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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Retail Visionary Jason Ferreira Wins Prestigious Industry Award

Allegiance Retail Services Co-op Member Recognized in Shelby Publishing's Third
Annual Exceptional Independents Awards

ISELIN, NJ (February 25, 2025) – Jason Ferreira, co-op member of <u>Allegiance Retail</u> <u>Services, LLC</u>, a leading supermarket grocery services co-op, has received prestigious recognition by *Shelby Publishing* in their third annual Exceptional Independents Award – an awards program celebrating the outstanding contributions by independent retailers across the industry.

Ferreira was honored for his achievements in three key areas: Tech Innovation, Philanthropic Support, and Advocacy for Community Safety & Crime Prevention. As a pioneering leader in retail technology, Ferreira was the first to launch mobile shopping capabilities in his supermarkets, recognizing early the potential of mobile commerce to enhance customer experience and expand market reach. Ferreira owns and operates Foodtown stores in the New York City area.

"I am deeply honored to receive this recognition from *Shelby Publishing*," expressed Jason. "This award reflects not just my efforts, but the collective innovation and dedication of the entire team at our Foodtown supermarkets and at Allegiance Retail Services."

Ferreira's philanthropic endeavors include serving as a board member for the Foundation Fighting Blindness and co-chairing Night for Sight events, where he has been instrumental in raising millions of dollars to support research and treatment for visual impairment. Additionally, his advocacy work in community safety and crime prevention has had a significant impact through engagement with legislators and public awareness campaigns.

"Being at the forefront of tech innovation while contributing to causes that make a meaningful difference in our communities has been incredibly rewarding," added Jason. "I'm grateful to be part of an organization that supports both business excellence and community engagement." - more -

Jason's forward-thinking approach to retail technology has not only positioned his supermarkets at the cutting edge of the industry, but his commitment to charitable causes has also demonstrated the company's community-first mindset.

Joseph Fantozzi, President and COO of Allegiance Retail Services, echoed Ferreira's accomplishments, stating that "Jason exemplifies the values and vision that drive Allegiance Retail Services forward – we are immensely proud of Jason and his well-deserved recognition."

The Exceptional Independents Awards represent one of the grocery industry's most significant recognitions for independent retailers. The awards collectively highlight national trends and achievements that are shaping the future of independent grocery.

"Independents are the backbone of our industry, and this awards program is an opportunity to recognize them for their contributions," noted Stephanie Reid, President of *Shelby Publishing*, in a statement. "Independents are a vital part of their communities and lead the way in caring for their customers."

This recognition reinforces Allegiance Retail Services' commitment to fostering innovation and community engagement through its network of independent retailers across the Northeast. The cooperative continues to support its members in adopting forward-thinking technologies while maintaining deep connections to the communities they serve.

About Allegiance Retail Services LLC

Allegiance Retail Services, LLC supports independent supermarkets (e.g., Foodtown, Freshtown, D'Agostino, Gristedes, Morton Williams, Pathmark, LaBella Marketplace, Brooklyn Harvest, Market Fresh, Big Deal Food Market, Green Way Markets, Marrazzo's Market, Brigidos Fresh Markets, Peck's Markets, Bloomingdale Supermarket by Foodtown, and Shop n Bag) retail success by providing them with marketing, advertising, technological and merchandising support, as well as a full line of private label products, including Foodtown, Green Way and Rancher's Legend. For more information, please visit www.allegianceretailservices.com.

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