

Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries of Denmark

Danish Veterinary and Food Administration

The Flying Squad

Food Science Dialog Hamburg 08. October 2024 Theresa Kjær The Flying Squad

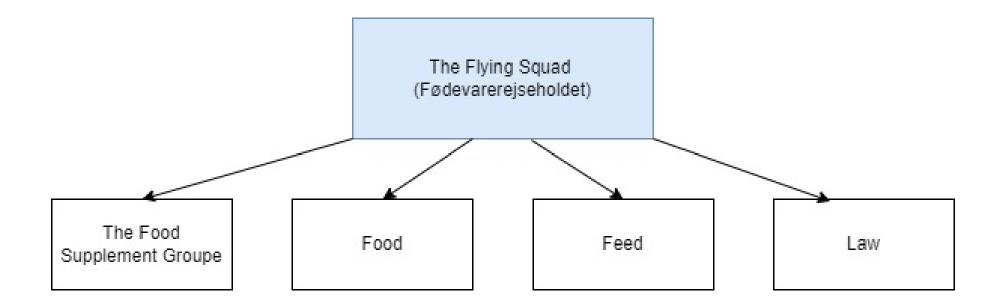
The Flying Squad Founding/History



- In the **spring of 2006**, a Danish documentary broadcast revealed fraud with meat
- The Minister replied with a 10-point plan
- One of the points was the creation of a special Unit "The Flying Squad", focusing on Agri- Food Fraud, starting with 6 people.
- One of the points was **increasing fine sizes**
- Since 2009 The Food Supplement Group is a part off The Flying Squad.
- Since 2015 the tasks in The Flying Squad has also includet **Feed Fraud.**
- Open Sourse Intelligence (**OSINT**) is used in investigations.
- Proactive online food inspections carried out since 2010 (Food Supplements – and later also Agri-Food Fraud/feed)

Fødevarestyrelsen





Cases we look at.

The flying squad responds to suspected fraud.

• The flying squad is an assistance unit for the food and feed units, and goes in depth with the companies where the ordinary food inspection suspects fraud or other illegalities. The flying squad has a strong focus on traceability and therefore typically also checks the companies' accounts, documents and other matters.



- The flying squad reacts, e.g. on reports about unregistered companies, misleading marketing and illegal slaughter, but also checks the established food companies, e.g. in connection with:
- campaigns
- Joint controls with other authorities
- Assistance to the supervisor if there is a need for the flying squad's special skills in accounting and investigation
- Follow-up on reviews about any violations of food law
- Physical checks on the basis of internet checks

Interdisciplinary competencies:

The Flying Squad has experience from:

Law: Defendant Lawyer **Financial:** Accountant

Control:

Police officer, journalist, Butcher, Candidate in food science, Engineer in biotechnology, Supervision technician, Food technician, Veterinarian, fishery inspector and many more



Tools

- Drone
- ACC/ iRASFF
- Traces
- CPR-register
- Motor-register
- OSINT





What could be starting a case



- Coworkers
- Consumer complaints
- The press
- Employees and former employees (Whistle Blowers)
- Ex- wife's
- Competitors
- Our knowledge of the food and feed industry

Whistle Blowers!

Definitions :

Anonymes tip (all Tips)

<u>Whistle Blowers</u>: A person who may be personally affected (lose his job or were secrecy of the particular nature of the relationship is required)

Public Administration Act (National)

<u>§</u> 15 b

The right of access to the file may be limited to the extent that the party's interest in being able to use the case documents to safeguard his / her best interests should be waived for decisive reasons for

1) the prevention, resolution and prosecution of offenses, enforcement and the like, as well as the protection of the accused, witnesses or others in criminal or disciplinary proceedings;

5) private and public interests where secrecy of the particular nature of the relationship is required.

National legislation:

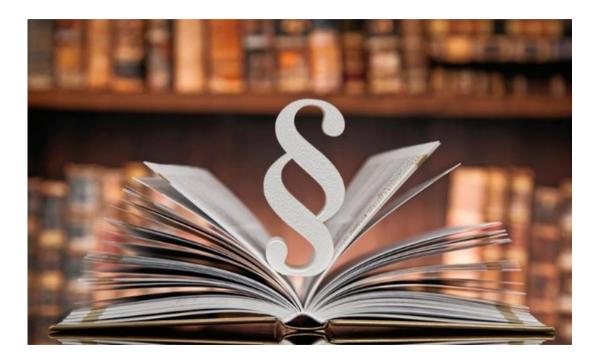
Notice of the Food Act1) Hereby the Food Act is published, cf. Statutory Order No. 46 of 11 January 2017, with the amendments that follow from Act No. 465 of 14 May 2018 and Section 2 of Act No. 721 of 8 June 2018

§53

The Supervisory Authority and persons specially authorized for this shall at all times, against proper identification and without court order, have access to public and private property, premises, means of transport, business books, papers, etc.

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Pcs. 2 If necessary, the police provide assistance.

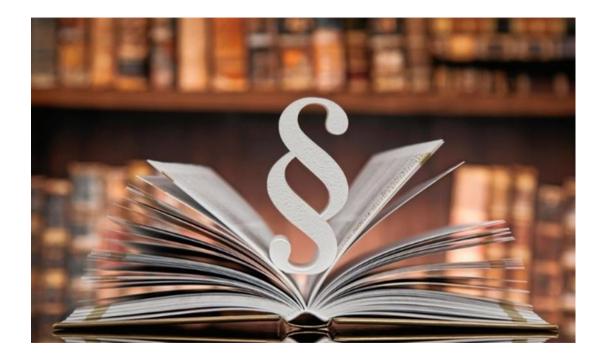


§ 54.

À food business shall, at the request of the supervisory authorities, provide all information, including on financial and accounting matters that are relevant to the conduct of the inspection, as well as provide the supervisory authorities with the necessary assistance for checking, sampling, copying and handing over of written material and free of charge.

§54a

The Minister for the Environment and Food may obtain the information from other public authorities necessary to verify compliance with food law.



Peneltys

REGULATIONS

REGULATION (EU) 2017/625 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 15 March 2017 (OCR)

1.Member States shall lay down the rules on penalties applicable to infringements of this Regulation and take all measures necessary to ensure that they are implemented.

- Seizure
- Prohibition on sale (For the purpose of destruction)
- Administrative
 Penalties (Fines)
- Day fines and corporate quarantine
- Pass the case to the police
- Economic crime. (NSK)



Collaboration

Authorities we conducts controls with:

- Police
- Border inspection
- Tax administration
- Center against human trafficking
- And 12 other

Authorities we collaborate with:

- Interpol / Europol
- The Danish Business board
- And 8 other



Working Groups / Initiatives / Operations / Meeting forums we participate in:

- NAFIQ
- EMPACT
- Nordic E-commerce
- SBS Groupe for strategic combat against fraud.
- And 26 other

Cases from Customs

- Vitamins and minerals
- CBD

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• Other products

Food supplements

Reporting from Customs



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Possible counterfeits



Benefits

- Equal conditions of competition. Companyes can also be whistle blowers.
- Gives multiple results on the same check (only one check, les time used for the company)
- Strategic fight against fraud.
- Can do in-depth inspections, handel complicated cases.
- Work as a link between autorities.
- Can be used to uncover a range of violations in a specific area.

Challanges

Cost more mony



- Need for a set of rules, That makes it possible to pursue the fraudsters.
- Work for good cooperation with colleagues in the individual departments in the ministry af food, agriculture and Fisheries of Denmark

Questions



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