



# **International Association for Food Protection**

## **POLICY ON MEETING SAFETY & RESPONSIBILITY OF ATTENDEES**

The International Association for Food Protection (IAFP) is committed to providing a safe, productive, and welcoming environment for all meeting participants and IAFP staff. Participants, including, but not limited to, attendees, speakers, volunteers, exhibitors, IAFP staff, service providers, and others are expected to abide by this Meeting Safety & Responsibility of Attendees Policy. This Policy applies to all IAFP meeting-related events, including those sponsored by organizations other than IAFP but held in conjunction with IAFP events, in public or private facilities.

### **Personal Safety and Security**

IAFP works diligently to provide a safe and secure environment at its meetings and events by working with venue staff to be sure meeting participants are safe. We ask that attendees report any questionable or concerning activity to IAFP staff (see contact information below) so that they can take immediate action. No concern is too small; if you see something, say something.

- Be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- Use the buddy system when walking to and from the event venue or networking event locations at all times, but especially during early morning or late evening hours.
- Do not wear your meeting badge on the street. Take it off as soon as you leave the building or event venue.
- Do not carry a lot of cash or credit cards. Leave cash or valuable items in your hotel room safe.
- Do not leave personal property unattended anywhere, anytime.

If you encounter an emergency situation or if you need immediate assistance, you should ask any IAFP staff member or the on-site security personnel to help you.

## Unacceptable Behavior

- Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to, verbal comments related to gender, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, religion, national origin, etc.
- Inappropriate use of nudity and/or sexual images in public spaces or in presentations will not be tolerated.
- Threatening or stalking an attendee, speaker, volunteer, exhibitor, IAFP staff member, service provider, or other meeting guest is not allowed.
- Harassment, intimidation, or discrimination in any form is not allowed.
- Physical or verbal abuse of an attendee, speaker, volunteer, exhibitor, IAFP staff member, service provider, or other meeting guest is not allowed.
- Disruption of presentations during oral or poster sessions or at other events organized by IAFP at the meeting venue, hotels, or other IAFP-contracted facilities is not allowed.
- Public Intoxication at IAFP hosted events will not be tolerated. IAFP expects participants at our events to drink responsibly. IAFP and meeting host event staff have the right to deny service to participants for any reason, and may ask a participant to leave the event.

IAFP has zero-tolerance for any form of discrimination or harassment at our meetings. If you experience harassment or hear of incidents of unacceptable behavior, IAFP asks that you inform:

**Lisa Garcia, CAE, Executive Director**  
**lgarcia@foodprotection.org or +1 515.238.6408**

In response to any incident of unacceptable behavior, IAFP reserves the right to take action deemed necessary and appropriate, including immediate removal of the offender from the meeting without warning or refund. IAFP reserves the right to prohibit offenders from attending future meetings.

*Adapted from an ASAE document dated 07.06.2017*