

July 5, 2023

VIA EMAIL

National Association for Environmental, Health, Safety,
and Sustainability (EHS&S) Management (NAEM)
1612 K St. NW, Suite 1002
Washington, D.C. 20006

**Re: Allan Fernandes, ARAMARK Vice President - Global Safety & Risk Control
NAEM Lifetime Achievement Award Nomination**

Dear Sir/Madam:

I write to nominate Allan Fernandes Vice President for Global Safety & Risk Control at ARAMARK for NAEM's Lifetime Achievement Award.

I've been an environmental lawyer for 33 years with the EPA and in the private sector. Over this time I've had the privilege to work with hundreds of talented EHSS professionals dedicated to protecting and improving the environment and worker safety. Without question Allan Fernandes is at the top of this list. As Vice President for Global Safety & Risk Control at ARAMARK, Allan is responsible for managing the environmental impact of a \$16 billion corporation and the safety of its 275,000 employees delivering food, hospitality, and critical services each day in sensitive places, like hospitals, schools, entertainment venues, and National Parks. As a lawyer, I see the inner workings of clients and know how difficult it can be to drive cultural change within large organizations. It has been my privilege to work closely with Allan for 15 years during which time I've watched Allan literally transform ARAMARK into the global EHSS leader it is today. Please allow me share a few examples.

Allan has a long history leading innovative projects that transform environmental liabilities into productive assets. Before joining ARAMARK, Allan managed Exelon's clean-up of the Barrie Park MGP site in Oak Park, Illinois. When Allan took-over the project it was a public relations disaster—a highly contaminated MGP site in the middle of a residential community. Allan deftly managed community relations while overseeing restoration of dozens of homes, excavation of 400,000 tons of coal tar residuals, construction of a rail facility to ship residuals and avoid community impacts, and creation of a new community playground and park. After arriving at ARAMARK in 2007, Allan wasted no time in leaving his mark. He was instrumental in resolving ARAMARK's oldest pollution liability, a gasoline contamination plume extending over four city blocks for which ARAMARK was wrongly blamed for more than 30 years. Allan was my lead witness in the lawsuit we brought against the responsible party and was the lead negotiator of a settlement transferring cleanup liability and compensating ARAMARK for millions in past cleanup costs. Allan also was the driving force behind ARAMARK's Safety Assurance in Food and Environments (SAFE) policy and management system, which has made the environment and safety a priority in everything ARAMARK does through sound practices, rigorous training and processes, and consistent standard setting. Allan also created ARAMARK's 'Shoes for

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Crews' program which has improved the lives of ARAMARK's 60,000 front-line employees working in slippery surface environments where slips, trips, and falls are the most common cause of injury. Allan collected feed-back from thousands of workers and collaborated with a shoe company to design and deploy slip-resistant footwear specially tailored for ARAMARK's workers. The program has reduced injuries an astounding 42% compared to historical rates.

To be sure Allan is a shrewd innovator but perhaps his greatest gift is his humanity. With Allan, every voice is heard and every viewpoint valued, regardless of title or stature. Over these past 15 years, I have admired Allan's bond with his teammates at ARAMARK. Allan has made a huge difference in the lives of the people with whom he works. He has mentored dozens of colleagues, empowered them to believe in themselves, and in so doing, created a culture of safety and inclusion that has transformed ARAMARK into an EHSS leader. I can think of no other person more deserving of the NAEM Lifetime Achievement Award than Allan Fernandes.

Sincerely,

COZEN O'CONNOR

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter J. Fontaine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

By: Peter J. Fontaine