector Comments: Observed one personal cell phone stored at the pass-thru window at the server wait station. Discontinue this practice and ensure that all personal items are maintained in lockers or in other approved designated areas.

Violation Description: Lockers or another approved area for personal belongings shall be provided. The premises of each food facility shall be kept clean and free of litter and items that are unnecessary to the operation or maintenance of the facility. At least one janitorial sink with hot and cold running water shall be provided. Cleaning supplies and equipment shall be stored separate from food and food-related areas. Mops shall be stored in such a way that allows air-drying. (114123, 114256, 114256.1, 114256.2, 114256.4, 114257.1, 114279, 114281, 114282)

45. FLOORS, WALLS, CEILING: GOOD REPAIR / FULLY ENCLOSED

POINTS

0

Inspector Comments: Note: Repair broken floor tiles near the 3-compartment sink.

Violation Description: The floors, walls, ceilings finishes must be of an approved material, durable, smooth, nonabsorbent, and easily cleanable. Food facilities shall be fully enclosed. (114143 (d), 114257, 114266, 114268, 114271, 114272)

46. FLOORS, WALLS, AND CEILINGS: CLEAN

POINTS

1

Inspector Comments: Clean the following:

- Trash debris from the floors and corners inside the dry storage room
- Trash debris from the floor and corners behind the front bar

Violation Description: Floors, walls, and ceilings shall be maintained clean. (114257, 114268.1)

Overall Inspection Comments

At this time, this facility has failed to meet the minimum requirements of the California Health and Safety Code (81=B). A re inspection will be set for one week (8/5/22). Ensure violations listed on this report are corrected by this date in order to be re-scored. "B" card posted. "A" card removed. "B" card must remain posted until removed by an employee of this Department. Contact Khrysta Green with any questions at 760-863-8287 or KhGreen@rivco.org.

Due to repeated downgrades within a two year time period, you are required to appear to an administrative hearing at this office on 8/4/22 at 8:30am. Report to: 47950 Arabia Street., Ste A, Indio, CA 92201.

Did you know that effective January 1, 2018, the California Health and Safety Code was amended to make it easier for food facilities to donate food? Please consider donating your excess food product to a local food bank, pantry, or soup kitchen. As a good faith food donor, you are protected from civil and criminal liability if the food product later causes harm to its recipient, unless the injury is a direct result of gross negligence or intentional misconduct in the preparation or handling of the donated food. See Section 171425 of the Civil Code and Sections 114432 to 114434 inclusive of the Health and Safety Code. For more information visit our website at www.rivcoeh.org.



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Signature

Signature not captured due to
COVID 19 pandemic.

Ramiro Mendoza
Person in Charge
07/29/2022

Khrysta Green
Environmental Health Specialist
07/29/2022

REASONS FOR IMMEDIATE CLOSURE OF A FOOD FACILITY

Per California Health and Safety Code Section 114409 (a):
 "If any imminent health hazard is found, unless the hazard is immediately corrected, an enforcement officer may temporarily suspend the permit and order the food facility immediately closed."

A food facility may be closed for any of the following reasons:

- Overflowing sewage (inside or outside the facility)
- No potable water
- No hot water
- No electricity
- Rodent or insect infestation
- Any other conditions at the facility that may create an imminent public health risk

In addition to the reasons above, Per California Health and Safety Code Section 114411:

"The enforcement agency may, after providing opportunity for a hearing, modify, suspend, or revoke a permit for serious or repeated violations of any requirement of this part or for interference in the performance of the duty of the enforcement officer."

No foil or cardboard on shelves!

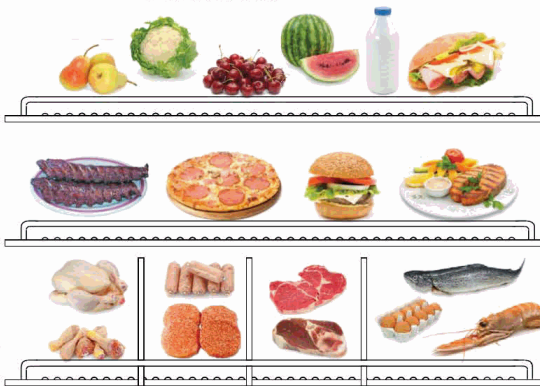


PROPER FOOD STORAGE IN REFRIGERATORS AND FREEZERS

Ready-to-Eat Food

Cooked Food

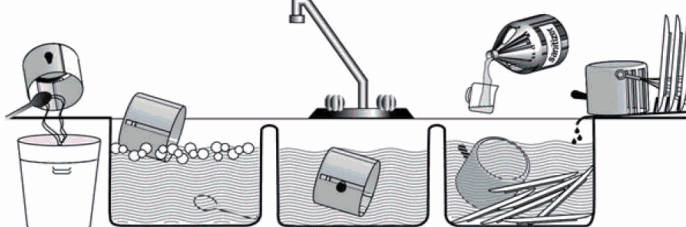
Raw Meat, Raw Eggs



Store cooked and ready-to-eat food above raw food to avoid cross-contamination.
 Keep all food covered to prevent contamination

MANUAL SANITIZING OF EQUIPMENT AND UTENSILS USING A THREE COMPARTMENT SINK

1. **SCRAPE**, clean, or soak items as necessary before washing.
2. **WASH** items in detergent and hot water of at least 100°F in the first sink.
3. **RINSE** items in clear water in the second sink.
4. **SANITIZE** by submerging each item in a sanitizing solution in the third sink. Use one of the following sanitizing methods:
 - 100ppm of a chlorine based sanitizer for a minimum of 30 seconds in the solution
 - 200ppm of a quaternary ammonium based sanitizer for a minimum of 60 seconds in the solution
 - 25ppm of an iodine based sanitizer for a minimum of 60 seconds in the solution
 - Water at a temperature of 171°F for a minimum of 30 seconds in solution
5. **AIR DRY** all items on the drain board.



1 SCRAPE 2 WASH 3 RINSE 4 SANITIZE 5 AIR DRY

PROPER COOLING OF FOOD IN YOUR FACILITY

Potentially hazardous foods should always be rapidly cooled.

TIME IS THE KEY FACTOR IN PROPER COOLING

- Foods must cool from 135°F to 70°F in 2 hours or less
- Foods must cool from 70°F to 41°F in 4 hours or less

Use one of the following methods to cool food properly:

- Break large foods down into smaller portions and place in shallow pans no more than 4 inches deep. Metal pans cool better than glass or plastic pans.
- Add ice as an ingredient to replace water used in the recipe.
- Place foods within an ice bath and frequently stir the foods to speed the cooling process.
- Loosely cover foods so that heat and steam can escape during cooling.
- Arrange containers within a refrigeration unit so that air can flow properly around containers.
- Use special equipment like chill paddles or blast chillers to rapidly bring down food temperature.

Use an accurate thermometer to verify the food is being cooled within proper timeframes.

PROPER FOOD THAWING METHODS



1. Under refrigeration
2. In a microwave oven on "defrost"
3. Submerged under cold running water in an approved preparation sink for no longer than 2 hours
4. As part of the cooking process



INTERNAL COOKING TEMPERATURES

Use a probe thermometer to take internal cooking temperatures

135°F for 15 seconds	145°F for 15 seconds	145°F for 15 seconds	145°F for 15 seconds	155°F for 15 seconds	155°F for 15 seconds	165°F for 15 seconds	165°F for 15 seconds

Food temperature cannot be felt - use your probe thermometer!



FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS CONTACT YOUR LOCAL AREA OFFICE

BLYTE
 260 N Broadway
 Blythe, CA 92225
 Phone 760-921-5090
 Fax 760-921-5085

CORONA
 2275 S Main St #204
 Corona, CA 92882
 Phone 951-273-9140
 Fax 951-520-8319

HEMET
 800 S Sanderson Ave #200
 Hemet, CA 92545
 Phone 951-766-2824
 Fax 951-766-7874

INDIO
 47-950 Arabia St #A
 Indio, CA 92201
 Phone 760-863-8287
 Fax 760-863-8303

MURRIETA
 30135 Technology Dr #250
 Murrieta, CA 92563
 Phone 951-461-0284
 Fax 951-461-0245

PALM SPRINGS
 554 S Paseo Dorotea
 Palm Springs, CA 92264
 Phone 760-320-1048
 Fax 760-320-1470

RIVERSIDE
 4065 County Circle Dr #104
 Riverside, CA 92503
 Phone 951-358-5172
 Fax 951-358-5017