



## **Albertsons Southern California Division Celebrates 1,000 Retail Management Certification Program Graduates**

**March 11, 2026 - Yorba Linda, CA** — The Western Association of Food Chains (WAFC) is proud to recognize the Albertsons Southern California Division for reaching a remarkable milestone — 1,000 graduates of the Retail Management Certification (RMC) program, a testament to the division's unwavering commitment to associate development and growth.

What began as an opportunity to provide free, accessible education for retail associates has grown into a true movement within the organization, one that continues to be backed by leadership at every level.

Today, the program benefits from the steadfast support of Wayne Denningham, EVP & President of the SoCal Division; Jim Wallace, SVP of Operations and WAFC Board Member; Sheryl Salazar, SVP Marketing & Merchandising; Dana Rose Stauffer, VP of Human Resources; and Mario Fuentes, Manager of Learning & Development.

The program has cultivated a genuine culture of advocacy, with graduates enthusiastically sharing their experiences and encouraging peers to participate. What makes the SoCal RMC program truly exceptional is that it has never been just an HR initiative, a testament to its lasting impact.

Reflecting the division's people mission, Dana Rose Stauffer, VP of Human Resources, shares: "We believe in the power of people. Our mission is to be the leader in cultivating an inclusive workplace where every associate feels safe, valued and inspired to unleash their full potential both personally and professionally."

One unique characteristic of the SoCal division that reflects this commitment is the blue name badge worn by RMC graduates. More than a name tag, the badge has become a proud symbol of achievement and personal growth, sparking excitement for the program across stores throughout the division. Graduates wear it with pride, knowing it represents their hard work, their development, and Albertsons' authentic commitment to investing in its people.

For more information about the Western Association of Food Chains, please visit [www.wafc.com](http://www.wafc.com).