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For Immediate Release

FDA Scientist Receives Prestigious Award from Society of Toxicology

Reston, VA (January 16, 2009)—Dr. P. Michael Bolger, (Chief, Chemical Hazards Assessment Team) has been awarded the prestigious Arnold J. Lehman Award by the Society of Toxicology for his major contributions to risk assessment and the regulation of food-borne chemical agents.

Dr. Bolger is an internationally recognized expert in toxicologic/safety/risk assessment of food contamination with industrial chemicals and natural toxicants. He has provided critical leadership and advice on important regulatory decisions on safe or tolerable levels for these contaminants in food. Dr. Bolger currently serves as a Supervisory/Expert Toxicologist and Chief of the Chemical Hazards Assessment Team, Office of Food Safety, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Dr. Bolger received his bachelor's degree in Biology from Villanova University and his doctorate degree in Physiology and Biophysics from Georgetown University. From 1973–1976 he was a National Institutes of Health pre-doctoral research trainee and from 1976 to 1978 he was a Postdoctoral Research Associate in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics at the Georgetown University Medical Center. From 1978–1980 he served as a Staff Fellow Physiologist/Toxicologist in the Colors and Cosmetics Evaluation Branch, Division of Toxicology, Bureau of Foods of the FDA. He then went on to become the Review Physiologist/Toxicologist in the Contaminants and Natural Toxicants Evaluation Branch, Division of Toxicology, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition of FDA. From 1986 to 2000, he served as the Supervisory Physiologist/Toxicologist and Chief of the Contaminants Standards, Monitoring and Program, Division of Programs and Enforcement Policy, Office of Plant and Dairy Foods and Beverages, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, FDA.

Dr. Bolger has authored and/or co-authored a number of significant publications and has contributed the scientific assessments for a number of *Federal Register* documents including the final FDA rule on PCBs in fish and shellfish, the proposed rule for lead leaching from ceramic pitchers and emergency action levels for lead in children's food products, guidance levels for mycotoxins, including aflatoxin, vomitoxin and fumonisin, and a number quality standards for contaminants in bottled water.

Dr. Bolger is he recipient of numerous awards from FDA and from other organizations, including the 2004 Charles C. Shephard Science Award from the

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Add One – FDA Scientist

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. He has also been a member of the editorial boards for the journals of several scientific societies including the following: American Association for the Advancement of Science, American College of Toxicology, American Physiological Society, Society of Toxicology, Society of Risk Analysis, Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine, Society of Environmental Geochemistry and Health, the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, International Society for the Study of Xenobiotics, Society for Occupational and Environmental Health, Society for Experimental Biology.

Dr. Bolger has been active on a number of national and international committees, including the World Health Organization (WHO) Task Group on Environmental Health Criteria for Methyl Mercury, the Interagency Risk Assessment Workgroup for Dioxin/furans, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention, the NOAA Expert Toxicological Committee to consider the risk of oil contamination of seafood, the U.S. Interagency Workgroup on Perchlorate and others. Dr. Bolger is currently serving as a WHO food safety expert and is a member of the new WHO workgroup assessing the disease burden of exposure to chemical contaminants in food. Dr. Bolger frequently serves as a member of the Joint Expert Committee on Food Additives of the WHO and the Food and Agriculture Organization.

The Society of Toxicology (SOT) is a scientific not-for-profit organization for professionals from around the world who are involved in toxicology. With more than 6,000 members, the Society is working to build the future of toxicology and is dedicated to increasing the scientific impact of toxicology, advocating the value of toxicology and increasing visibility of the organization and members as scientific leaders.

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