

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES  
MEAT SAFETY ASSURANCE UNIT  
AUSTIN, TEXAS**

<b>MSA DIRECTIVE</b>	<b>20,400.1 Rev. 0</b>	<b>09/09/2020</b>
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**SECURING THE INSPECTION STAMP**

**CHAPTER I – GENERAL**

**I. PURPOSE**

This directive provides instructions to inspection program personnel (IPP) on how to maintain control and security of the Carcass Stamp/Brand used to apply the mark of inspection to carcasses and/or parts. The directive also instructs IPP on how to fill out the MSA 25 Carcass Stamp/Brand Security Log.

**Chapter II – Background**

The Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (Section 21 U.S.C. 604), Texas Meat and Poultry Inspection Act (TMPPIA) (Health and Safety Code (HSC) 433), Texas Administrative Code (25 TAC 221) and meat inspection regulations (9 CFR 316.9(a)) mandate that IPP are to ensure only carcasses and parts (i.e. cattle, sheep, swine, and goats) that have been inspected and passed bear the mark of inspection. Product that is wholesome and not adulterated, and suitable for human consumption, is eligible to bear the mark of inspection as provided by 21 U.S.C. 604, HSC 433, 25 TAC 221.11(8) and 9 CFR 310.8. IPP are required to maintain general supervision of the stamp throughout the slaughter day, ensuring that the mark of inspection is only applied to inspected and passed carcasses and parts.

**Chapter III– INSTRUCTIONS**

**I. Carcass Stamp Security**

- A. IPP shall store the Carcass Stamp/Brand in the locked inspection file cabinet (or other secure container with MSA combination lock) when not in use.
- B. It may be necessary for MSA to change the lock combination for a variety of reasons. IPP are to ensure the inspection file cabinet lock

combination is the latest version so relief inspection personnel and MSA management are able to access the stamp upon arrival.

**NOTE:** MSA Central Office will notify IPP of combination lock updates via email. email.

## **II. MSA 25 - Carcass Stamp/Brand Security Log**

- A. IPP shall use the MSA 25 to document the date and time establishment personnel check out the Carcass Stamp/Brand and have the employee sign for it prior to the stamp being released to the establishment.
- B. The Carcass Stamp/Brand shall be used in the official establishment to apply the mark of inspection at the time each carcass and/or part is inspected and passed.
- C. If IPP leave the establishment for any reason, including lunch breaks, the Carcass stamp shall be returned and locked in the inspection file/stamp cabinet.
- D. IPP shall use the MSA 25 to document the time the Carcass Stamp/Brand is returned by establishment personnel once slaughter inspection is completed for the day/shift.
- E. IPP shall sign the MSA 25 verifying establishment personnel returned the Carcass Stamp/Brand at the end of the day/shift.
- F. The Carcass Stamp/Brand Security Logs shall be maintained in the Inspection files.

## **CHAPTER III – QUESTIONS**

Refer questions through supervisory channels.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James R. Dillon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James R. Dillon, DVM, MPH  
Director, Texas State Meat and Poultry Inspection Program Department of  
State Health Services