## **Compliance & Enforcement/Appeals Summary** Reporting Period: Fiscal Year (FY) 2016

Se Mrb	A Den all the comment				
	b . 6		The second second	the age that	A CONTRACTOR
COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT: OVERALL SUMMARY					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY 16 Summary (Oct 2015 - Sept 2016)
Incoming Complaints	121	121	135	122	499
Completed Complaint Reviews and Investigations	82	93	76	106	357
APPEALS: OVERALL SUMMARY <sup>1</sup> (Refer	to <u>NOP 4011</u>	: Adverse Act	ion Appeal P	Process for m	ore information)
Number of Incoming	4	8	5	15	32
Appeals by Disposition					
Decisions	6	0	1	1	8 (Q1: includes 5 received in FY15 and 1 in FY 16)
Dismissals	0	2	0	1	3
Referrals	0	0	0	1	1 (Q4: referred to CASOP <sup>2</sup> )
Closures <sup>3</sup>	6	3	1	4	14 (Q1: includes 4 received in FY15 and 2 in FY 16)
SUMMARY OF INITIAL ACTIONS TAKEN					
Cease & Desist Orders	12	7	4	8	31
Notices of Warning	23	33	23	32	111
Investigation Referrals	13	18	14	13	58
SUMMARY OF DISPOSITIONS (All NOP)					
Total # of Settlement Agreements <sup>4</sup>	5	2	7	5	19 (Q3: includes 1 received in FY15)
Total # of Consent Decisions	1	0	0	0	1
Total Amount Civil Penalties Levied <sup>5</sup>	\$34,750	\$16,500	\$341,000	\$5,500	\$397,750
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING NOTES	5				

1. On March 30, 2016, Bernard Saul of Bliss, Idaho, pleaded guilty to wire fraud and money laundering in connection with the sale of conventional alfalfa seed as organic. The National Organic Program and the Idaho State Department of Agriculture assisted the USDA Office of Inspector General with the investigation.

2. On April 1, 2016, a USDA Administrative Law Judge entered a consent decision regarding the sale of agricultural products as organic without certification by Yorgo Foods, Inc. (Yorgo), of Manchester, New Hampshire. Per the decision, Yorgo agreed to a 3-year suspension of its organic certification and a civil penalty of \$880,000, with \$540,000 held in abeyance, provided it complies with the OFPA and the USDA organic regulations during the period of suspension.

## **General Notes:**

- 1. Total reflects appeals closed in FY 2016 regardless of when cases were initiated.
- 2. California State Organic Program (CASOP) oversees organic enforcement in the state of California, and is currently the only approved State Organic Program in the United States.
- 3. All closures in Q4 were the result of the certifier reaching a settlement agreement with the operator to bring the operator into compliance.
- 4. Not all settlement agreements include civil penalties and not all civil penalties were levied via settlement agreements.
- 5. Total reflects the amount of penalties initially levied. Amounts may change during negotiation of settlements and individual penalty payments may be outstanding.