8/2016

**Regynald G. Washington, CFBE, FMP**

Regynald G. Washington is a former elected officer and Board member of the National Restaurant Association and served as chairman of the board for the administrative term of 2003-2004.

Regynald is currently Chief Executive Officer of Hojeij Branded Foods. HBF is an Atlanta based restaurant company operating 73 restaurants in 13 of the top 20 airports in the United States. HBF has over 45 popular and widely recognized brands in its portfolio. Some of those brands include; P.F. Chang’s, Gordon Biersch, Cat Cora’s Kitchen, Atlanta Hawk’s Bar and Grill, LongHorn Steakhouse, Chick-fil–A, McDonalds, Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf, Qdoba Mexican Grill, Pei Wei, Low Country by G Garvin, Pinkberry, TAP, UFood Grill, Boar’s Head Deli, The Plant Café Organic and Piece of Cake are just to name a few.

Regynald was Vice President of Food and Beverage for Walt Disney Parks and Resorts globally with food and beverage responsibilities for Walt Disney World Resort, Disneyland Resort, Disney Cruise Line, Disneyland Paris Resort, Disneyland Hong Kong Resort and Disneyland Tokyo Resort. Regynald also had additional responsibilities for new products and concept development for Walt Disney World Resorts. Regynald served as Vice President and General Manager for Disney Regional Entertainment, where he had responsibility for the strategy, direction and growth of Disney’s ESPN Zone sports entertainment and food and beverage brand, based in Burbank, California. Prior to Regynald’s roles as Vice President of Food & Beverage for Walt Disney Parks & Resorts and Disney Regional Entertainment, he was Director of Resort Food and Beverage Operations for the Walt Disney World Company in Orlando, Florida, where he was responsible for all food and beverage operations for 18 Walt Disney Resorts. Previously, he was the General Manager, Food & Beverage for Epcot, which entailed oversight for the operations of 12 internationally themed table service restaurants, 10 quick service restaurants, 21 outdoor food locations and a multi-million dollar special events and catering organization. Regynald was also responsible for the Epcot International Food & Wine festival, which is the largest food & wine festival in the United States.

Washington’s previous experience includes ascending through the corporate ranks of Concessions International, Inc., an airport food service company operating food & beverage, gift & news and duty free operations in U.S. airports based in Georgia. Regynald directed the overall operations as Corporate Executive Vice President. Washington is a graduate of Florida International University, holding a BS degree in International Hotel & Restaurant Administration, as well as of Executive Techniques of Chicago. He has earned dual certification as a Foodservice Management Professional through the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation and as a Certified Food & Beverage Executive, a credential issued by the Educational Institute of the American Hotel & Lodging Association.

# Recognitions, Former Boards and Current Boards

* Named one of Top 50 Taste Makers in the restaurant industry in America by Nation’s Restaurant News in 1999
* Honorary faculty member of Michigan State University School of Hospitality Business
* Regynald gave 1 million dollars of his personal money for an endowment and scholarships for Georgia State University’s Cecil B. Day Hospitality School. The Master’s program is now named: The Regynald G. Washington’ Master of Global Hospitality and Management Program.
* Distinguished Darden Professor, Department of Hospitality Tourism Management, Purdue University
* Recipient of the Outstanding Alumnus Award, Florida International University, School of Hospitality Management, November 2004
* Commencement keynote at Culinary Institute of America, Hyde Park, March 26th, 2004
* Named a Conti Lifetime Professor (an endowed chair), School of Hospitality Management, Pennsylvania State University

# Board Memberships

* Former member of the Board of Directors, Concessions International (Airport Food and Beverage, gift news and duty free organization)
* Former Member of the Advisory Council, Los Angeles Chapter, Share Our Strength
* Former Member of the Advisory Board, University of Delaware, School of Hospitality Management
* Member of the Advisory Board, Georgia State University School of Hospitality Management
* Former Member of the Board of Trustees, National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation
* Former President of the Georgia Restaurant Association
* Former member of the board of the Florida Restaurant Association
* Former Chairman of the Governmental Affairs Committee for the Atlanta Restaurant Council
* Former Advisory Board Member of the Elliot Leadership Institute
* Former member of the Advisory Board, Florida International University, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management
* Former member of the Advisory Board of Ferris State University
* Former member of the Board of Directors of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra
* Former member of the Board of the Atlanta Food Bank

# Hobbies

* Music (Symphony, Jazz, Rhythm and Blues)
* Food and Wine
* Deep Sea Fishing