



*Advocating the views of convenience stores, supermarkets,
independent grocers, wholesalers and consumer product vendors.*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
OCTOBER 3, 2016**

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**PENNSYLVANIA FOOD MERCHANTS TO AWARD
BROWN AND HARTMAN AS 2016 ‘DEFENDERS OF THE FOOD INDUSTRY’**

CAMP HILL, PA — The Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association (PFMA), a statewide trade association advocating for the retail food industry, is proud to announce members Jeff Brown, founder, president and CEO, Brown’s Super Stores, and Scott Hartman, president and CEO, Rutter’s Farm Stores, as 2016 “Defenders of the Food Industry.” These advocacy awards are presented to members who provide exceptional leadership and serve as champions for the association’s grassroots efforts.

“Jeff and Scott understand that the association can only do so much to present the industry’s views to lawmakers. It’s the phone calls and face-to-face meetings from members in their districts that help elected officials understand the impact legislation has on businesses,” said David McCorkle, PFMA president and CEO.

Jeff Brown and Scott Hartman regularly communicated with lawmakers on issues such as adult beverage sales, menu and GMO labeling, sugar-sweetened beverage taxes, tobacco taxes and many others.

“We are pleased to honor Jeff and Scott this year,” said Alex Baloga, vice president of external relations. “Thank you for defending the industry and educating lawmakers about legislation affecting convenience stores, supermarkets, manufacturers and wholesalers.”

PFMA Chairman Paul Rankin and Alex Baloga, vice president of external relations, will present the awards to Brown and Hartman during the Fall Legislative Conference dinner on October 4 at the Harrisburg Hilton, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

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The Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association, a statewide trade association, advocates the views of more than 800 convenience stores, supermarkets, independent grocers, wholesalers and consumer product vendors. PFMA members operate more than 3,200 stores and employ more than 150,000 Pennsylvanians. For more information on PFMA, visit www.pfma.org.