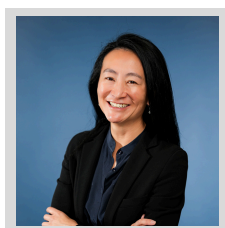




Western Association of Food Chains (WAFC) Welcomes Two New Members to its Board of Directors: Alice Chen of 99 Ranch Market and Mike Molinar of PAQ, Inc.

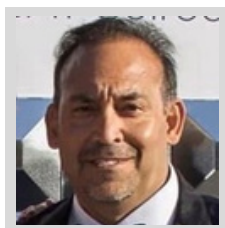
November 8, 2025 – San Diego, CA —

The Western Association of Food Chains (WAFC) is proud to announce the appointment of Alice Chen, Chief Executive Officer of 99 Ranch Market, and Mike Molinar, President & CEO of PAQ, Inc., to its Board of Directors.



Alice Chen has led 99 Ranch Market, the nation's leading Asian grocery chain since 2018, after a decade as the company's Chief Financial Officer. Under her leadership, 99 Ranch Market has evolved from a beloved community institution into a national platform celebrating Asian culture, culinary innovation, and cross-cultural connection.

Chen, who was named one of Progressive Grocer's Top Women in Grocery, also serves on the Board of Columbia Business School and Co-Chairs its Global Family Enterprise Program.



Mike Molinar brings more than 40 years of retail industry experience to the WAFC Board. He joined PAQ, Inc. in August 2020 as Chief Financial Officer after serving as CFO for a home improvement retailer in Petaluma, California. Demonstrating strong financial and operational leadership, he was promoted to President in 2022 and later named Chief Executive

Officer in 2024. Throughout his career, Molinar has held leadership positions at some of the most recognized names in retail, including Lucky, ABCO, Safeway, Hastings Entertainment, Orchard Supply Hardware, and Friedman's Home Improvement. His deep expertise in accounting, finance, and operations, combined with a collaborative, people-first leadership style, reflects his commitment to advancing excellence and opportunity across the grocery and retail sectors.

"We are thrilled to welcome Alice and Mike to the WAFC Board," said Kevin Lovell, WAFC President & Chairman. "Both leaders embody the innovation, inclusivity, and excellence that drive our industry forward. Their insights and experience will be invaluable as WAFC continues to expand educational opportunities and strengthen the next generation of food industry leaders."

The WAFC's Board of Directors comprises senior executives from across the retail, wholesale, and manufacturing sectors, united in the mission to promote learning, leadership, and collaboration in the food industry through educational programs.

For more information about the Western Association of Food Chains, please visit www.wafc.com.