



655 15<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005-5701  
Tel: (202) 452-8444  
Fax: (202) 429-4519  
E-mail: [fmi@fmi.org](mailto:fmi@fmi.org)  
Web site: [www.fmi.org](http://www.fmi.org)

September 20, 2001

Via Facsimile Transmission and First Class Mail

Mr. Robert C. Keeney  
Deputy Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs  
Agricultural Marketing Services  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Room 2077 South Building  
PO Box 96456  
Washington, DC 20090-6456

**Re: Nominees for Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee**

Dear Mr. Keeney,

On behalf of the Food Marketing Institute<sup>1</sup> (FMI) and the North American Perishable Agricultural Receivers<sup>2</sup> (NAPAR), an association in alliance with FMI, the purpose of this letter is to respond to your request for nominees to the newly formed U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee. 66 Fed. Reg. 43833 (Aug. 21, 2001). Specifically, we nominate the following to serve as representatives of the retail community:

Dave Corsi  
Director, Produce  
Wegmans Food Markets, Rochester, NY

---

<sup>1</sup> Food Marketing Institute (FMI) conducts programs in research, education, industry relations and public affairs on behalf of its 2,300 member companies — food retailers and wholesalers — in the United States and around the world. FMI's U.S. members operate approximately 26,000 retail food stores with a combined annual sales volume of \$340 billion — three-quarters of all food retail store sales in the United States. FMI's retail membership is composed of large multi-store chains, regional firms and independent supermarkets. Its international membership includes 200 companies from 60 countries.

<sup>2</sup> NAPAR is a nonprofit association founded in 1989 to serve the special needs of produce wholesaler/receivers in the United States and Canada. The membership includes ninety corporate members with a combined annual sales volume of \$4.5 billion. As a whole, NAPAR's members employ 23,000 workers. On an annual basis, NAPAR members handle 165,000 trailer loads and 4,500 rail car loads of fresh produce. NAPAR formed an alliance with FMI in May 1999.

Mr. Robert C. Keeney  
September 20, 2001  
Page 2

Reggie Griffin  
Vice President, Merchandising, Produce,  
The Kroger Co., Cincinnati, OH

Bruce Peterson  
Vice President, Floral, Produce  
Wal-Mart Supercenters, Bentonville, AR

In addition, we nominate the following to serve as representatives of fresh produce wholesalers:

Alan Siger  
President  
Consumers Produce Co, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA

Al Ferri  
Vice President, Produce, Floral  
Wakefern Food Corporation, Elizabeth, NJ

Joe Procacci  
Chief Executive Officer  
Procacci Brothers Sales Corp., Philadelphia PA

Mike Kemp  
Corporate Director Produce/Floral  
SUPERVALU, Inc., Minneapolis, MN

Each of the individuals nominated above has the expertise and stature within the produce community to make important contributions to the Secretary's advisory committee. Each has great substantive knowledge of the produce industry and each has demonstrated a significant commitment to the industry as a whole by serving on the boards of directors or key committees of associations, such as FMI and NAPAR. We commend the foregoing candidates to you for consideration and strongly encourage you to include them on the Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee.

If you would like additional information on any of the foregoing nominees or if we may be of assistance in any way, please do not hesitate to call on us.

Sincerely,

Tim Hammonds  
President and CEO