



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 24, 2009

Contact: Christine Cunnick
National Grocers Association
(703) 516-0700

BARBARA MCCONNELL PRESENTED WITH N.G.A. SPIRIT OF AMERICA AWARD

ARLINGTON, VA – On November 13, 2009, the National Grocers Association presented Barbara McConnell, President and CEO of the Food Industry Association Executives with the N.G.A. Spirit of America Award at the FIAE annual convention in Palm Springs, California. The award was presented by N.G.A. Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Tom Wenning.

The award was given in honor of Barbara's 15 years of service and leadership of the Food Industry Association Executives, as well as her ten years of service as president of the New Jersey Food Council. She successfully fought and won numerous legislative and regulatory battles that were critically important to the grocery industry.

The N.G.A. Spirit of America Award, established in 1982, honors key industry and community figures that have provided leadership in the areas of community services and government relations on behalf of a free and independent food distribution system. N.G.A. has given this award to over 400 individuals, including Presidents George Bush and Gerald Ford, and Vice President Dan Quayle, as well as other distinguished individuals serving the public interest.

###

N.G.A. is the national trade association representing the retail and wholesale grocers that comprise the independent sector of the food distribution industry. An independent retailer is a privately owned or controlled food retail company operating in a variety of formats. Most independent operators are serviced by wholesale distributors, while others may be partially or fully self-distributing. Some are publicly traded but with controlling shares held by the family and others are employee owned. Independents are the true "entrepreneurs" of the grocery industry and dedicated to their customers, associates, and communities. N.G.A. members include retail and wholesale grocers, state grocers associations, as well as manufacturers and service suppliers. For more information about N.G.A. and the independent sector of the industry, see the N.G.A. website: www.NationalGrocers.org.