



**Ohio Department of Agriculture  
and  
Ohio Department of Health**



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John R. Kasich**

**Lieutenant Governor  
Mary Taylor**

**ODA Interim Director  
Dr. Tony Forshey**

**ODH Director  
Theodore E. Wymyslo, M.D.**

DT: December 27, 2011

TO: Health Commissioners, Directors of Environmental Health and Interested Parties

RE: Recall Announcement (ODA/ODH) 2011-153

**Maribel Sweet's Inc. Recalls Their New York Handbag Collection Gourmet Chocolate Candies Due to Undeclared Tree Nuts and Peanuts**

Maribel's Sweets Inc. of New York, is recalling its New York Handbag Collection gourmet chocolate candies because they may contain undeclared peanuts and tree nuts (pistachios). People who have allergies to peanuts and pistachios run the risk of serious or life-threatening allergic reaction if they consume these products.

The recalled chocolates were distributed nationwide in retail stores and through mail orders.

The chocolates are packaged in either blue or red boxes in the quantities described below. Products were distributed between November 1, 2011 and December 23, 2011.

- 9 pieces in a blue box, UPC 58289 00011
- 9 pieces in a red box, UPC 58285 00086
- 16 pieces in a blue box, UPC 58285 00012
- 16 pieces in a red box, UPC 58289 00087
- 25 pieces in a blue box, UPC 58285 00013
- 25 pieces in a red box, UPC 58289 00088
- 100 pieces in a blue box, UPC 77708 00154
- 100 pieces in a red box, UPC 77708 00185

No illnesses have been reported to date in connection with this problem.

The recall was initiated after it was discovered that the nut-containing product was distributed in packaging that did not reveal the presence of nuts. Subsequent investigation indicates the problem was caused by a temporary breakdown in the company's production and packaging processes.

The product label has been corrected to properly declare all ingredients, including any nuts or other allergens.

Consumers who have purchased the chocolate candies are urged to return them to the place of purchase for a full refund. Consumers with questions may contact the company at 1-212 925 6999 between 8am and 5pm, Monday to Friday.