Dr. Katherine Carlos obtained her PhD in Food Science at the University of Georgia working under the direction of Professors Robert Shewfelt and Ronald Pegg. In 2013, she began working at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN). As a research chemist in the Methods Development Branch, Dr. Carlos develops and validates methods for the detection of packaging components and food additives. Her recent research has been in determining the primary plasticizers in food contact materials and investigating the phthalate concentrations of both food contact materials and food products.