



News Release

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Contact:
Carole Christianson
Western Association of Food Chains, Inc.
562-497-1012; carole@wafc.com

Rick Rayford of Brookshire Grocery named Secretary of the WAFC

Lakewood, CA - The Western Association of Food Chains (WAFC) is pleased to announce that Rick Rayford, President & CEO of Brookshire Grocery has been named Secretary of the Western Association of Food Chains.



Rick Rayford
President, CEO
Brookshire Grocery
Tyler, TX

Rick Rayford currently serves as president and CEO of Brookshire Grocery Company, headquartered in Tyler, Texas. He is a 41-year BGC veteran who worked his way to the company's highest office through serving in both Brookshire's stores and warehouses. Prior to becoming CEO, Rayford spent 20 years in various areas of warehouse and distribution leadership: he was named vice president of distribution in 1991. In 2004, after serving six years as executive vice-president of distribution/manufacturing, he was named executive vice-president of corporate development, a position which drives the company's overall strategic vision. He became president and CEO in July, 2007.

“Since joining the WAFC board of directors, Rick has exemplified his commitment through action as an advocate for WAFC education initiatives,” emphasized president & chairman of the WAFC and co-president and COO of Northgate Markets, Oscar Gonzalez. First with a student in the USC Food Industry Management Program Class of 2012 and then having participants in the March 2012 USC Food Industry Executive Program Through his leadership and coordination, Tyler JC has become the latest Community College to offer the Retail Management Certificate Program which launched classes in August at the Brookshire Culinary Center and online with 155 Brookshire employees “partners” enrolled. In addition, with Rick's guidance, the USC Food Industry Executive Program will be held in Plano, Texas, October 8th-11th at the headquarters of WAFC scholarship donor CROSSMARK. This will mark the first time that the USC Food Industry Executive Program has been taken on the road.

“Rick's efforts are extraordinary and we are thrilled to have the great state of Texas represented on the leadership team of the WAFC,” cites Gonzalez