



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BRIAN DEBANO DEPARTS MICHIGAN RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION

Justin Winslow to Serve as Interim President & CEO

LANSING, MI – Effective Thursday, October 15, Brian DeBano, president and CEO of the Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA), will depart the Association to pursue new professional opportunities.

Since joining the MRA in 2011, DeBano has made several significant contributions to the overall improvement of the Association. During his tenure, DeBano and his team successfully prevented a serious threat to the industry in the form of a ballot proposal to eliminate the tipped minimum wage and ensured that a patchwork quilt of local wage and benefit ordinances would not saddle the industry with additional regulation. Internally, Brian oversaw several initiatives that leave the MRA in a strong financial position for the future.

“Brian has left the MRA in great shape and for that we sincerely thank him,” said MRA Board of Directors Chairman Ken Miller. “Under his leadership, the Association is financially and operationally sound and our strong reputation remains intact. I have no doubt he will be successful in his future ventures.”

The current Vice President of Government Affairs, Justin Winslow, will serve as Interim President and CEO of the MRA.

Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA) is the recognized leader of Michigan's hospitality industry, providing essential services to the foodservice community. Founded in 1921, the MRA represents nearly 4,500 Michigan foodservice establishments. The industry plays an integral role in Michigan's economy, employing more than 415,000 people and creating nearly \$14 billion in annual sales.

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