

Sue Hall, President of the American Association of Food Stamp Directors (AAFSD), welcomed conference attendees with a moment of silence for the tragic events of September 11. She was followed by Oksana Smith, Deputy Director of the Health and Human Services Agency in San Diego, who welcomed attendees to San Diego.

Jim Dalman, Vice President of AAFSD, kicked off the Roll Call of States by giving examples of silly state laws. For instance, in Arizona, it is illegal to hunt camels, in Florida, unmarried women can be arrested for parachuting on Sunday, and in Indiana, monkeys are forbidden from smoking. And please remember, during your stay in Southern California, you can't cry on the witness stand.

The opening session was concluded with an introduction of federal agency representatives, advocates, and vendors.