



News Release

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Former President George W. Bush Announced as the Opening Keynote Speaker for the 2010 N.G.A. Annual Convention and Supermarket Synergy Showcase (S³)

ARLINGTON, VA, -- The National Grocers Association (N.G.A.) is pleased to announce that this year's 2010 N.G.A. Annual Convention and Supermarket Synergy Showcase (S³) Opening Keynote Speaker, sponsored by Kraft Foods Inc., will be the 43rd President of the United States George W. Bush. The N.G.A. Annual Convention will be held February 9 -12, 2010 at the Paris Las Vegas Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada.

As President, George W. Bush worked to expand freedom, opportunity and security at home and abroad. The most significant event of President Bush's tenure came on September 11, 2001, when terrorists killed nearly 3,000 people on American soil. President Bush responded with a comprehensive strategy to protect the American people. He led the most dramatic reorganization of the federal government since the beginning of the Cold War, reforming the intelligence community and establishing new institutions like the Department of Homeland Security. He built global coalitions to remove violent regimes in Afghanistan and Iraq that threatened America-liberating more than 50 million people from tyranny. Recognizing that freedom and hope are the best alternative to the extremist ideology of the terrorists, he provided unprecedented American support for young democracies and dissidents in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and elsewhere.

His first initiative as President was the No Child Left Behind Act, a bipartisan measure that raised standards in schools, insisted on accountability in return for federal dollars and led to measurable gains in achievement-especially among minority students. Faced with a recession when he took office, President Bush cut taxes for every federal income taxpayer, which helped lead to an unprecedented 52 straight months of job creation. President Bush modernized Medicare by adding a prescription drug benefit that provided access to needed medicine for 40 million seniors and other beneficiaries.

From a historical perspective, N.G.A. President and CEO Thomas K. Zaucha has moderated the opening keynote session with a "Who's Who" of national leaders and commentators for 28 years, including Former President George H.W. Bush in 1992 and 2002.

This year's Convention, "Growing Consumer Value: A Marketplace Opportunity in a Recovering Economy", will focus on looking towards the future and the many successes that are sure to be

ahead of us after the tumultuous past year. We will address many concerns of America's Independent Grocers, as well as give you many opportunities to network, share ideas and craft solutions with your fellow grocery industry peers. As the only industry association devoted exclusively to the independent sector, N.G.A. is here to ensure you have the opportunity to succeed and better serve your customers.

This year is a special convention because we will be paying tribute to the work and dedication of Thomas K. Zaucha, outgoing President and CEO of the National Grocers Association. A pioneer for the independent community based grocers in the United States, Mr. Zaucha's 28 years of service with the N.G.A., and nearly 40 years within the food industry, will have lasting effects on the industry and ensures his legacy remains strong. His dedication, passion, leadership, creativity and foresight to the independent community can be seen in the immeasurable number of political and business decisions he has been a part of on behalf of the industry.

N.G.A. has developed the reputation of delivering a convention program of the highest caliber. Every year we present attendees with timely and relevant general sessions and workshops, exciting special events and numerous networking opportunities to speak with other industry executives. We welcome grocery industry executives, independent retailers and wholesalers, food manufacturers, and service providers from around the world to share fresh ideas and innovative thinking that helps strengthen the grocery industry and helps build profits.

For more information or to register online, go to www.nationalgrocers.org or call 703-516-0700. News and announcements about other N.G.A. speakers for the 2010 N.G.A. Annual Convention and Supermarket Synergy Showcase (S³) will be made in the coming weeks.

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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 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.